



## THE SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT AT A GLANCE

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

# HIGHLIGHTS

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

The strength of our community and the strength of our schools act together in a synergistic 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:

[ssdcougars.org/community/connect-with-us](http://ssdcougars.org/community/connect-with-us)

Facebook

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[ssdcougars.org/district/school-board](http://ssdcougars.org/district/school-board)

[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 all district activities, including musical events, school plays, and athletic contests (with the exception of PIAA 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, which 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 2019. Sign up now!

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 the 2017-2018 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 update on our school district and the over 4,000 students we serve. Our students continue to achieve 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 adage, Pride in All Things.

In **Academics**, our students continue to achieve at high levels. At the elementary level, the foundational reading program, coupled with a math program implemented in 2016, offer our students the necessary building blocks for success. At the middle school, the Writing Center is well underway, with students focused on effective communication skills. The high school continues to cultivate the College and Career Academy, which emphasizes post-secondary readiness and planning.

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

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

In the pillar of **Service**, our students give back to the community that supports them. Community service is engrained in our students, and the impact of their efforts is far-reaching and close to home.

Furthermore, the new high school master plan project is in full swing and will definitely be a positive investment in the future of our community.

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

Sincerely,

Bruce E. Lord, Jr.  
Board President

Dr. Anthony Barber  
Superintendent of Schools





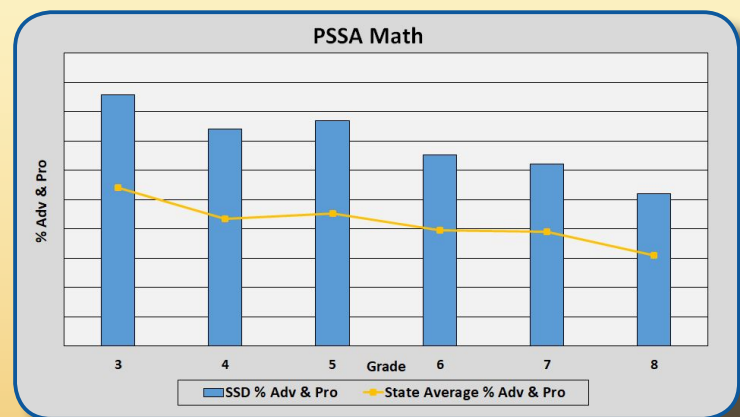
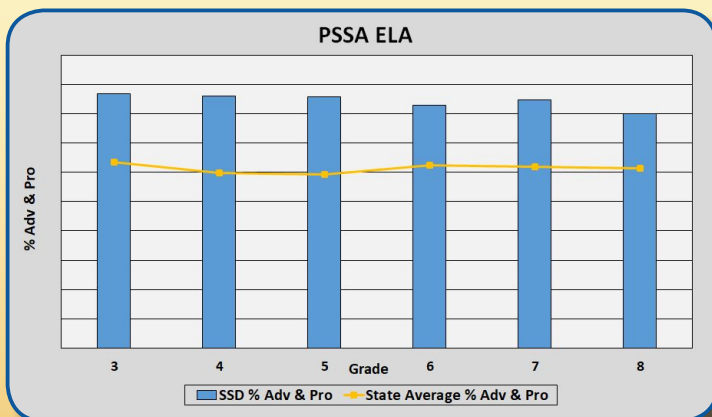
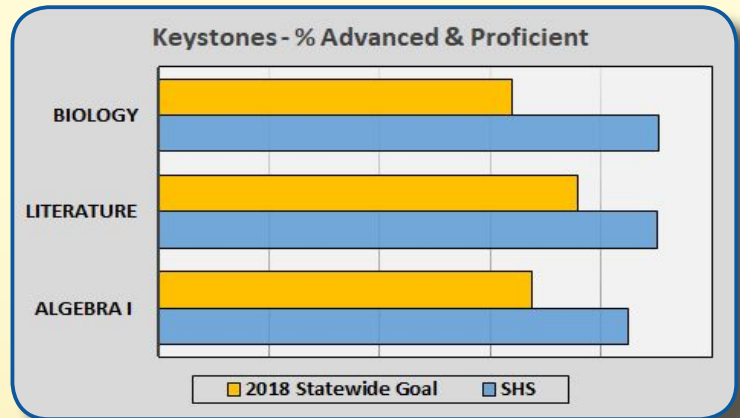


# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

## 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.



# COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS

## SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

SQUARE MILES:  
**6.4**

TOTAL  
POPULATION:  
**24,253**

TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS: **8,327**

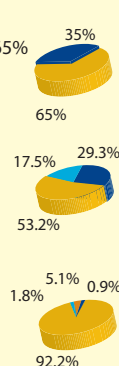
- HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN\*: 35%
- HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN\*: 65% (\*UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE)

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**

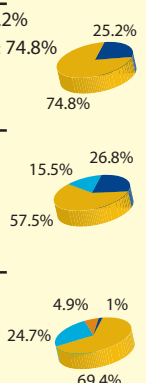
- HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN\*: 25.2%
- HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN\*: 74.8% (\*UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE)

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 national measures of excellence, such as the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), the ACT Test, and Advanced Placement (AP) exams.

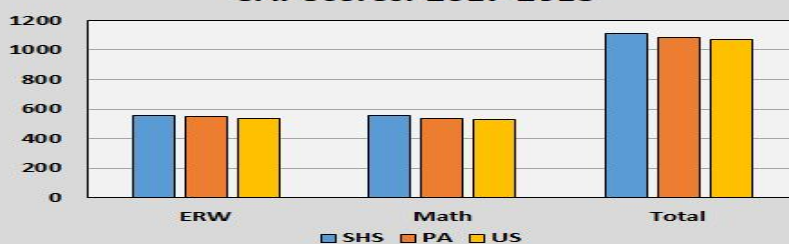
In March, 2016, the SAT was redesigned to include two mandatory sections - Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (ERW) and Math - and one optional section - Essay. Due to this change, the 2017-2018 data is the new baseline for future longitudinal comparisons. Springfield High School students outperformed 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. Springfield High School students have been steadily scoring higher on each section over the past five year period.

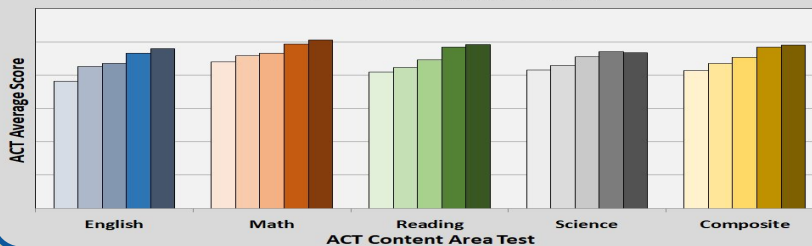
Advanced Placement (AP) is a program in the United States and Canada created by the College Board, which offers college-level curricula and examinations to high school students. Students who earn a score of 3 or better on a 5-point scale are considered passing. Springfield High School students consistently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

The accompanying charts demonstrate this data.

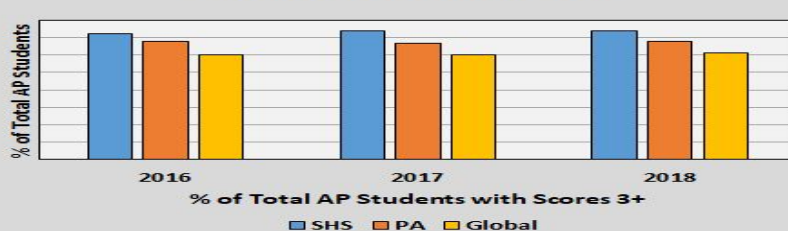
**SAT Scores: 2017-2018**



**ACT Scores: 5 Year Trend**



**Advanced Placement Tests**



# GRADUATION PROFILE

School Year ▶	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
Graduation Rate	98%	99%	99%
No. of Students in Graduating Class	282	321	276
% of Graduates Reporting Post-Secondary Progression	97.80%	94.8%	97.8%
▶ College	251	285	254
▶ Other Post-Secondary School	6	14	9
▶ Military	6	7	3
▶ Workforce	10	9	6
▶ Not declared at time of report	6	4	4

