



# Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen

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[www.valleystream13.com](http://www.valleystream13.com)

*Constance D. Evelyn, Superintendent of Schools*

December 1, 2016

Dear Valley Stream District 13 Families and School Community:

Next week, on Tuesday, December 6, 2016, a bond vote will be held to ensure that our children's educational environment and future is maintained and enriched over the coming years. The Valley Stream Central High School District has developed a bond referendum to address facilities that are beyond their life expectancies and in need of replacement. The improvements at Central, North and South High Schools, as well as Memorial Junior High School, will positively affect all students in component Districts 13, 24 and 30.

To support 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning, science labs are among the major areas that would be addressed in all four school buildings. All have significantly aged with outdated equipment and furniture. Room layouts are no longer consistent with the evolving curriculum requirements and advancements in science.

Not unlike the capital improvement goals addressed by the recent passage of the bond referendum for Valley Stream 13 UFSD, roof repairs, bathroom replacements, electrical panel upgrades and masonry repairs at all of the buildings are also part of the project. Building facades and curbs are cracked and chipped, which can result in further damage and possibly pose safety issues. Multi-sport turf fields would be installed at North, South and Memorial. The District would most likely install synthetic turf fields coated with CoolFill, which are common in neighboring schools. The Memorial field would double as Central's home field, meaning that Central athletes would no longer need to use Fireman's Field for sporting events.

The total cost of the bond for the Valley Stream Central High School District is \$41 million, which would be partially funded through New York State Building Aid at a rate of 61%. The proposal would carry a minimal average tax increase to Valley Stream 13 residents of \$52 per year for the average homeowner. Polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at each of our elementary schools. A voter guide has been posted to the Central High School District's website, [www.vschs.org](http://www.vschs.org), and it contains all details of the proposal.

On Saturday, December 3, 2016 Valley Stream 13 will conduct our annual building tours beginning with opening remarks by Board President Stris at 8:15 AM in the James A. Dever School cafeteria. The full schedule is attached to this communication. We are excited to share the progress we have made relative to capital improvements over the summer and our plans for continuing this work in the near future.

An inviting, positive, safe and appropriate learning environment supports student learning overall. The investments we make in our facilities now will minimize future cost and ensure maintaining the value of our schools. The District appreciates your past support, and we hope you will see the value in supporting the Central High School Bond Referendum.

Our winter concerts are scheduled as follows:

James A. Dever	Dec. 13 <sup>th</sup> 9 AM and Dec. 14 <sup>th</sup> at 9 AM & 7 PM
Howell Road	Dec. 12 <sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM and Dec. 13 <sup>th</sup> 1:45 PM and 7 PM
Wheeler Avenue	Dec. 15 <sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM and Dec. 16 <sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM and 7 PM
Willow Road	Dec. 14 <sup>th</sup> 8:30 AM and 7 PM

Sincerely,

Constance Evelyn  
Superintendent of Schools

