

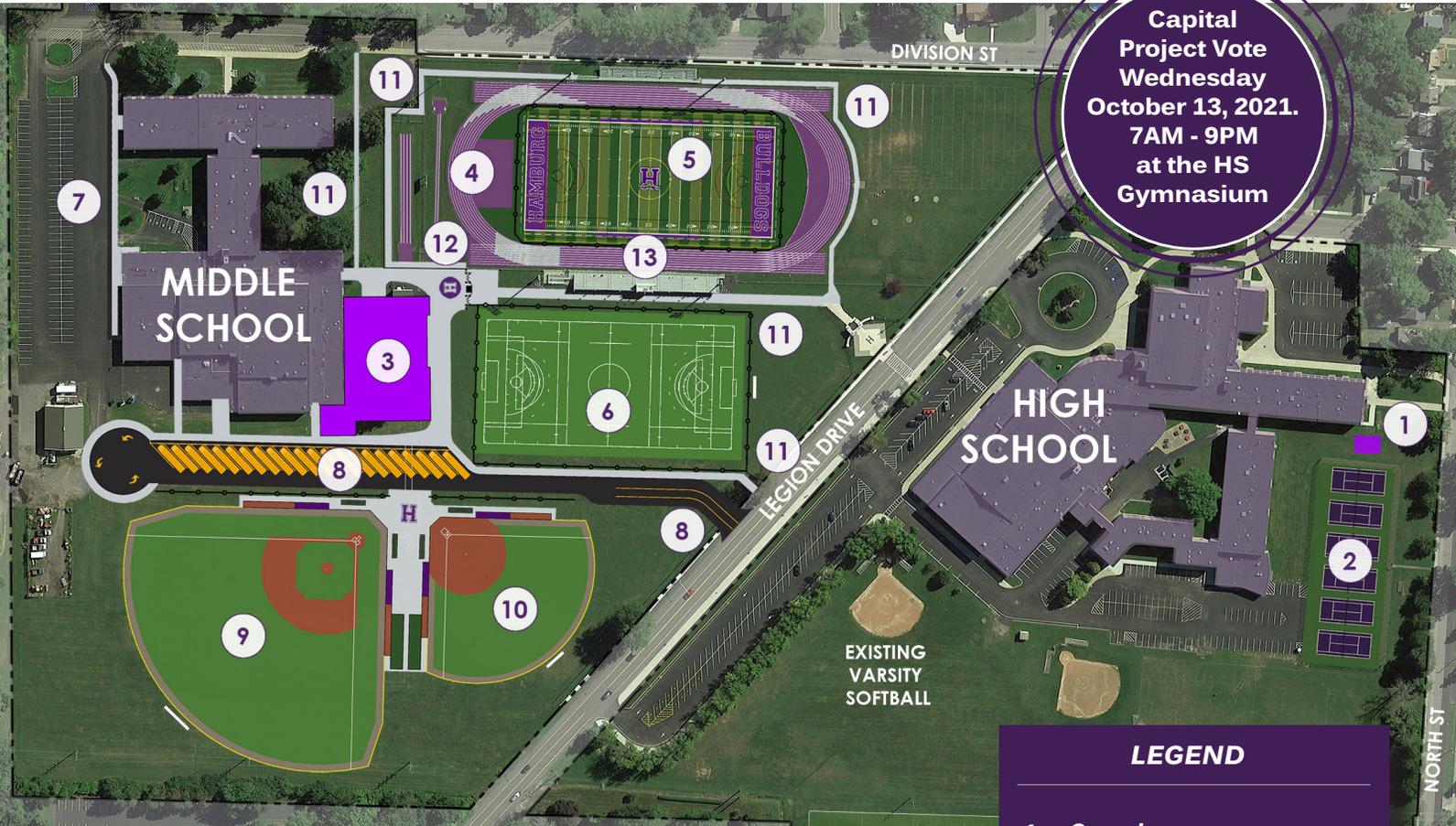


# Hamburg Central School District

# DISCOVER 2021

## CAPITAL PROJECT

**Capital Project Vote**  
**Wednesday**  
**October 13, 2021.**  
**7AM - 9PM**  
**at the HS**  
**Gymnasium**



### The District's Board of Education is asking for your support for our Discover 2021 project.

The Discover 2021 Capital Improvement Project is designed to ensure that every child has the opportunity to discover what she/he loves about school in world class facilities, and use that discovery to connect meaningfully to their school experience. Discover 2021 is truly a commitment to drawing out the best in every child. Discover 2021 will impact programming in academics, social-emotional health, physical education and athletics, music, art, technology, accessibility, and nutrition. We are excited to present Discover 2021 to our community for a referendum on **Wednesday, October 13th, 2021.**