In 2018, Springfield High School graduated 99% of the senior class. Of those graduates, 97.8% reported postsecondary progression, selecting to continue their education by attending a 4-year college or university, a 2-year college, or a technical school; to enter the workforce; or to enlist in the military. On average, 88% of graduating seniors complete freshmen year of college. Of that 88%, 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.

Student performance on assessments remains consistently above state and national averages. This success is the result of an approach focused on continuous improvement and growth mindset. Springfield High School principal, Mr. Joseph Hepp, agrees: “At Springfield High School, and throughout the district, we constantly look for ways to improve. Together, we work toward achievement for all at all levels. This level of achievement would not be possible without the commitment of our teachers, staff, students, and families.”

When asked, Dr. Anthony Barber, the Superintendent of the Springfield School District, also recognizes that hard work is required to maintain success. “Our success is a direct correlation to the hard work that our staff and students perform on a daily basis. We recognize that learning is a process, and although no one score defines a child’s educational journey, our ability to utilize this data enables us to be diagnostic with each child’s instructional plan. The key is to continuously build our academic identity one child at a time.”

For more information, visit <https://futureready.org>.



## WHERE YOUR TAXES GO

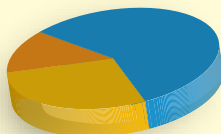
The Springfield School District Board of School Directors and administration continue to provide a fiscally responsible approach to spending. While there are many expenses related to the operation of the school district, the Board works very hard with the administration to ensure that the greatest percentage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

**FOR EVERY \$1 THE DISTRICT SPENT IN 2017-2018, OVER 87% WAS SPENT ON PROGRAMS AND SERVICES THAT DIRECTLY SUPPORT INSTRUCTION AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT.**

**12.40%**  
OTHER  
DISTRICT  
COSTS

**29.55%**  
CLASSROOM  
SUPPORT  
EXPENSES

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



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

**58.05%**  
CLASSROOM  
INSTRUCTIONAL  
EXPENSES

Teachers & Assistants  
Guidance  
Library  
Curriculum Development  
Textbooks & Materials  
Supplies

### 2017-2018 DISTRICT FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Beginning Fund Balance	\$10,037,355
<b>Revenues</b>	
Local Revenue Sources	\$59,533,866
State Revenue Sources	\$12,947,075
Federal Revenue Sources	\$225,304
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$72,706,245</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Instruction	\$42,643,110
Support Services	\$21,703,897
Non-Instructional Services	\$1,706,267
Other Financial Uses	\$7,400,698
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$73,453,972</b>
Ending Fund Balance As of June 30, 2018	\$9,289,628





# HIGHLIGHTS

## SPOTLIGHT ON SCHOLARSHIP

### SPRINGFIELD LITERACY CENTER

■ Springfield Literacy Center (SLC) is currently in the fourth year of implementing "Go Blue," which is a reading initiative for our first graders. For an hour each day, students receive individualized instruction at their reading level through guided reading and literacy centers. This small group instruction allows teachers to focus on the specific needs and goals of their students, which ultimately accelerates their reading progress. Our goal at the SLC is to develop students' reading and writing skills to reach proficiency.

■ Senator McGarrigle's Citizen of the Month SLC award for the 2017-2018 school year was awarded to Lydia Celona. The 2018 Making A Difference Award was presented to Chuck Kelly. Congratulations to both students for representing the SLC.

