

# Smart Schools Investment Plan (Smart Tech Bond 2014)

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# Overview

- ▶ The New York Bonds for School Technology Act, Proposal 3 was on the November 4, 2014 ballot in New York as a legislatively-referred bond question, where it was **approved**. The measure authorized the state comptroller to issue and sell bonds up to the amount of \$2 billion. The revenue received from the sale of such bonds are, according to the proposal, used for projects related to the following:

# Six Categories

## 1) **School Connectivity**

Install high-speed broadband or wireless internet

## 2) **Classroom Technology**

Acquire learning technology equipment or facilities, including but not limited to interactive whiteboards, computer servers, and desktop, laptop, and tablet computers;

## 3) **Connectivity Projects for Community**

Connectivity for communities

## Six Categories

### **4) Pre-K Classrooms**

Construct, enhance, and modernize educational facilities to accommodate pre- kindergarten programs and to provide instructional space to replace classroom trailers; and/or

### **5) Replacement of Classroom Trailers**

Construct, enhance, and modernize educational facilities to accommodate pre- kindergarten programs and to provide instructional space to replace classroom trailers; and/or

### **6) High Tech Security Features**

Install high-tech security features in school buildings and on school campuses, including but not limited to video surveillance, emergency notification systems, and physical access controls.

## Effective plans should:

- ▶ Include linkages between the district's long-term educational planning and technology investments
- ▶ Provide learning opportunities beyond the classroom through the use of technology
- ▶ Address the educational needs of all students, including students with disabilities, English language learners and those who have not succeeded in traditional classroom settings.

## Critical elements - 1

- ▶ **Demonstration of Need:** districts will demonstrate that the proposed projects are consistent with enrollment projections and will be used to create high-quality instructional space for the students who will be served there.
- ▶ **Adequate Technological Infrastructure:** Federal Communications Commission's 100 Mbps per 1,000 students standard currently exists in the buildings where new devices will be deployed.
- ▶ Middletown would need 700 Mbps
- ▶ Middletown has 10gig internet connection (10 times more than required)

## Critical elements - 1I

- ▶ **Professional Development:** Please note that Smart Schools Bond funds may not be used for professional development.
- ▶ **Technical Support:** Please note that Smart Schools Bond funds may not be used for technical support. Districts are encouraged to work through BOCES for technical support.
- ▶ **Sustainability:** As part of their Smart Schools Investment Plans, districts are required to demonstrate a long-term plan to physically maintain the investments made under the Smart Schools Bond Act in a useful condition.

## Overview

- ▶ **Smart Schools Investment Plans:** through an application on the New York State Education Department's Business Portal.
- ▶ **Plan Submission:** There are no specific deadlines for submission of Smart Schools Investment Plans, as these funds do not expire.
- ▶ **Timing of Grant Funds:** districts that plan to use their Smart Schools Bond Act funds for school capital projects or facilities will first need to undergo a preliminary review for their projects through **the Office of Facilities Planning** before submitting their Smart Schools Investment Plan for approval.
- ▶ Once an approved purchase is made and the request for reimbursement is received and approved, the New York State Education Department will authorize payment and the funds will be paid to districts within 90 days in most cases.



## Application Process - I

- ▶ **Review allocation amount and New York State Education Department guidance.**
- ▶ **Identify district needs:** School leaders are encouraged to engage in strategic planning for use of these funds to build long-term capacity in their districts.
- ▶ **Stakeholder Engagement:** Pursuant to the requirements of the Smart Schools Bond Act, the planning process must include consultation with parents, teachers, students, community members, the nonpublic schools located in the district and other stakeholders.
- ▶ **Capital Planning:** Capital projects funded through the Smart Schools Bond Act will require the same open public procurement process required for other school capital projects, including voter approval.