LEGEND	
1	Greenhouse
2	Rework Tennis Courts
3	New Aquatic Center
4	Reconstruct Track
5	Replace Turf at Field
6	New Multipurpose Field
7	Expand and Repave Parking Lot
8	New Bus Loop
9	New Baseball Turf Field
10	New Softball Turf Field
11	New Sidewalks and Gates to Field
12	New Gateway and Ticket Booth
13	Existing Bleachers & Field Lighting Remain

## INTRODUCTION



Michael R. Cornell

**SUPERINTENDENT**

“

If we're committed to helping every child fulfill his or her potential, then we have to provide safe and modern learning environments for every student. We encourage you to come out to make your voice heard and cast your vote for the 'Discover 2021' project.”

”

The Hamburg Central School District is seeking voter approval for “Discover 2021,” a proposed capital improvement project designed to ensure that students have the opportunity to discover what excites, challenges, inspires and empowers them in the best PreK – 12 educational facilities in Western New York. Approval of this referendum would enable the district to embark on a historic capital investment that would positively impact the school experience for generations of children and the quality of life for generations of residents.

With voter support, this district-wide construction/renovation project would be phased in over five years and impact programming in academics, social-emotional health, physical education and athletics, music, art, technology and nutrition. It's part of the district's continuing efforts to provide a physical setting that will better support modern learning experiences for all students.

We hope that you'll find this special edition of the *Focus* informative. And, we thank you for your partnership as we educate modern thinkers who create, care, solve and discover.

## Middle School

Technology Upgrades, Energy Efficiency Improvements, General Health, Safety & Accessibility Reconstruction.

- » Art, Music & Technology Department Renovations
- » Auditorium Improvements
- » Bathroom Renovations
- » Aquatic Center Addition including New Locker Rooms, Concessions and Restrooms & Storage
- » Stadium Artificial Turf Replacement & Track Reconstruction
- » New Bus Loop Access, Repave Parking Lot
- » New Multi-Use Turf Field, Artificial Turf Softball Field, & Artificial Turf Baseball Field
- » New Exterior Building Lighting Controls



# PROJECT BREAKDOWN

## Elementary Schools

### Armor Elementary

Technology Upgrades, Energy Efficiency Improvements, General Health, Safety & Accessibility Reconstruction.

- » Auditorium Improvements
- » Art Room Updates
- » Boiler Replacement (HVAC)
- » Inclusive Playground Surfacing (New inclusive playground to be previously installed)
- » Ceiling and Lighting Renovations

### Charlotte Elementary

Technology Upgrades, Energy Efficiency Improvements, General Health, Safety & Accessibility Reconstruction.

- » Auditorium Improvements
- » Art Room Updates
- » Music Room Updates
- » Inclusive Playground Surfacing & Site Improvements
- » Misc. Kitchen Renovations
- » Hallway Lighting Upgrades

### Boston Valley Elementary

Technology Upgrades, Energy Efficiency Improvements, General Health, Safety & Accessibility Reconstruction.

- » Auditorium Improvements
- » Art/Music Room Updates
- » Main Office Renovations
- » Health Office Renovations
- » Inclusive Playground Surfacing & Site Improvements
- » Misc. Kitchen Renovations

### Union Pleasant Elementary

Technology Upgrades, Energy Efficiency Improvements, General Health, Safety & Accessibility Reconstruction.

