Watkins Glen Central School District

CAPITAL PROJECT NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Strong schools depend on strong learning environments. Following the previous vote, the District took a careful and thoughtful approach to reviewing our facility needs, listening to staff and residents, and considering how best to invest in the schools we already have. This work included reviewing the 2023 Building Condition Survey, ongoing facilities planning, user group meetings, and input from Board of Education representatives, district leaders, and community members.

With a **$0 tax increase,** the proposed $25.8 million capital project focuses on priority improvements that support student success, staff effectiveness, and the overall educational experience. The project addresses classroom and instructional spaces, safety and security, heating and air conditioning, aging building systems, site conditions, and other infrastructure needs across the district.

This proposal is intended to be focused, responsible, and responsive to the needs identified through this planning process. By addressing important renovations, replacements, and improvements, the District can preserve and strengthen its existing facilities for current and future students.

The project will be funded through the use of New York State Building Aid, capital reserves, and existing debt retirement. This financial plan is designed to complete the project with a **$0 tax increase** for residents.

I encourage residents to learn more about the project at the Community Presentation Wednesday, November 18, 2026, at 6:00 PM in Watkins Glen High School Auditorium and participate in the referendum on Tuesday, December 15, 2026.

Sincerely,

Keith Caslin, Board of Education President
Kai A. D'Alleva, Superintendent of Schools

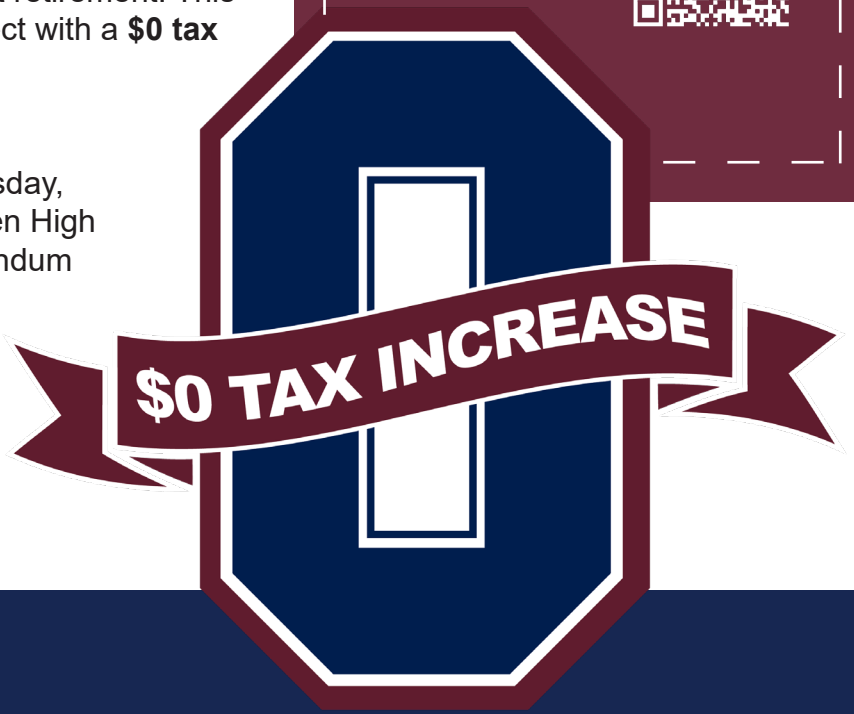
COMMUNITY PRESENTATION

Wednesday, November 18, 2026
6:00 PM
Watkins Glen High School Auditorium
301 12th Street, Watkins Glen, NY

VOTE INFORMATION

Tuesday, December 15, 2026
12:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Board of Education Room
303 12th Street, Watkins Glen, NY

