



Oct. 21, 2022

Dear Spencerport Families,

As you know, the Spencerport Central School District has initiated a strategic planning process to recommit ourselves as leaders to delivering the highest quality education possible to our students and preparing them for their futures. This effort coincides with our continued focus on capital improvement needs and maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment for our staff and students.

Because the two initiatives are interconnected, I've coined them under one unified vision: Future Ready. Please look for this graphic for updates related to the strategic plan or capital improvement project.



I'm excited to share that on Tuesday night, the Board of Education approved our recommendation for a 2022 capital project. **The community will now vote on the proposed \$23.4 million plan from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 13 in the District Office building.** The referendum, which represents a minimal to no tax impact, will include:

- additional safety and security measures including new secured vestibule entrances; and
- extensive infrastructure repairs and replacements, including roofing, HVAC systems, boilers and paving.

Information on the capital improvement project has been [added on our website](#), and we will continue to add details in the coming days. We will also communicate the project through our regular email updates, Cornerstone newsletter, print materials, social media and videos. **An informational meeting on the project will also be held on Tuesday, Nov. 29, 6 p.m. in the high school performing arts center.**



Updates

Safe Schools Week

This week we observe Safe Schools Week, and I thought it only appropriate to update you on the progress we are making towards keeping our schools safe, secure and productive. First and foremost, I think we can all agree that a quality education requires safe, disciplined, and peaceful schools. Many of you have shared in our ThoughtExchange survey, that school safety is a community concern requiring a community response.

As you know, we have increased our security personnel this year and continue to have a close partnership with the Ogden Police Department. Darin Price, director of facilities and Chris Mears, director of security, co-facilitate our Spencerport Safety Committee, a shared decision-making committee that ensures the development and implementation of our safety programs on campus and provides training to necessary staff. You will also notice considerable safety recommendations in our next capital improvement project. With community approval, we will work to secure entrances at each building, improve our single point of entry design and increase state of the art security cameras across our buildings and grounds. All of the enhancements add additional layers of security to complement our existing procedures.



Attention Seniors - SUNY Free Application Period

Seniors, you can apply for admission to up to five SUNY campuses with no application fee from Oct. 24 through Nov. 6. Students will be able to apply here: www.suny.edu/apply. In addition, you can view all of the student events [here](#). SUNY has planned a host of activities in conjunction with the free application week and many are web-based.



On the Horizon: Red Ribbon Week

The Red Ribbon Campaign is the largest drug-abuse prevention campaign in the United States. Next week we will be engaging in activities that unite us as we take a visible stand against drug use. Unfortunately, the rate of U.S. teen vaping and marijuana use is on the rise. “Years of research show that when young people are engaged in activities they enjoy and feel are meaningful, they have less reason to turn to substance use to soothe their boredom or seek sensation.” We recognize that breaking the addiction of vaping can be difficult for our students. If support is needed, we encourage you to reach out to Kate Zobkiw, Drug and Alcohol Counselor at kzobkiw@spencerportschools.org. Ms. Zobkiw has resources to help.

Please find our [Red Ribbon Week themed days here](#).

Bright Spots

Sources of Strength Peer Leader Training

On October 18, staff from the University of Rochester led 70 high school students and 10 adult advisors in a training to become peer leaders for The Sources of Strength Group.

The mission of Sources of Strength is to prevent suicide by increasing help-seeking behaviors and promoting connections between peers and caring adults. Peer leaders are taught how to recognize

when their friends are stressed, how to support them or get them the assistance they need.

At this training, students participated in several icebreaker and problem-solving activities, along with discussions about their own strengths and ways to help their friends recognize their own strengths. This empowering day ended with small-group brainstorming sessions in which students planned future campaigns to engage our entire high school community in their positive message.



Sources of Strength peer leader training



Sources of Strength peer leader training in a restorative circle activity



Sources of Strength peer leader training



Reminder: Upcoming Events

- Oct. 24-28: Red Ribbon Week
- Oct. 27: Bernabi Open House
- Nov. 3: PreK-only Half Day Release
- Nov. 3: Cosgrove Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Nov. 4: PreK-12 Half Day Release
- Nov. 10: Munn Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Nov. 11: Veterans Day: No School

Have a great weekend.

Sincerely,

Kristin Swann
Superintendent of Schools



Spencerport Central School District