



## THE SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT AT A GLANCE

LITERACY CENTER ■ SABOLD ■ SCENIC ■ E.T. RICHARDSON ■ SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

# HIGHLIGHTS

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

The strength of our community and the success of our schools benefit from a positive relationship. As the quality of education in our schools increases, the value of the homes in our community also increases. Your support of public education is critical in this relationship. For our schools and community to continue to improve and grow together, we must communicate well.

### Connect with us:

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[ssdcougars.org/district/superintendent-of-schools](http://ssdcougars.org/district/superintendent-of-schools)

## SENIOR CONNECTIONS

The Springfield Board of School Directors believes that senior citizens of the District deserve special passes that allow free admission to most district activities, including musical events, school plays, and athletic contests. The special pass for residents 60 years of age and older, called the "Golden Age Pass", also entitles the person to whom it is issued free registration in the SSD Gold Pass Academy. This program offers adult enrichment courses held on the SSD campus, featuring popular evening courses from Delaware County Community College. All courses are free to participants, and new courses are starting in March 2020.

For more information, please contact Debi Marker at 610-938-6004 or [debi.marker@ssdcougars.org](mailto:debi.marker@ssdcougars.org).



Dear Resident,

Thank you for joining us as we look back at last school year in:

### Highlights – Springfield School District at a Glance.

On behalf of our Board of School Directors, administration, faculty, and staff, we are pleased to share this report on our school district and the over 4,300 students we serve. Our students continue to thrive in the areas of **Academics**, **Arts**, **Athletics/Activities**, and **Service**. We believe within these four pillars, every student can find a place and purpose to establish a growth mindset in order to demonstrate our motto, Pride in All Things.

In **Academics**, our students continue to perform at extraordinary levels. At the elementary level, the foundational reading program, coupled with a math and science focus, offers our students the necessary building blocks for success. At the middle school, the Writing Center continues to serve as a hallmark for effective communication and thinking skills. The high school continues to cultivate the College and Career Academy, which emphasizes post-secondary readiness and development.

In **Arts**, our design remains dedicated to the strong tradition in our district. The fine arts and the performing arts programs bring fullness to our students' lives, allowing for self-expression and imagination.

In **Athletics/Activities**, our students continue to be involved in their communities. Our athletics program, after school clubs, and extra-curricular programs help students discover their passions and skills, while also focusing on being a collaborative team member.

In the pillar of **Service**, our students give back to the community that supports them. Likewise, the impact of our students' efforts is both far-reaching and close to home.

Furthermore, the Master Plan Project is on a positive trajectory, and we are looking forward to this tremendous asset serving our community for years to come.

It certainly is an invigorating time in the Springfield School District, and we are so thankful for the continued support of the community which we serve.

Sincerely,

Bruce E. Lord, Jr.  
Board President

Dr. Anthony Barber  
Superintendent of Schools







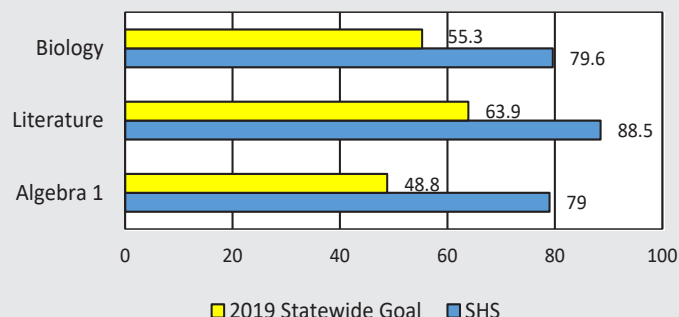
# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

