


Berlin Central School District
Smart Schools Bond Act Initiative
Plan



School Board Presentation
February 27, 2024

Smart Schools Bond Act Initiative

- Passed by New York Voters in November of 2014
- Awarded \$2 Billion to all public schools based on enrollment and state aid formula

**Berlin Central Schools Allocation is
\$947,237**

Rules for the use of these funds

6 categories:

- School Networking
- Classroom Technology
- Community Connection
- Pre-K Classroom Improvements
- Elimination of Temporary/Trailer Classrooms
- School Security and Safety

Rules for the use of these funds

- You cannot pay salaries
- You cannot pay BOCES
- You cannot purchase software

Prior to Step 1

- Research on several projects was completed under the given budget.
- Departments met to see specific needs.
- BCSD will submit documents to release the balance of those funds for the final application.

Step 1

Administration consults with the district's relevant parties to establish possible priorities in the approved categories.

Consideration given to:

- Director of Facilities
- IT/ET Department
- Building Principal/Department Needs

Step 2

Establish a Smart Bond Planning Committee.

Membership must include:

- Student(s)
- Staff
- Administrators
- Board of Education member
- Parent(s)
- Community

Committee Responsibility

Committee reviews the preliminary proposal from district and makes a recommendation to the Board of Education to approve the preliminary plan.

Phase 3: District Proposal

1. Upgrade the Emergency Classroom Notification system for BCSD.
 - Including phones, speakers, bells, clocks, intercoms, digital screens, and exterior strobe lights.
2. Add Network Switches and uninterruptible power supplies.
3. Install/Update projectors and screens for additional large group instructional spaces.
4. Replace desktop computers for all district employees.
5. Replace older interactive whiteboards.
6. Replace teacher chromebook devices.
7. Upgrade Macs and Ipads for MS/HS Art Department.
8. Upgrade science department equipment to replace laptop carts and Vernier equipment.

Step 3

The Smart Schools Bond Act Planning committee met on February 15th 2024 and...

The Smart Schools Planning Committee recommends that the Board of Education approve the preliminary Smart Schools Phase 3 District Proposal as presented.

Final Steps

1. With the recommendation of the committee, the Board of Education will vote to approve the preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan.
2. If approved, the preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan will be published on the school district website for a period of at least 30 days with an email address for public comments.
3. The comments to the Smart Schools Investment Plan will be reviewed by the Board of Education in a public hearing to be held 30 days after it has been posted.
4. The Board of Education will then vote to approve the Smart Schools Investment Plan as the final plan for submission to NYSED.
5. The final plan will be reviewed by the NYS Smart Schools Review Board. The Review Board only meets a few times per year. Final approval could take many months.

Questions?

Please contact:

BCSDPublicComment@berlincentral.org

Please include Smart Schools Bond Act in your subject line.

The district will also have hard copies of this plan available at the Berlin Middle High School and Berlin Elementary School main offices along with a paper form to submit comments or questions.

We look forward to reviewing your feedback.