## Application Process - II

- ▶ **Instructional Technology Plans:** All New York State public school districts are required to complete and submit an Instructional Technology Plan as part of their Smart Schools.
- ▶ **Plan Submission:** Once these local steps are complete, districts will submit Smart Schools Investment Plans through the Smart Schools Bond Act application on the New York State Education Department Business Portal.
- ▶ **Review:** The New York State Education Department will review the plans for completeness and follow up with school districts on any portions that require further explanation
- ▶ **Approval:** The Smart Schools Review Board shall review each plan to determine whether it meets the requirements of the Smart Schools Bond Act and demonstrates a sound plan to use the funds in a manner that advances the educational well-being of the district's students.

# Examples of non-allowable expenditures include:

- ▶ Recurring costs associated with the use and maintenance of technology purchased, including internet, email, phone, voice mail service, web hosting or webcasting.
- ▶ Expenses incurred prior to the date of the approval of the Smart Schools Investment Plan.
- ▶ Expenditures which are not consistent with Smart Schools Investment Plans, Instructional
- ▶ Technology Plans or approved capital plans for Smart Schools Bond Act projects.
- ▶ Capital improvements to facilities that are not municipally-owned or if the term of the lease for the leased property is shorter than probable useful life of the capital improvement, as determined by the New York State Education Department's Office of Facilities Planning.
- ▶ Leased Equipment

## Acquire Learning Technology Equipment

- ▶ Examples of allowable expenditures include:
  - ▶ Interactive boards
  - ▶ Computer servers
  - ▶ Desktop, laptop, and tablet computers
  - ▶ Other technology items that enhance teaching and learning
- ▶ Examples of non-allowable expenditures include:
  - ▶ Software
  - ▶ Subscription services

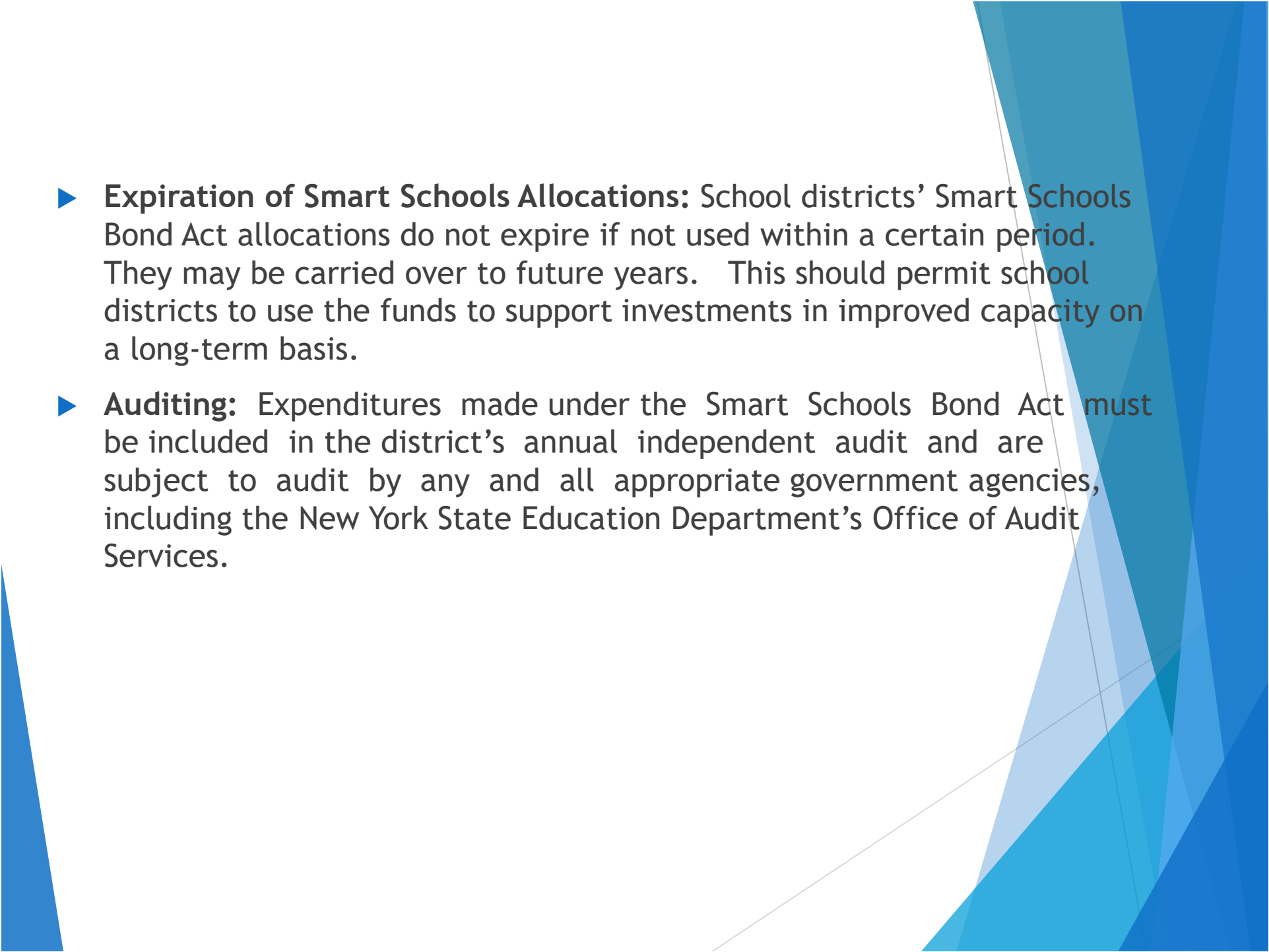
## The proposed technology purchases should address:

- ▶ Enhance differentiated instruction and expand student learning beyond the classroom.
- ▶ Ensure equal access to these improved educational services and learning opportunities for students with disabilities and English language learners
- ▶ Enhance ongoing communication with parents and other stakeholders.
- ▶ Leverage technology to facilitate regional partnerships, including distance learning,
- ▶ Expand wireless internet connectivity/Wi-Fi.
- ▶ Be consistent with the districts' short and long-term educational goals.

## HIGH tech security devices

### Acceptable items

- ▶ Acceptable electronic security systems limited to main entrances.
- ▶ Access control systems limited to main entrances may include:
  - ▶ An intercom to speak with visitors / Remote electronic door unlatching systems / Cameras
  - ▶ Interface with the building management system / Central lockdown buttons.
- ▶ Acceptable door hardening items:
  - ▶ Door replacement / Door hardware replacement / Door frame replacement;
  - ▶ Sidelight removal / Sidelight frame replacement;
  - ▶ Change size of door or window vision panels to limit opening size;
  - ▶ Change door or sidelight glass materials;
  - ▶ Bars, grills or other protective measures over existing glass to prevent access; and
  - ▶ Glass films, including security films or tinted films.

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- ▶ **Expiration of Smart Schools Allocations:** School districts' Smart Schools Bond Act allocations do not expire if not used within a certain period. They may be carried over to future years. This should permit school districts to use the funds to support investments in improved capacity on a long-term basis.
  - ▶ **Auditing:** Expenditures made under the Smart Schools Bond Act must be included in the district's annual independent audit and are subject to audit by any and all appropriate government agencies, including the New York State Education Department's Office of Audit Services.

# Middletown's Investment Plan

## 1) School Connectivity - \$2,771,920

- ▶ Infrastructure enhancements
- ▶ MHS addition

## 2) Classroom Technology - \$3,626,000

- ▶ Classroom Video boards
- ▶ Chromebooks
- ▶ MHS addition

## 3) High -Tech Security \$500,000

- ▶ Middletown High School  
Twin Towers Middle School  
William A Carter Elementary School  
Maple Hill Annex@Truman Moon  
Presidential Park Elementary School  
District Central Office

Total \$6,897,920



Questions?