## STATE ASSESSMENTS

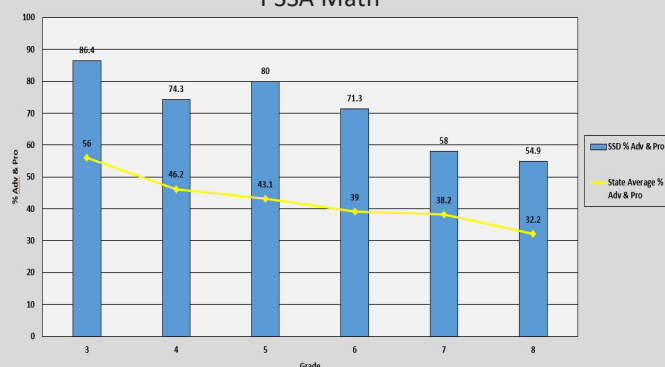
The Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) is a federally-mandated, standardized test administered by public schools in the state of Pennsylvania. Students in grades 3-8 are assessed annually in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Consistently, Springfield School District students outperform the state averages by a significant margin on the PSSA as reflected in the accompanying charts.

The Keystone Exams are end-of-course assessments for high school students designed to assess proficiency in the subject areas of Biology, Literature, and Algebra I. As with the PSSA exams, Springfield School District students outperform the state averages as reflected in the accompanying chart.

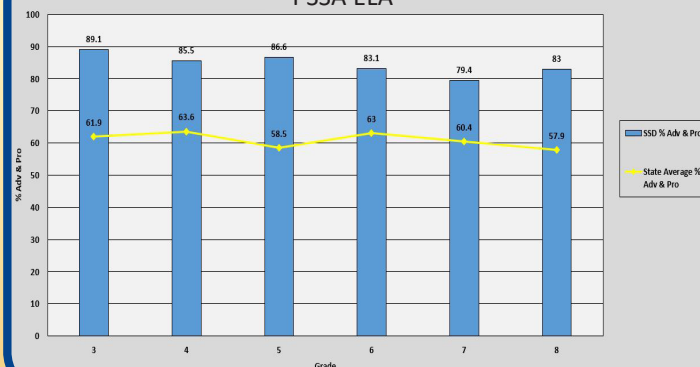
Keystones - % Advanced & Proficient



PSSA Math



PSSA ELA



# COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS

## SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

SQUARE MILES:  
**6.4**

TOTAL  
POPULATION:  
**24,253**

TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS: **8,327**

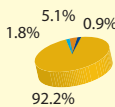
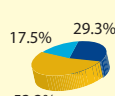
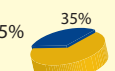
- HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN\*: 35%
- HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN\*: 65% (\*UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE)

PERSONS BY AGE (%)

- AGES 0-24: 29.3%
- AGES 25-64: 53.2%
- AGES 65+: 17.5%

PERSONS BY ETHNICITY (%)

- WHITE: 92.2%
- AFRICAN AMERICAN: 0.9%
- ASIAN: 5.1%
- OTHER: 1.8%



## MORTON BOROUGH

SQUARE MILES:  
**.4**

TOTAL  
POPULATION:  
**2,688**

TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS: **1,119**

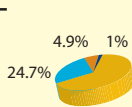
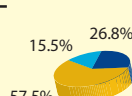
- HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN\*: 25.2%
- HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN\*: 74.8% (\*UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE)

PERSONS BY AGE (%)

- AGES 0-24: 26.8%
- AGES 25-64: 57.5%
- AGES 65+: 15.7%

PERSONS BY ETHNICITY (%)

- WHITE: 69.4%
- AFRICAN AMERICAN: 24.7%
- ASIAN: 4.9%
- OTHER: 1%





# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

## NATIONAL ASSESSMENTS

Students in the Springfield School District voluntarily participate in the national measures of excellence, such as the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), the ACT test, and Advanced Placement (AP) exams.

