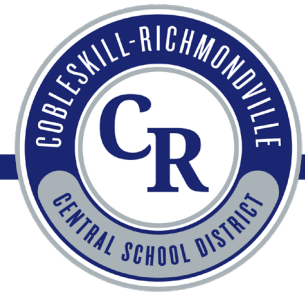


# COBLESKILL-RICHMONDVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL

## 2021 CAPITAL PROJECT NEWSLETTER



# A vision for the future

An artist's rendering shows a "Maker Space" for hands-on technology learning that would be created at Ryder Elementary during Phase 1 of the project, which includes critical improvements and enhancements at each of Cobleskill-Richmondville's four schools.

### What's inside

- »» **Page 2:** A breakdown of our multi-phase approach.
- »» **Page 2-3:** A look at how Phase 1 impacts each of our four schools.
- »» **Page 4:** More details on the voting process and how to request an absentee ballot.
- »» **Page 4:** Read the exact proposition language.

## Multi-phase project to upgrade schools

New learning spaces for science and technology. Long-needed updates to building infrastructure. Renovations to the greenhouse and agriculture wing.

Those are among the highlights of Phase 1 of Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School's proposed project: "Learn Forward: A Multiphase Campus Modernization Plan."

District residents will vote Wednesday, Feb. 3, on the \$14.1 million first phase, which includes upgrades and improvements to all four school buildings. If approved, some of the work could begin by summer of 2022.

Because as much as 82.5 percent of the project's costs will be covered by state building aid and because the project would begin at a time the district is retiring some debt service (principal and interest payments), approval of Phase 1 is **not expected**

### Approval of Phase 1 is not expected to raise the tax levy.

#### to raise the local property tax levy.

Voters can cast their ballots either in person or by absentee ballot. Polls will be open at Cobleskill-Richmondville High School between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m., and absentee ballots can be requested by contacting the district office at 518-234-4032.

The modernization project, which has been in planning stages for more than five years, has been separated into three distinct phases. Voters will consider the second and third phases of the project in 2022 and 2024, respectively.

**See Project, page 3**



## How to vote

**WHO:** All C-RCSD residents who are qualified, registered voters.

**WHAT:** A vote to authorize funding for Phase 1 of the Capital Project.

**WHEN:** 9 a.m. - 9 p.m., Feb. 3, 2021

**WHERE:** Cobleskill-Richmondville High School's "Hall of Flags"



# Phase 1 Scope of work

The first phase addresses infrastructure needs at each C-R school. Additional information about the work is outlined below:



**GEORGE D. RYDER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**Building age:** 63 years  
**Phase 1 cost:** \$3.8 million  
**Projected work:**

- Creation of “Maker Space” for hands-on STEM learning
- Drop-off/pick-up loop redesign
- Main office/security vestibule improvements
- Improvements to playgrounds

**Building age:** 89 years  
**Phase 1 cost:** \$3.5 million  
**Projected work:**


- Creation of “Maker Space” for hands-on technology learning
- Relocation of main office for enhanced security
- Drop-off/pick-up loop redesign
- Renovation of nurses’ and guidance offices



**JOSEPH B. RADEZ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

## A multi-phase approach

Initially, the district had been planning for a larger, single project. But given the financial uncertainty caused by the pandemic, the plan was restructured into smaller projects spread out over a five-year period. This approach minimizes the impact on the tax levy. Because as much as 82.5 percent of costs could be recovered through state aid and because the district will be paying down older debt over the next few years, **approval of the project will not require an increase to the local property tax levy above its current level.**



## Capital Project

Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
<b>Vote:</b> Feb. 3, 2021 <b>Cost:</b> \$14.1 million	<b>Vote:</b> Spring 2022 <b>Cost:</b> \$13.2 million	<b>Vote:</b> Spring 2024 <b>Cost:</b> \$5.4 million
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Campus infrastructure and system improvements and upgrades</li><li>• Campus safety and security improvements</li><li>• Construction of 21st Century learning spaces</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Development of new transportation facility</li><li>• Performing arts and athletics facilities improvements</li><li>• Further infrastructure upgrades</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Upgrades to science labs and libraries</li><li>• Final round of safety and infrastructure upgrades and improvements</li></ul>



**Building age:** 89 years  
**Phase 1 cost:** \$3.4 million  
**Projected work:**

- Front entrance security improvement
- Additional heating to classrooms
- Creation of “tech suite” for hands-on science and technology education



