



Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen

585 N. Corona Avenue Valley Stream, New York • 11580 • (516)568-6100
www.valleystream13.com

*Constance D. Evelyn, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools*

May 29, 2018

Dear Wheeler Avenue Families,

As has been announced in many public settings, the NYS Education Department (SED) has continued to stall our capital bond projects by failing to provide 'project' numbers. The project numbers are essentially permits that allow the work to be contracted and begin. All of these processes take time and the District has utilized many strategies to keep work completion on schedule.

Unfortunately, we must share that the Wheeler Avenue Auditorium will be not be complete for the opening of school in September of 2018. In fact, we do not yet have a project number for this part of our planned summer work even after paying costs associated with expediting the review of the documentation submitted to the NYS Education Department. Gerard Antione, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Human Resources and I met with your outgoing and incoming PTA Leaders to share this news with them last week. The District was notified about these delays a few days before our meeting. Many of your PTA members and leadership have been following these SED holdups for a long time and understand that these issues are beyond the district's control. Having said this, please know the Board of Education and District Administration have made the decision to stay the course and push forward. Although the auditorium will probably not be available until mid-October, we still plan to start and complete this project to ensure that our Wheeler Avenue Families will have a new auditorium to enjoy for most of the 2018-19 School Year.

We value and appreciate the support of our families. Please know that we are still strategizing to see if there is any way to speed up these setbacks.

Thank you for your continued patience and support.

Sincerely,

Dr. Constance Evelyn
Superintendent of Schools