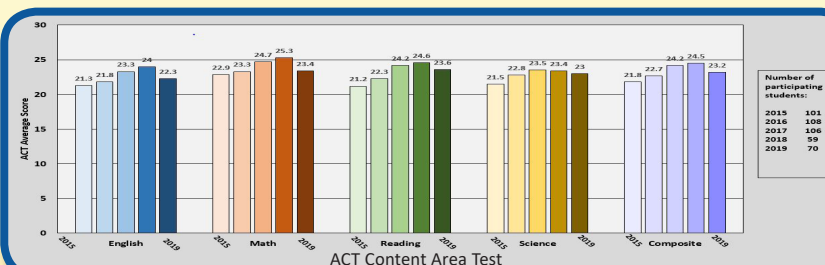
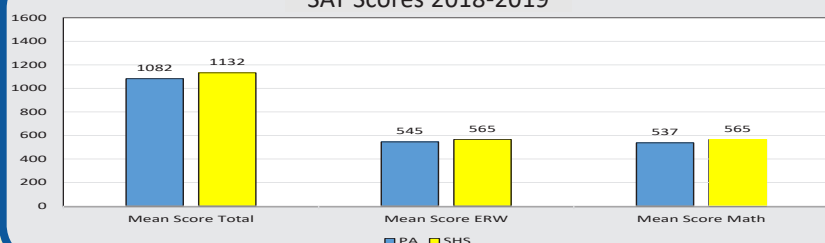
In March, 2016, the SAT was redesigned to include two mandatory sections – Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (ERW) and Math – and one optional section – Essay. Due to this change, the 2017-2018 data is the new baseline for future longitudinal comparisons. Springfield High School students increased their scores and in 2018-2019, outperformed students at both the state and national levels.

The ACT Test, similar to the SAT, is a popular standardized test used for college admissions containing four distinct sections – English, Math, Reading, and Science. The 2019, Springfield High School performance on the ACT remains consistent with national ACT scores.

Advanced Placement (AP) is a program in the United States and Canada created by the College Board, which offers college-level curricula and examinations to high school students. Students who earn a score of 3 or better on a 5-point scale are considered passing. Springfield High School students consistently outperform students in Pennsylvania and across the nation.

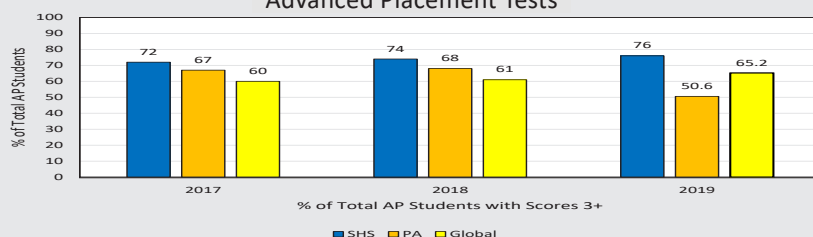
The accompanying charts demonstrate this data.

SAT Scores 2018-2019



Number of participating students:  
2015 101  
2016 108  
2017 106  
2018 99  
2019 70

Advanced Placement Tests



# GRADUATION PROFILE

School Year ▶	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Graduation Rate	98%	99%	99%
No. of Students in Graduating Class	321	276	280
% of Graduates Reporting Post-Secondary Progression	94.8%	97.8%	97.8%
▶ College	285	254	248
▶ Other Post-Secondary School	14	9	9
▶ Military	7	3	5
▶ Workforce	9	6	13
▶ Not declared at time of report	4	4	5

In 2019, Springfield High School graduated 99% of the senior class. Of those graduates, 97.8% reported post-secondary progression, selecting to continue their education by attending a 4-year college or university, a 2-year college, or a technical school.

On average 84% of graduating seniors complete freshman year of college. Of that 84%, 92% return for sophomore year. These persistence and retention rates are above the national average.

The accompanying chart Highlights this data.





## SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT RANKS AS ONE OF THE BEST

Springfield School District focuses on four pillars – **Academics, Arts, Athletics/Activities**, and **Service**. These are areas that we, as a school district and a community, take pride in. Once again, Springfield School District ranks as one of the best school districts, not only in Delaware County, but in the state of Pennsylvania.

Springfield School District is a nationally recognized school district and has been ranked in the top 5% of high schools in the country by U.S. News & World Report. Additionally, Springfield High School has been ranked as one of America's Best STEM High Schools, ranking in the top 12% in America's Best High Schools by Newsweek.

Each of our elementary, middle, and high schools have been awarded the National Blue Ribbon Award. The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools based on their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. Most recently, Sabold Elementary was the recipient in 2019 for its work in closing achievement gap.