## WILLIAM H. GOLDING MIDDLE SCHOOL



## COBLESKILL-RICHMONDVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

**Building age:** 23 years  
**Phase 1 cost:** \$3.4 million  
**Projected work:**

- Renovations to the greenhouse and improvements to the agriculture education classroom
- Replacement of heating and cooling systems
- Replacement of curbing and concrete sidewalks

### Project, from page 1

“Given the high degree of economic uncertainty caused by the pandemic, we believe separating this project into smaller phases helps us maintain flexibility and minimize the impact on taxpayers,” said Carl J. Mummenthey, C-R’s Superintendent of Schools. “Because we are retiring some other debt in the coming years, we can complete this work without any additional burden on our district’s taxpayers.”

“The average age of our schools is 66-years-old, and some of our infrastructure, including heating and cooling systems, already have surpassed

their expected useful lives,” he added. “By proposing to voters that we invest in our infrastructure now, we hope to avoid even more costly repairs in the future -- or, worse, a total system failure.”

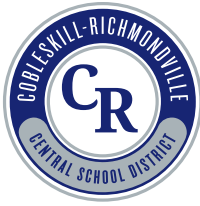
The most urgently needed work has been included in the first phase of the project. Some of that work includes: replacement of heating and cooling systems, some of which have exceeded their life expectancies; security enhancements to school entrances; and improvements to the parent drop-off/pick-up circles for better efficiency and safety.

Other parts of Phase 1 will more directly affect student learning, including the construction of “Maker Spaces” at both Radez and Ryder

elementary schools. In those modern classrooms, students will gain hands-on experience in science, technology and engineering.

Additionally, improvements are planned for the agriculture education areas of Cobleskill-Richmondville High School, including a full renovation of the greenhouse.

“The improvements to these learning spaces would help us maintain a rich, rigorous curriculum for our students, especially in the areas of agriculture, science and technology,” Mummenthey said. “We submit this proposal to voters asking that we may complete necessary upgrades to our physical spaces and enhance learning opportunities for students in these emerging fields.”



**Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School**  
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Cobleskill, NY 12043

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Carl J. Mummmenthey

### **Dir. of Finance/Operations**

Tracy L. Fraleigh

### **Newsletter Editor**

Pete Iorizzo

### **How to vote**

The Capital Project vote will take place in-person on **Wednesday, Feb. 3**, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at C-R High School's "Hall of Flags."

Alternatively, you may choose to request an absentee ballot. To request an absentee ballot, or if you have any questions about the voting process, please contact C-RCS District Clerk Ruth Van Deusen at [vandeusenr@crcsd.org](mailto:vandeusenr@crcsd.org) or 518-234-4032, ext. 2000.

**Returned ballots must be received, either by mail or dropped off at the district office, by 5 p.m. on Feb. 3, 2021.**

## **What's on the ballot?**

### **2021 Capital Project Phase 1 Proposition**

District residents will vote "yes or no" on the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that (a) the Board of Education (the "Board") of the Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District, Schoharie, Montgomery and Otsego Counties, New York (the "District"), is hereby authorized to undertake a capital improvement project (the "Project") consisting of the reconstruction and renovation of, and the construction of improvements and upgrades to, various District buildings and facilities (and the sites thereof), to implement various health, safety, accessibility, and code compliance measures required by the State Education Department in connection with any significant capital improvement project, and to undertake various other measures as described in greater detail in (but not to be limited by) the Project Plan that was referred to in the public notice of the vote on this Proposition, and to expend therefor an amount not to exceed \$14,100,000; (b) a tax is hereby voted in an amount not to exceed \$14,100,000 to finance the balance of the estimated maximum cost of the Project, such tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by the Board; (c) in anticipation of such tax, obligations of the District are hereby authorized to be issued in an aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$14,100,000, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on such obligations as the same shall become due and payable; and (d) New York State Building Aid funds expected to be received by the District are anticipated to offset a substantial part of such costs, and such funds, to the extent received, shall be applied to offset and reduce the amount of taxes herein authorized to be levied.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** The public can participate in a virtual public hearing about the project on **Monday, Jan. 25**. A link to the broadcast and details about how to offer comment will be published on the district website ([CRCSD.org](http://CRCSD.org)).