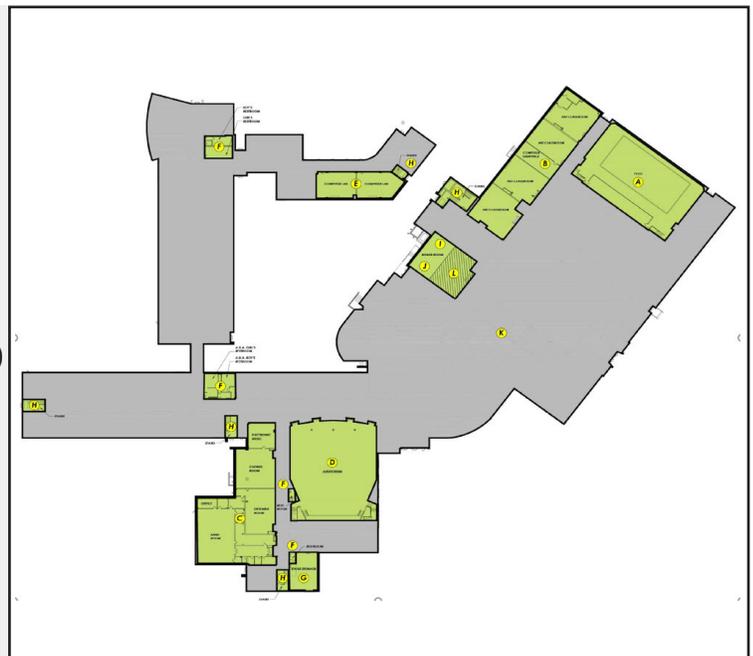
- » Auditorium Improvements
- » Art Room Updates
- » Music Room Updates
- » Bathroom Updates
- » Interior Door Replacement
- » Inclusive Playground Surfacing & Site Improvements
- » Hallway Lighting Upgrades



## High School

Technology Upgrades, Energy Efficiency Improvements, General Health, Safety & Accessibility Reconstruction.

- » Auditorium Improvements
- » Music Suite Updates
- » Art Department Complete Renovation
- » Technology Update & Replacement
- » Bathroom Renovations
- » Boiler & Heating System Replacement (HVAC)
- » New Greenhouse (as a part of a larger grant)
- » Tennis Court Replacement
- » New Hot Water System
- » New Exterior Building Lighting controls



## PROJECT BREAKDOWN

### Pool Renovation Versus New Construction

The district currently maintains two very old swimming pools: one at the High School (1953); the other at the Middle School (1963). It's extremely costly to continue repairing and maintaining these deteriorated pools. In fact, the cost to reconstruct them has been estimated at \$11.4 million. Discover 2021 instead calls for demolishing the two existing pools and constructing one new pool to be located at the Middle School. The cost to construct one new pool is estimated at \$10.5 million.

Taking this approach would best serve students and the community, as well as result in \$813,703 in direct construction savings. The space that houses the current High School pool would be refurbished for physical education use; the current Middle School pool space would become a music suite.

**Proposed inclusive playground surfacing at all elementary schools.**



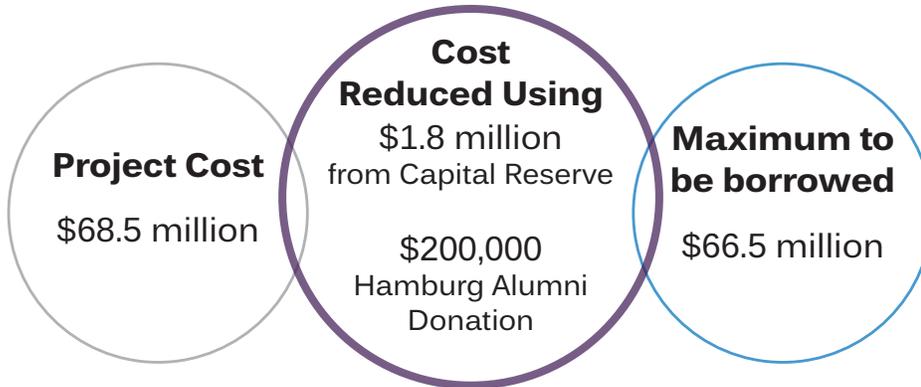
In a recent cost study, we discovered the cost to reconstruct the pools has been estimated at \$11.4 million. The cost to construct one new pool is estimated at \$10.5 million. **This is a savings of \$813,703.**



## COST MODELING

How is the cost broken down?

