

# Horseheads 2030

## Points of Information

- Horseheads 2030 is a comprehensive project to improve the education and physical infrastructure of the district – for students now, in 2030, and beyond.
- Horseheads 2030 will benefit the entire Horseheads community.
- Horseheads 2030 involves all stakeholders – that is, all who have a stake in our district, including students, parents (with children in our district, parents whose children have graduated, those who will be parents in the future), district staff (teachers, support staff, administrators), our board of education, community members (those without children, property owners, renters, senior citizens), businesspeople, municipalities, elected officials. In other words, everyone.
- Horseheads 2030 seeks to identify and implement an educational program that meets the needs of our students in a time of changing educational demands, i.e. educational reform, global connectedness, experiential and inquiry-based learning, 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, and STEM/STEAM/STREAM (science, technology, research, engineering, arts, and math).
- Horseheads 2030 seeks to provide an infrastructure that supports an educational environment where anything is possible for our students.
- In 2015, the state-required Building Condition Survey (BCS) identified \$159 million in necessary repairs, replacements, and upgrades plus construction fees and incidental costs.
- Horseheads 2030 would replace or upgrade critical systems that have reached or passed the end of their lifespan, i.e. boilers, lighting, roofs, and mechanical systems. Many of these systems and equipment are original to the buildings. Currently, more efficient and cost-saving products are available.
- Horseheads 2030 would be funded through state aid, capital reserve, debt replacement, and a local taxpayer share (if necessary).
- The district will work to minimize the local tax levy impact through replacing retired debt, state aid, and utilizing the district’s capital reserve.
- State aid is money paid through taxes across the state. State building aid goes to all districts with approved capital projects.
- Horseheads has not utilized a significant portion of this aid in many years, yet Horseheads taxpayers have paid into funding state building aid, thus helping to improve other districts rather than their own.



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- Horseheads 2030 seeks to secure Horseheads' share of state building funds.
- The project would bring district buildings to local and state codes as well as state education department recommendations for classroom size and other requirements.
- For the past several years, the district has spent funds from the educational budget on capital expenditures, with amounts ranging from \$300,000 to \$1 million annually.
- Horseheads 2030 would affect all seven of our schools, additional buildings including our facilities and transportation departments, parking lots, roadways, outside fields and grounds.
- The Horseheads district has long been recognized as providing the best education in the region.
- The district at one time possessed the best facilities as well, but this is no longer the case. Area districts have completed capital projects on a greater scale than Horseheads.
- The district facilities staff have worked hard to maintain buildings and grounds, but over time, wear and tear on the physical infrastructure must be remedied.
- A quality school district is necessary to maintain property values and to attract businesses and families to the community.
- In 1950, 36 small school districts (many one-room schoolhouses) into the Horseheads Central School District. Our schools were built at various times from 1954 to 1969.
- Additional building projects included the link connecting north and south wings at the High School in 1987, fieldhouse construction at the Intermediate/Middle complex in 2003, and the auditorium renovation in 2006.
- Tentative timeline would include educational and infrastructure discussions from the beginning of 2017 through spring or summer, as well as architectural concepts and board of education presentations. Tentative public vote would be October/November 2017.
- Residents wishing to participate in educational discussions should contact the district at 607-739-5601, x4201 or [hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com](mailto:hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com).
- Future meetings will be scheduled. The superintendent of schools holds monthly conversations in the community. A schedule of these meetings can be found on the district calendar or on the district website at <http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/uploadeddocs/Calendarpages2016-17.pdf>.
- More information, including videos and presentations from meetings and a link to the BCS, is available on the district website at <http://www.horseheadsdistrict.com/hh2030.cfm>. This site will be updated regularly.