## WHERE YOUR TAXES GO

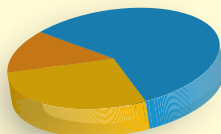
The Springfield School District Board of School Directors and administration continue to provide a fiscally responsible approach to spending. While there are many expenses related to the operation of the school district, the Board works very hard with the administration to ensure that the greatest percentage of monies is allocated to those areas that most directly influence instruction and student achievement.

**FOR EVERY \$1 THE DISTRICT SPENT IN 2018-2019, OVER 87% WAS SPENT ON PROGRAMS AND SERVICES THAT DIRECTLY SUPPORT INSTRUCTION AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT.**

**12.60%**  
OTHER  
DISTRICT  
COSTS

**29.41%**  
CLASSROOM  
SUPPORT  
EXPENSES

**Student Services**  
Transportation  
Student Activities  
Health Services  
Technology



**Operational  
Leadership**  
Administration  
Business Office  
Human Resources  
Utility Costs  
Maintenance

**57.89%**  
CLASSROOM  
INSTRUCTIONAL  
EXPENSES

Teachers & Assistants  
Guidance  
Library  
Curriculum Development  
Textbooks & Materials  
Supplies

### 2018-2019 DISTRICT FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Beginning Fund Balance	\$9,289,628
<b>Revenues</b>	
Local Revenue Sources	\$62,157,536
State Revenue Sources	\$13,333,847
Federal Revenue Sources	\$311,544
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$75,802,927</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Instruction	\$43,452,186
Support Services	\$22,042,662
Non-Instructional Services	\$1,899,547
Other Financial Uses	\$7,545,099
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$74,939,494</b>
Ending Fund Balance As of June 30, 2019	\$10,153,062

For more information, visit [www.ssdcougars.org](http://www.ssdcougars.org)





# HIGHLIGHTS

## SPOTLIGHT ON SCHOLARSHIP

### SPRINGFIELD LITERACY CENTER

■ First grade is in full swing with the reading initiative "Go Blue". For an hour each day, students receive individualized instruction at their reading level through guided reading and literacy centers. Both first grade and kindergarten provide small group instruction when teachers focus on specific needs and goals, ultimately accelerating their reading progress. Our goal at the SLC is to develop students' reading and writing skills to reach a level of proficiency.

■ SLC Clubs began in January for our kindergarten and first grade students. These clubs will give students a chance to socialize and gain new skills in a fun and active environment. We are offering 13 exciting clubs this year, including Goo, Ooze, and Slime, Floor Hockey, Painting with Twists, S.T.E.M., and Dancing Cougars. A new club, Kindness Squad, sounds like it will send lots of love and cheer around the SLC. Thank you to SLC's Home and School for sponsoring these clubs.

■ During the holiday season, SLC students collected hats, gloves, scarves, and teddy bears. We supported local children through donations to CASA Youth Advocates, Family Support Line, the Domestic Abuse Project, and members of the Voices for Children Coalition. The teddy bears are used to help calm down children in emergency situations or assist in the case of a missing child. The teddy bear brings joy and a sense of comfort to a child in times of despair.

■ Madelyn Purse was chosen as a cover artist for the Delaware County Magazine & Main Line Chronicles contest. Her drawing was issued in the 2019 edition. Congratulations to Madelyn!

### SCENIC HILLS ELEMENTARY

■ Student Leaders, Intramurals, the Community Service Club, Reading Olympics, and Student Tutors are some of the activities fourth and fifth graders can participate in all year. In addition, we hold winter and spring sessions of clubs, as well as Homework Club and study hall for all students.

■ Scenic is committed to the Arts! Each year, the halls of Scenic are transformed into a gallery of student artwork during our annual Scenic Showcase. Our Scenic Singers perform multiple times throughout the year (Winter Concert, Holidays Around the World, Holiday Teas, and Scenic Showcase). Our band and orchestra students perform at the Winter Concert and Spring Concert.

■ Danica Linsky was a winner in the 2019 Young Authors contest. Maggie Wesnoskie was a winner in the 2019 Young Poets of Delaware County poetry contest. In our third year of participation, Scenic's two Reading Olympics teams earned one second and one third place ribbon. The 2020 Science Fair will take place in early Spring. All Cloud-Based Learning classes participated in the Hour of Code, a global movement that takes place every year during Computer Science Education Week, December 9 – 13.

