

# A Message From Your Board Of Education

The Grand Island Board of Education encourages you to take the opportunity to vote on the capital project to improve the facilities used to maintain our bus fleet, house the drivers, ensure the safety of those on the Baseline Rd. campus, and centralize the district maintenance staff.

In January 2011 the District commissioned a Facilities Committee to work with the District in evaluating the results of the State mandated building conditions survey. The outcome of this work was to recommend to the Board the construction of a new Transportation Facility rather than renovate the obsolete space. As this site selection required environmental regulation compliance, planning and other considerations, the board determined that a separate referendum would be necessary. After consideration of a number of sites around Grand Island, either district, town or privately owned, the best solution was deemed to build on the existing site and is now the plan being put before the voters on December 18, 2012. The Board is extremely grateful for the groundwork done by the Facilities Committee that now leads to this Transportation Facility capital project referendum.



A wealth of information regarding this capital project is being made available through a series of community meetings as well as the District website and Facebook page. If this is the first time you’ve become aware of the project, please take a few minutes to read through this information. If you have any questions, please contact a school board or district staff member.

We are confident that this capital project will return benefits to the students, staff and district residents for years to come. Your vote is important and we encourage you to let your voice be heard on Tuesday, December 18. Voting will take place in the Grand Island High School gymnasium from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Please read on for more information on the scope of this capital project, voting qualifications and absentee ballot information or visit the District website at [www.k12.ginet.org](http://www.k12.ginet.org).

Sincerely,  
David Goris, Board of Education President

# Update On Current Capital Project

Since the December 2011 referendum, the District has been planning and preparing documents for presentation to the State Education Department, who must approve all plans before the District may hire the contractors who will actually do the construction and renovation work. The District’s architect has been meeting with District stakeholders reviewing and finalizing those plans before their submission. Plans for the Middle and High School portion of the project have already been submitted and the plans for the Elementary Schools will soon follow. Once the plans have been approved by the State, the District will go forward with the bidding and hiring process with construction beginning in the spring.

# Voter Eligibility/Absentee Voting Information

A person wishing to vote must show identification and be a citizen of the United States, at least eighteen years of age and a district resident for 30 days prior to vote.

Absentee ballots are available. Voters may request absentee ballots by writing to Grand Island Central School District, attn: District Clerk, 1100 Ransom Road, Grand Island, New York 14072 or calling 773-8801 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. All ballots must be received by the District Clerk by 5:00 p.m. on December 18, 2012.

Visit our website at [www.k12.ginet.org](http://www.k12.ginet.org) for more information.

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**Transportation Facility  
Referendum**

**Tuesday  
December 18, 2012  
10 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Grand Island High School Gym**

Resident



# Grand Island Schools 2012-2013 Transportation Facility Referendum

Tuesday, December 18, 2012 • 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Grand Island High School Gym  
1100 Ransom Road, Grand Island, NY 14072

Voter Identification Required  
(no pre-registration required)

# Stay Informed! Public Information Presentations

at Charlotte Sidway Elementary School  
2451 Baseline Road – Grand Island, NY 14072

Thursday, December 6, 2012 at 1 p.m.  
Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

Visit our Website  
[www.k12.ginet.org](http://www.k12.ginet.org)

Follow us on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/GrandIslandBoardofEducation](http://www.facebook.com/GrandIslandBoardofEducation)