**NO SUBSTANTIAL SCHOOL TAX IMPACT UNTIL 2030-31**



The majority of the project's cost would be funded by a combination of available State Building Aid, the District's Capital Reserve as well as a generous donation by the Hamburg Alumni Foundation.

### Projected Local Share

- » The District's "local share" of outstanding debt service for already completed Capital Projects is approximately \$1,200,000 each year.
- » We have retiring debt service starting in fiscal year 2022-23

which declines over a 3 year period.

- » There will be two years during construction that the local share will be supplemented by available funds to keep the impact on taxpayers level. This is a part of our financing plan.

- » In addition, to the extent a school district has control over tax bills, the community will experience limited material increase on the their tax bill as it relates to the proposed project until fiscal year 2030-31.

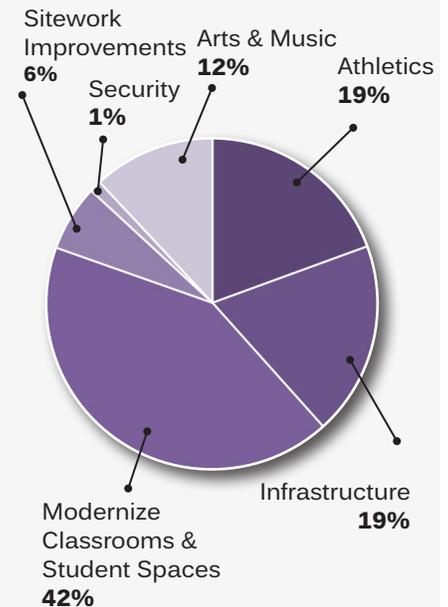
Due to the financial structure for this project, there would be **little if any material increase on your tax bill as it relates to the proposed project until 2030-31.**

Town	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	2030-31
Hamburg									\$121
Orchard Park									\$116
Eden									\$97
Boston									\$68

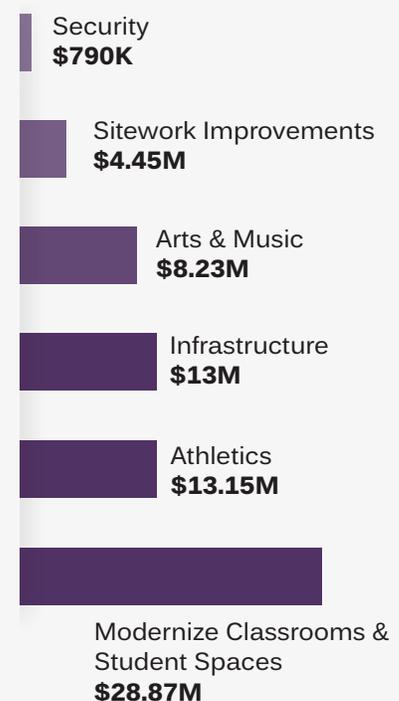
**No Anticipated Impact \$0**

Projected additional school tax due per \$100,000 of assessed/equalized home value, based on 2021-22 district-wide assessment of all homes.