■ Our many community service projects at Scenic include the SSD Turkey Fund, Cup of Joe for a Joe, One Million Good Nights Pajama Program, Build-A-Bears for the Springfield Fire Department, Say Yay to Pajama Day for CHOP, and donations to the American Diabetes Association, the National Down Syndrome Society, and Coatesville Veterans' Hospital.

### SABOLD ELEMENTARY

■ Sabold Elementary has been designated an Exemplary High Performing National Blue Ribbon School for 2019 by the United States Department of Education. National Blue Ribbon Schools are public and non-public elementary, middle, and high schools that are producing outstanding results for all students. Sabold was nominated as a School of Excellence by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for demonstrating consistent excellence, and making progress in closing gaps in student achievement. Only 13 schools in Pennsylvania can be nominated. This is the second time Sabold has been recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School since the program's inception in 1982.

■ Sabold students continue to find ways to embrace and celebrate diversity. The school hosts and participates in events like World Down Syndrome Day, Light-it-up-Blue for Autism Awareness, and Mix-it-Up-At-Lunch-Day, which encourages students to learn more about their peers in efforts to break down social barriers and create a more welcoming and inclusive school environment.

■ Once again, Sabold's third and fourth grade students participated in their Caring & Sharing project this year. Students earned money by completing chores at home, and then donated that money to provide Thanksgiving meals for approximately fifty families in need in the surrounding community.

■ All 650 Sabold students will participate and contribute work to the Sabold Showcase this year. Sabold students will proudly display their student-created art pieces for the families and community to see. The night will be capped off by the Sabold Singers, Sabold's own choir comprised of more than fifty fourth and fifth grade students.

### E.T. RICHARDSON

■ ETR students have been writing and working through math problems for fun through our Writer of the Week and Problem of the Week challenges. Each week we see an impressive number of student participants. Winners named so far for Writers of the Week are: Alyssa Amabile, Emily Cao, Aiden Choe, Mara Fallon, Owen Keough, Makenna Linsky, Ava Martyn, and Kayla Winters. Winners for Problem of the Week are: Brooke Brotschul, Grace Gambino, Azreen Haque, Makenna Linsky, Kyle Sia, and Tony Tong.

■ ETR hosted its first musical, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, during the 2018-2019 school year under the direction of Ms. Oppenheimer and Mrs. Wiseley. This school year, the students are presenting *High School Musical*.

■ Several ETR clubs are service-focused including Student Government, Student Alliance, and National Junior Honor Society. Over the last year, students in these clubs have sponsored several different events including the Turkey Fund Food Drive, Pennies for Patients, clothing drives, donations to the Media Food Shelter, Brunner Bash Dance, drives for local animal shelters, and student-organized assemblies.

■ ETR received the Central League Sportsmanship Award for the 4th consecutive year. The award is voted on by the coaches from each season. It's a great accomplishment to have multiple teams compete in an organized environment and also display great sportsmanship.

### SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

■ SHS students continue to perform well on all measures of academic achievement including Keystone Exams, SAT, ACT, and AP exams. These performance levels led to ranking SHS as one of the top high schools in the state along with favorable national rankings. The effort and dedication of our students to their post-secondary endeavors is reflected in a nearly 100% graduation rate and nearly 90% of our seniors pursuing enrollment in a college, university, or trade school.

■ Our students give back to their communities through several opportunities. The Community Service Club, with more than 300 student members, assists community members with leaf and snow removal, along with general items as requested. Members of National Honor Society, Educators Rising, and Cougar Ambassadors give their time and talents to assist students in the high school with academic and social needs and extend their service reach to offer tutoring and mentoring opportunities for students at the other schools in the District.

■ SHS students participate in a wide variety of clubs and activities. Several clubs prepare for and participate in local, regional, and even national competitions. Most notably are students taking part in Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science and Future Business Leaders of America. These clubs produce several regional and state top place finishes, earning substantial prize and scholarship money.