Contact a Board of Education Official or Your Superintendent

President: David Goris – [davidgoris@k12.ginet.org](mailto:davidgoris@k12.ginet.org)  
Vice President: Paul Krull – [paulkrull@k12.ginet.org](mailto:paulkrull@k12.ginet.org)  
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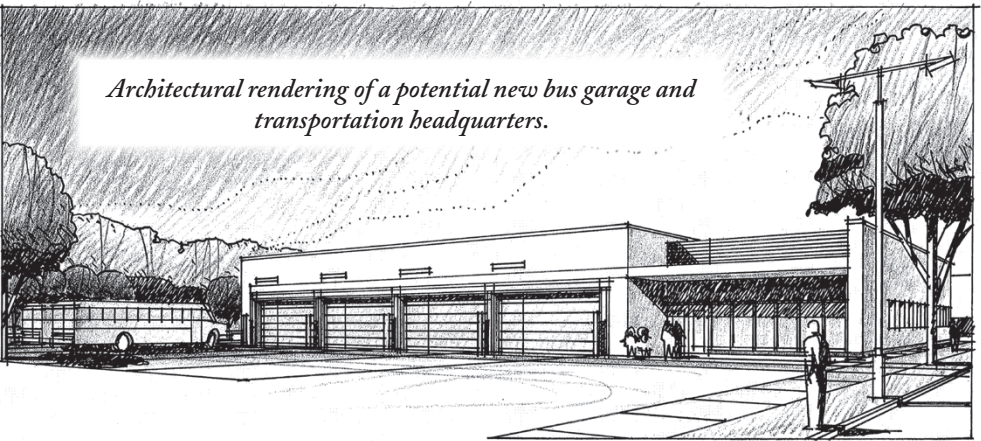
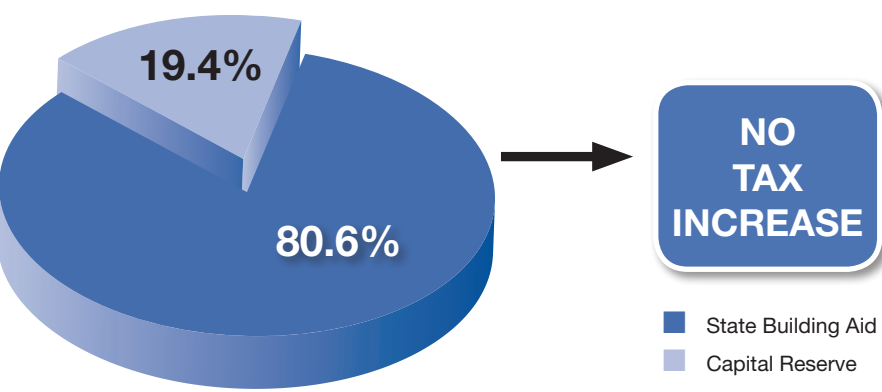
The Grand Island Board of Education encourages residents to call with questions or attend regularly scheduled meetings. For further information call 773-8801.



