



# Berlin

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

**CAPITAL PROJECT VOTE**

Wednesday, December 11 • Noon – 9 p.m.  
Berlin Elementary School • 53 School Street

**Berlin Central School District  
Public Hearing & Information Session on  
Proposed Capital Project  
December 5, 2019 at 7:15pm at the Middle-High School**

**Please See Capital Project  
Frequently Asked Questions and Answers Below**



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### Question: Is this the same as the last project we approved?

No. This is a new project which will be in addition to the renovations approved previously. It will be for ADDITIONAL work in the schools and buildings that was not included in the 2018 approval. Please see details in the brochure and on the website.

### Question: Will my taxes go up if this is approved by the voters?

No, similar to the last two capital projects, there is no tax impact whatsoever. It will be paid for by our capital reserves (already approved and saved over the years) and the New York State Education Department.



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### Question: Is the 2018-2019 project behind schedule?

No - The soccer field, running track and baseball field was done first because of the outside summer work. This work is substantially completed with fencing and minor seeding and planting still to be completed in the spring. The remaining work is on schedule. Two new classrooms are completed already inside the MS/

HS and the outside safety zone is substantially complete at the elementary school (bus lane). Work will be continuing on other interior renovations at the MS/HS (Medical Office, Counseling Center, and Exceptional Education Office) and outside preparation work for the security entrance vestibule. Floor asbestos abatement work is slated to be done over the holiday break.



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### Question: What was approved previously in 2018?

There were two components to the last project – 1) the new construction of the athletic fields and 2) renovations of the two schools and the construction of a new transportation facility.

### Question: When can the athletic fields be used?

The soccer and baseball field will need two growing seasons to establish a firm foundation of turf so it is anticipated that another year will be needed before those fields can be used. The track however will be ready for use in the 2020 and 2021 track seasons.



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### Question: Is the original project over budget?

No – We are not allowed to spend more than was appropriated by the voting community. The bids from contractors came in higher than expected due to several factors including escalated materials costs, labor shortages, and economic climate at the time of estimation and bidding.

### Question: When will the original project be completed?

The 2018-2019 project started in July will be substantially completed by the end of summer, 2020. All remaining interior renovations at both schools will be performed during the summer months and ready for opening of school in September 2020.



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Question: Does the new project (2019-2020) include items eliminated from the 2018 approval and appropriation?

Yes - Several of the renovations in the original project had to be scaled back and value-engineered to meet the original 9.3 million dollar appropriation. For example – bathroom renovations were considered a priority at BES so we postponed District and

Business Office renovations at the MS/HS. These renovations will now be in the second project. Another example – the transportation facility was redesigned with anticipation of adding an additional bay in a future project. Paving of the transportation site was also eliminated entirely, saving almost \$1,000,000. Conversion of the original bus garage was postponed and placed in the new project.