For More Project Information



Watkins Glen School District

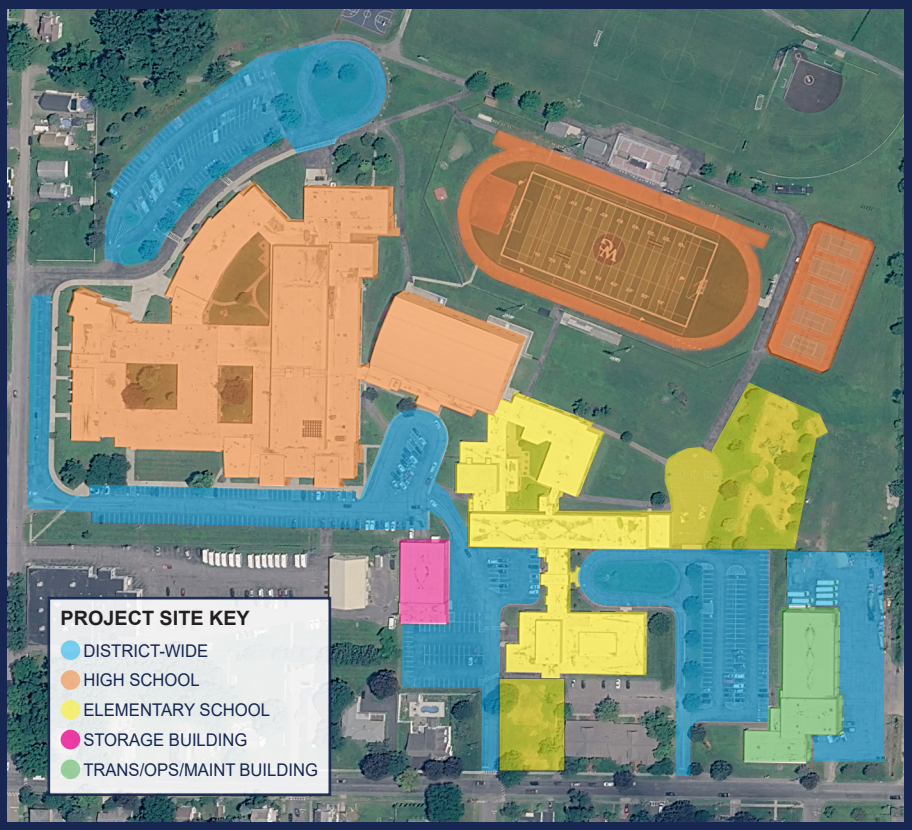
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PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

The project is centered on four key focus areas:

- **Safety and Security Upgrades**
- **Existing Infrastructure Investments**
- **Classroom & Instructional Spaces**
- **Heating & Cooling Improvements**

This project has been planned with **$0 tax increase** to our district residents while prioritizing the quality and safety of learning environments by way of responsibly preserving district facilities.



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Provide air conditioning throughout the building, excluding the field house; this includes all classrooms, the elementary school gym, cafeteria, and other occupied spaces
- Enlarge and improve secure entry vestibule
- Renovate PreK–2 in-classroom toilet rooms with new finishes, manual flush valves, and one ADA-accessible toilet room per grade
- Renovate the gymnasium, including replacement wood flooring and wall padding in the Fieldhouse
- Restore the building facade through masonry cleaning, repointing, and replacement, including improvements at the south entrance, courtyard, and walkways
- Renovate the exterior site and playground, including new equipment, resilient surfacing, drainage, sidewalks, and fencing
- Develop land for outdoor education and recreation
- Mechanical, plumbing, kitchen, and ventilation improvements

DISTRICT-WIDE

- Repave parking lots and drives due to age and use

STORAGE BUILDING

- Weatherization and emergency lighting

HIGH SCHOOL

- Reconfigure the Student Services suite to enhance student & parent privacy and improve meeting spaces
- Select classroom space infrastructure improvements
- Single-use toilet room upgrades including improved ADA accessibility
- Restore the facade through masonry cleaning and repointing at the courtyard, Fieldhouse, pool hallway, 1973 addition, maintenance break room, and interior columns
- Audio/visual system upgrades
- Improve building heating and cooling systems, including upgrades to outdoor toilet room heaters, pool exhaust and controls, and the Art Room rooftop unit
- Reconstruct auditorium entrance to improve ADA accessibility
- Resurfacing on the track and tennis courts, including drainage improvements, crack repairs, sealcoating, top coating, and repainting
- Electrical display renovations including scoreboard replacements at the Fieldhouse and Pool