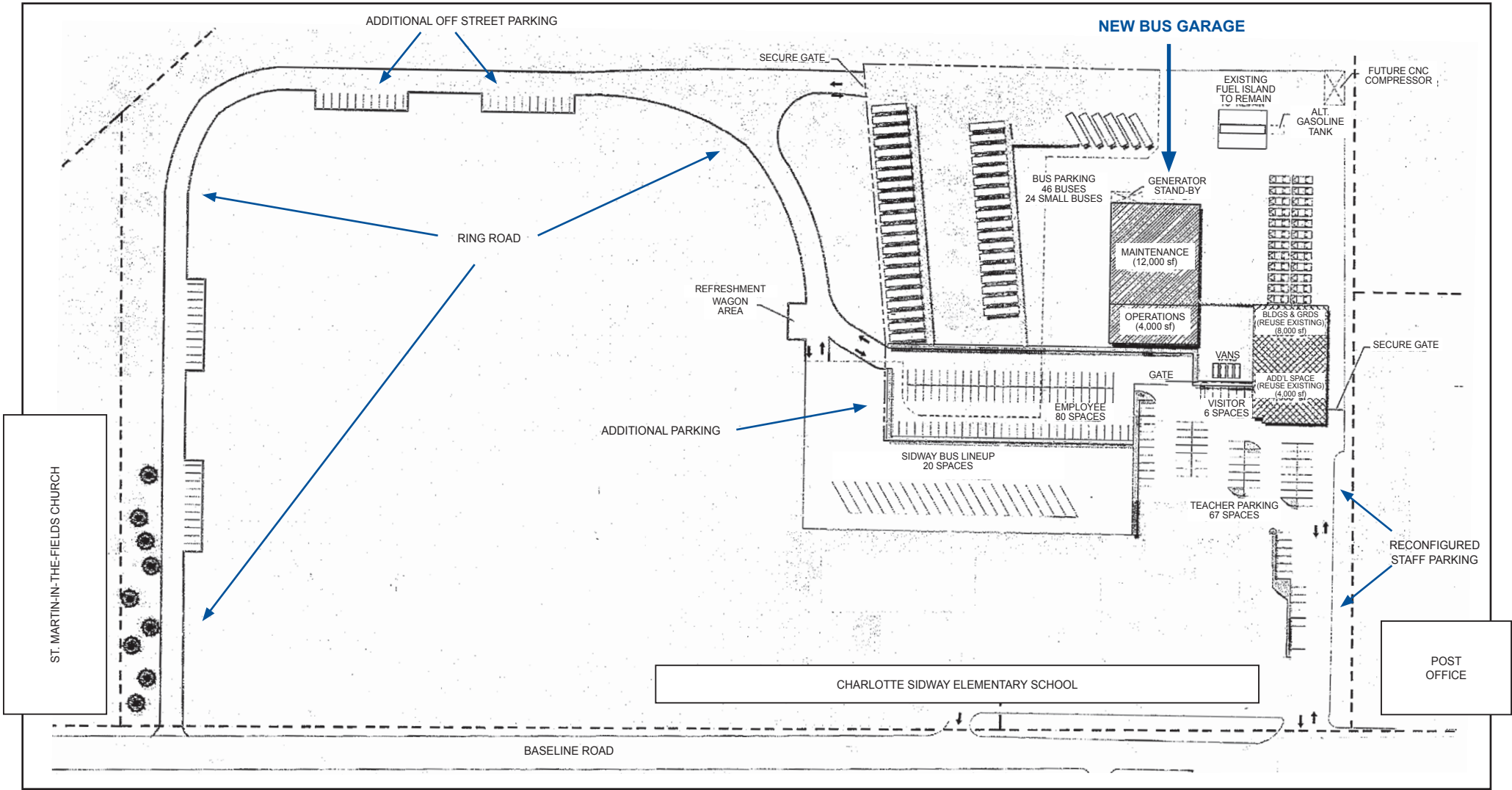


# What Is The Proposition That Will Be Decided Upon At The December 18th Vote?

The proposed proposition will authorize the District to borrow the necessary funds as well as authorize the use of District reserves that will be used to fund the project. The referendum value is \$6,377,000. By combining borrowed funds with those funds the District has saved and set aside for specific use, **the project will have no impact on taxpayers.**



# Site Plan For New Transportation Facility



# FAQ's - Frequently Asked Questions

**Why is the District having a bond vote?** The Grand Island Central School District encourages you to vote on a capital project that will allow the District to modernize its transportation facilities. The Board of Education, in concert with the community, administrators, faculty and staff have considered many options and have selected a project that will ensure the effective and efficient operation of the District's transportation operations for many years to come.

A bond issue is a fiscally responsible funding model because the State will reimburse the District for the majority of the costs. The current State reimbursement rate for the District is 80.6% of the eligible costs.

**How will the money be used?** First and foremost a new 16,000 square foot transportation building will be constructed. The new building will allow for the efficient repair of the District school bus fleet as well as provide an improved office, parts storage and employee wash room and locker facilities.

Overall the project will include:

- A new 16,000 square foot transportation headquarters with new modern space for bus maintenance, parts inventory, office and employee work spaces.
- A new ring road will increase the safety and efficiency of getting the bus fleet in and out of the new facility. The road will separate bus traffic from staff and parent traffic at Sidway Elementary as well as provide additional off-street parking for events at the fields. By preserving the current transportation building the District will be able to transfer their buildings and grounds staff and equipment to the site consolidating District operations in a more efficient and effective manner.
- The current transportation building will also provide seriously needed storage facilities for District equipment and records.
- The areas for traffic and parking around the facility will be streamlined to improve safety, ease of flow and congestion and increase parking capacity for both the new transportation facility as well as for Sidway Elementary.
- Continued use and expansion of current refueling facilities offers significant savings versus relocating those facilities to a different site.
- Space will be set aside for potential District use of natural gas as a fuel source for school busses.

**When will the work take place?** Plans and specifications will need to be prepared for submission to the New York State Education Department. Upon their approval, bids for construction need to be prepared and presented. After contractors are chosen and contracts signed the actual construction work can begin. We anticipate construction beginning in early 2014.

**If building and grounds will utilize the old space, what will be done with the existing space?** The District will move their Maintenance and Buildings and Grounds operations when the existing transportation building becomes available, consolidating operations at the Baseline Road site. The existing Maintenance facility on Staley road will be used for the Eco Island program. The current Eco Island facility is in need of attention while the Maintenance facility is in much better condition. By moving the program into the Maintenance facility the District can ensure the long term viability of a program enjoyed by many of the students in the District without a significant impact on District resources.

**During the last Capital Project vote the District set aside \$800,000 for a future transportation facility project. The funds set aside are now \$1,132,000. What changed?** The scope of the project increased slightly. The proposed new bus garage contains more square feet than originally envisioned. A study done by a consultant transportation firm recommended a slightly larger more efficient building to meet District needs now and for the future. The inclusion of additional site work also had an impact on the size, scope and cost of the project.

**Why wasn't it included in the Capital Project last December?** The Transportation Facility was discussed during the facilities planning meetings and the Board of Education, recognizing the need, set aside reserve funds in anticipation of a new facility. In order to ensure both the viability, efficiency and cost of a new facility, the District consulted with experts in the transportation field to study the issue and prepare options for the District's consideration. The District did not want to delay moving forward on the larger project so it was decided to separate the Transportation Facility to allow for the careful study and deliberation necessary.