■ There is no lack of talent in the arts at SHS. Student work was again proudly on display at our annual Celebration of the Arts. Several students in our art program receive awards from community, college, and university art shows and competitions. The Springfield Theatre Workshop produced several wonderfully entertaining productions including *Into the Woods* and *Dear Edwina*. Several musicians took the stage at the district, regional, and state level Pennsylvania Music Educators Association concerts.

■ Dylan Kerr, Molly Joyce, Owen Sherbinko, Natalie Noce, and John Nguyen were recognized by the Springfield Lions Club - Community Service Organization for their outstanding commitment and selfless acts to assist within their communities. Members of our Student Government and Student Council are to be applauded for their efforts in organizing several community-building activities within the high school, in particular Homecoming Pep Rally, Homecoming Dance, and Student Forum.

### ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS

■ Eleven SHS seniors marked their official commitment to play college sports by signing National Letters of Intent with their respective colleges. Six girls lacrosse players, three boys lacrosse players, one field hockey player, and one girls soccer player signed with exceptional universities that bring the best of both academic and athletic worlds to our athletes.

■ In 2019, SHS honored four All American Athletes (Isabelle Mastropietro, Alyssa Long, Patrick Clemens, and Jack Spence), and 12 All Delco Athletes! Over 30 SHS students received All Delco honorable mentions for their respective sports.

■ In 2019, Jordan D'Ambrosio became Springfield High School's all-time leading point scorer in girl's basketball.

■ In 2019, the SHS girl's lacrosse team won its first State Championship!

■ In 2019, the girl's basketball team (1st round) and boy's lacrosse team (state quarterfinals) each earned a state tournament bid.





## Springfield School District

111 West Leamy Avenue  
Springfield, PA 19064

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### BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS



*Front row, left to right:*

**Kevin Keenan** - 610-543-6471 | [Kevin.Keenan@ssdcougars.org](mailto:Kevin.Keenan@ssdcougars.org)

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*Back row, left to right:*

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**Domenic Bentivegna** - 610-328-0508 | [Dom.Bentivegna@ssdcougars.org](mailto:Dom.Bentivegna@ssdcougars.org)

**Joseph Sillo** - 610-690-2073 | [Joseph.Sillo@ssdcougars.org](mailto:Joseph.Sillo@ssdcougars.org)

**Dr. Anthony Barber**, Superintendent (not pictured above)

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## SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL MASTER PLAN UPDATE



### SPRING 2020

Since our last update in the spring of 2019, exciting changes are occurring on the east side of the Springfield High School campus. The new high school construction continues to make progress, and the building is taking shape. The primary focus this fall and winter was to complete the roof and window installation and commence the interior drywall and painting throughout the building.

Progress continues to be made on the new stadium. The field turf, fencing, and home-side bleachers are being installed, and projected completion is anticipated for early spring. The visitor bleachers will not be installed until after the demolition of the existing high school. The track layout has been installed, and the track surface will not be completed until warmer weather arrives in the spring.

In the summer of 2019, the blue gym was demolished to allow for the installation of the new stadium. The South Rolling Road expansion project was also completed by the end of August, and the south side of South Rolling Road will now allow for pedestrian traffic and parallel parking. The rework of Speakman Drive was also completed this summer and was reopened for student traffic at the beginning of the school year.

Over the next six months, the Master Plan project focus will include the work on the interior of the building and final installation of the mechanical systems. During this period, the District will be bidding out services for Phases 2 and 3 of the project. Phase 2 work will focus on the demolition and related site work of the existing building, and Phase 3 will include the installation of athletic fields and visitor bleachers and the construction of the District maintenance building.

In 2019, the District issued an additional \$36 million in new bond proceeds to finance the high school Master Plan project. To date, the District has issued approximately \$110 million in bonds that are funding current project costs. The District continues to benefit from lower than projected long-term interest rates. All bonds issued through 2019 have been at interest rates lower than what was projected for the project, which in turn has yielded a significant reduction in future interest expense. The District expects to issue additional bonds later in 2020 to complete the construction financing.