### SCOPE BREAKDOWN BY PERCENTAGE



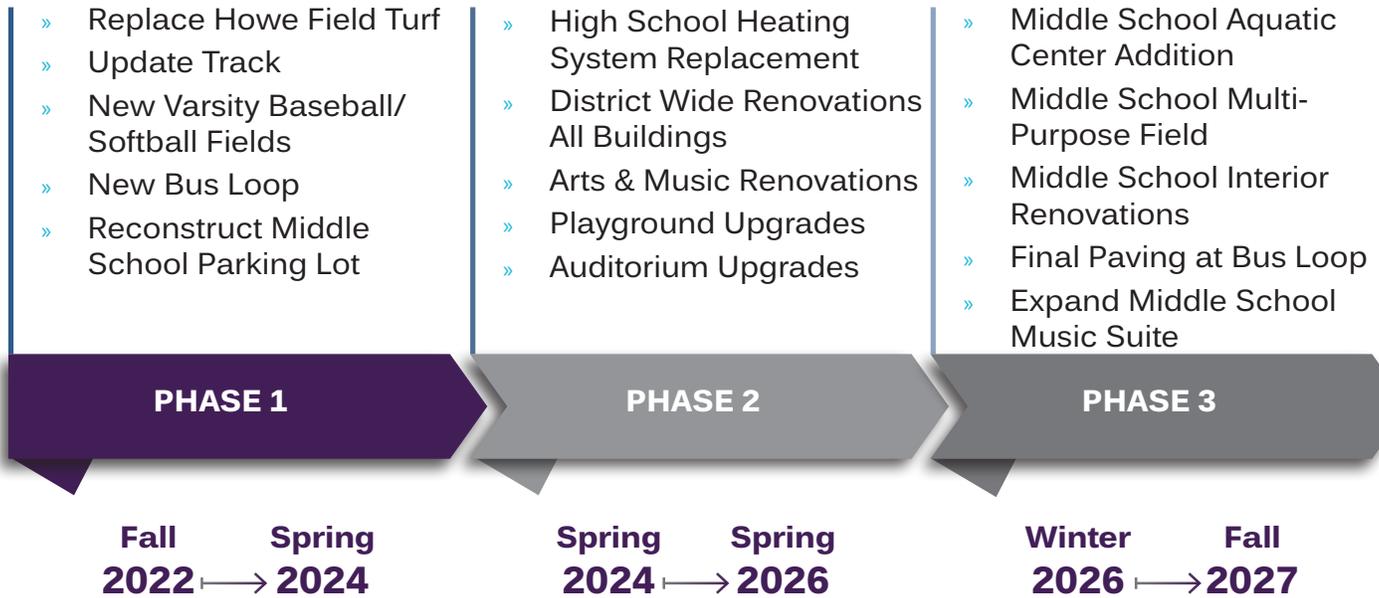
### SCOPE BREAKDOWN BY EQUITY



**PROJECT TIMELINE**

Schedule Components

**BROKEN DOWN INTO 3 PHASED PROJECT APPROACH FOR DELIVERY OF PROGRAM**



PROPOSITION NO. 1  
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, 2021



YES

NO

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to-wit:

RESOLVED, that (a) the Board of Education (the "Board") of the Hamburg Central School District, Erie County, New York (the "District") is hereby authorized to undertake a proposed Capital Improvements Project, 2021 (the "Project") consisting of the reconstruction and renovation of, and the construction of improvements, additions and upgrades to various District buildings and facilities (and the sites thereof), to implement various health, safety, accessibility and Code compliance measures and various other measures that are included and generally described in (but are not to be limited by) the Project Plan that was referred to in the public notice of the vote on this Proposition, and to expend therefor an amount not to exceed \$68,500,000; (b) the Board is hereby authorized to partially finance the Project: (1) by transferring the entire balance (which stood at approximately \$355,847 as of June 30, 2021), plus any additional interest earned, from the District's Repair Reserve Fund (the "Repair Reserve") to the District's 2016 Capital Improvements Reserve Fund (the "Capital Reserve"), (2) by then expending or applying, during the current fiscal year of the District, \$1,800,000 from the Capital Reserve (that total representing the transferred funds from the Repair Reserve plus \$1,444,153 that is already on hand in the Capital Reserve) and (3) by utilizing a \$200,000 cash donation from the Hamburg Alumni Foundation (that is contingent on the approval of the Project by the District's voters); (c) a tax is hereby voted in an amount not to exceed \$66,500,000 to finance the balance of the estimated maximum cost of the Project, such tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by the Board; (d) in anticipation of such tax, obligations of the District are hereby authorized to be issued in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$66,500,000, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on such obligations as the same shall become due and payable; and (e) New York State Building Aid funds expected to be received by the District are anticipated to offset a substantial part of such costs, and such funds, to the extent received, shall be applied to offset and reduce the amount of taxes herein authorized to be levied.