TRANSPORTATION, OPERATIONS, & MAINTENANCE BUILDING

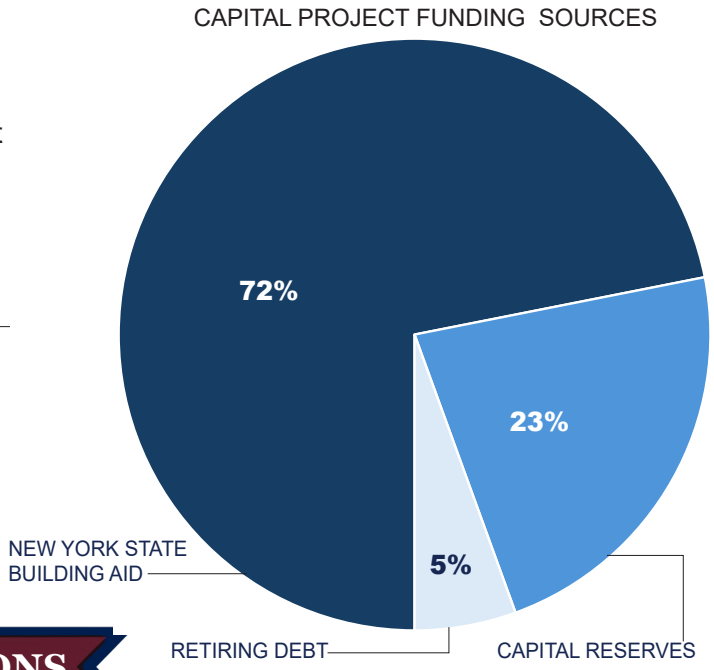
- Improvements to heating & cooling systems

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed Capital Project will cost an estimated $25.8 million and will be funded through the use of NYS building aid, capital reserves, and retiring debt resulting in **$0 tax increase for taxpayers**. The pie chart depicts the different funding sources.

NEW YORK STATE BUILDING AID	$18,560,268
CAPITAL RESERVES	$5,825,000
RETIRING DEBT	$1,431,447
TOTAL PROJECT COST	$25,816,715

$0 TAX INCREASE



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Why is the district proposing another capital project after the previous one did not pass?
A. The district continues to have building, infrastructure, and instructional needs that require attention. Following the previous vote the district listened to community concerns and engaged residents in developing a more focused, responsible project. The current proposal reflects that feedback and is intended to address priority needs with a **$0 tax increase**.

Q. How much will the project cost?
A. The current project cost is approximately $25.8 million and will be funded primarily through New York State Building Aid, expected to cover approximately 72% of the project, and district capital reserves, which are funds saved for major building and facility improvements. Existing debt retirement will also support the project, allowing the district to move forward with a **$0 tax increase.**

Q. Will taxes increase?
A. No. The district's current financial plan resulted in a **$0 tax increase.**

Q. How did the community help develop the project?
A. Residents and stakeholders provided feedback through user group meetings, community surveys, and stakeholder input. That input helped the district identify priorities, evaluate the scope, and develop a more focused proposal. Community input informed the project, but formal approval will be determined by voters through the referendum.

Q. Why should I support this project?
A. The project is intended to protect the district's existing investment in its schools, address priority needs, support safe and reliable facilities, improve the learning environment, and do so through a financial plan designed for a **$0 tax increase.**

Q. How can I learn more?
A. Visit: www.wgcsd.org or scan the QR code
Attend: Community Presentation on Wednesday, November 18, 2026, at 6:00 PM in Watkins Glen High School Auditorium (301 12th Street, Watkins Glen)
Contact: Watkins Glen School District at (607) 535-3219
Vote Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2026 from 12:00 PM – 8:00 PM in the Board of Education Room
(303 12th Street, Watkins Glen)

Watkins Glen Central School District

303 12th Street
Watkins Glen, NY 14891
(607) 535-3219

Non-profit org.
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Watkins Glen, NY
Permit No. XX

POSTAL PATRON OR
CURRENT RESIDENT

VOTER ELIGIBILITY

- Citizen of the United States
- 18 Years of Age
- A resident of State and District for 30 days immediately preceding the election
- Must be eligible to vote at any election in accordance with the provisions of Section 5-106 of the election law.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS & EARLY VOTING

- Voters wishing to vote by Absentee Ballot must complete an Absentee Ballot application. Absentee Ballot applications can be picked up at the Administration Offices of the Watkins Glen Central School District
- Those that don't qualify for absentee ballot can pick up an early mail-in voting application from the District Clerk.
- Applications must be received by the School District Clerk seven (7) days prior for the Ballot to be mailed to the voter.
- Absentee Ballots and early mail-in votes shall be returned to the District Clerk no later than 5 p.m. on December 15, 2026

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