Ballot Sample

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Q&amp;A

**Why is the District proposing a capital project now?**

The Hamburg Central School District is committed to exercising care and good judgment in managing the community resources with which we are entrusted. We need to take care of our schools, an important asset the community owns. Just as one's home ages and needs upkeep and repairs to keep it in good shape, so too do our schools. Over the past three years, the District and our Committees have developed a long-range planning initiative to identify current and future capital improvement needs and the means to responsibly achieve them. Critical safety needs and large repairs were identified and prioritized through the Building Condition Survey (BCS) process, which is mandated by the State to be conducted every five years. The District is addressing these issues now, rather than delaying and facing future higher costs and further deterioration.

**How was the proposed capital project developed?**

The Board of Education had a licensed architect perform the BCS, a comprehensive facility review that considered work completed in previous projects and conditions of all facilities. Additionally, they met with the administration and District Committees to discuss instructional areas requiring attention. The Board then reviewed the recommendations over several meetings, asked questions,

and listened to the public to develop the project's scope, delivery timeline, and financing.

**What is the total cost of this proposed project and how will it affect my taxes?**

The total cost of the capital project is \$68.5 million. The majority of the project's cost will be funded by a combination of State Building Aid and the District's capital reserve fund. The capital reserve fund is designated to be used exclusively for capital improvement projects. The remainder would be funded through the local tax levy. Due to careful project planning, financial implementation, and consideration of our taxpayers, the tax impact would not take effect until the 2030-31 school year. On average, the project's tax increase per \$100,000 assessed/equalized home value would total \$121 for Hamburg residents, \$116 for Orchard Park residents, \$97 for Eden residents and \$68 for Boston residents.

**When will the work take place?**

It's expected that the State Education Department's approval for the project's initial phase would be received in early 2022, allowing work to begin next summer. The bulk of the work would take place during the summer months of 2023-2030 to maximize student safety and minimize program disruption, with final completion anticipated in late 2030.

**What if the referendum does not pass?**

The critical safety requirements and facilities that reached their end-of-life identified by the State-mandated Building Condition Survey would

still be absolutely necessary. If the referendum does not pass, these requirements would still need to be addressed. A bond vote allows the District to receive partial reimbursement of the project's cost through State Building Aid. Without the State's aid, the funds for any required work would have to come from the annual budget, with local taxpayers bearing the full cost.

**Why is the District proposing athletic field renovations?**

The current grass athletics fields, including the baseball and softball field have ongoing drainage and weather related issues that affect player safety and usability for games during wet seasons. All of these fields require frequent repairs to maintain safe, consistent use. Our students and our community would be better served by a more thorough reconstruction to correct these issues for the long term. The scope of these items is significant, warranting a review of our entire outdoor athletic and physical education program to ensure the greatest return on investment for our taxpayers. After thorough review and many discussions with consultants and stakeholders, the Board of Education agreed that adding all-weather synthetic turf at all fields would be a fiscally responsible solution that would also support the District's commitment to providing equity among our student athletic teams and our community programs.





**Michael Cornell, Superintendent**

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Hamburg, N.Y. 14075  
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mcornell@hcsdk12.org

Nonprofit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Buffalo, NY  
Permit No. 1002

**Please Vote on Wednesday October 13th, 2021 between  
7AM - 9PM at the HS Gymnasium.**

**To vote, you must be:**

- » At least 18 years of age.
- » A U.S. citizen.
- » A legal resident of the district for 30 days prior to October 13, 2021.



**To vote, you:**

- » Do not have to own property.
- » Do not have to be a parent or have children in school.

Preregistration is not required to vote. Those who are voting for the first time with Hamburg Central will be asked to attest to their eligibility. A driver's license or other government-issued picture identification will be required.

**Absentee ballot timeline:**

Absentee ballot applications for the October Capital Improvement Project Vote are available at the District Administration Building, 5305 Abbott Road or, request an application by calling 646-3200, ext. 7220.

The completed application must be returned to the district on or before Wednesday, October 6 if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter. Or, the completed application must be received by the district no later than 4PM on Tuesday, October 12 if the ballot will be handed personally to the voter.

**Please feel free to contact Michael Cornell, Superintendent, with any comments or questions at (716) 646-3200 or mcornell@hcsdk12.org.**

**Absentee ballots are due in the District Office by 5PM on Wednesday, October 13th, 2021.**