■ The SLC Home and School Association annually runs 15 student clubs beginning in January for our Kindergarten and first grade students. These clubs give students the chance to socialize and gain new skills in a fun and active environment. This year's clubs include Goo, Ooze, and Slime; Floor Hockey; Painting with Twists; S.T.E.M.; and Music & Movement. The 2018-2019 school year features a new club focused around Pokemon. Students will engage in Pokemon-themed art, S.T.E.M. projects, and discovery activities to learn about Pokemon and create their own.

■ During the holiday season, SLC students collected teddy bears for surrounding area police stations. Police officers keep the teddy bears in their vehicles to help with calming down children in emergency situations.

### SCENIC HILLS ELEMENTARY

■ Student Leaders, Intramurals, the Community Service Club, Reading Olympics, Band and Orchestra, and Scenic Singers are some of the activities that take place all year at Scenic Hills Elementary (Scenic); in addition, we hold two sessions of clubs (one in the winter and one in the spring) as well as Homework Club and Student Tutors.

■ Each year, the halls of Scenic are turned into a fantastic museum of student artwork when we hold 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.

■ Four Scenic students were winners in the 2018 Delaware County Young Authors Contest: Bobby Iorio (Gr. 2), Julia Celona (Gr. 3), Jasmeet Phagura (Gr. 3), and Alayna O'Donnell (Gr. 4). Two students were winners in the Young Poets of Delaware County 2018 poetry contest: Maggie Wesnoski (Gr. 4) and Makenna Linsky (Gr. 5). More than 100 students in grades three, four, and five participated in the 2018 Science Fair. In our second year of participation, Scenic's two Reading Olympics teams earned one first and one second place award.

■ Scenic was awarded the 2018 Delaware County Veterans' Memorial Freedom Medal in recognition of our Veterans' Day celebration and the many projects we undertake throughout the year to support veterans and active duty military personnel. Other projects included supporting the One Million Good Nights Pajama Program and a donation to the Springfield Fire Department of 23 Build-A-Bear bears and trays of cookies.

### SABOLD ELEMENTARY

■ Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE)'s Division of Federal Programs has recognized Sabold as a 2018-2019 Distinguished Title 1 School. This is the second time Sabold has received this honor. PDE's division of Federal Programs selects Distinguished Title 1 schools based on high achievement, high progress, and annual measurable objectives, which include graduation, participation, and attendance measures.

■ Sabold was also one of only a dozen PA schools nominated by PDE for the National Blue Ribbon School designation. This program recognizes excellence in education.

■ Sabold continues to have outstanding participation in school activities. There is 100% student participation in Sabold's Art Show and Red Ribbon Week, which focuses on a commitment to healthy living. Approximately 80% of students participate in before and after school activities such as gymnastics, various intramural sports, and a variety of clubs like the chess club, coding club, sewing club, and many other options.

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

■ More than 200 students participate in our Choir, Band, and/or Orchestra. Each year they perform at the Holiday Teas as well as the Winter and Spring Concerts. Mrs. Crawford, Ms. Cullen, and Mr. Stanford are producing impressive musicians and instilling a love for music.

### E.T. RICHARDSON

■ 95% of all E. T. Richardson Middle School (ETR) students participated in a club, sport, or special event during the 2017-2018 school year.

■ The seventh and eighth grade instrumental and vocal programs earned Excellent and Distinguished Awards from the High Note Festival.

■ ETR continues to grow as the Writing Center. In English Language Arts and Math, our students exceeded the state expectations for growth and achievement on the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA).

■ Each year, the students and staff at ETR collect thousands of non-perishable food items for the Springfield School District Turkey Fund. In addition, close to 100 students and staff participate annually in our Turkey Trot, a fun run designed to further support the Turkey Fund.

### SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

■ The faculty, staff, and students of Springfield High School (SHS) continue to perform at high levels of achievement. Students in AP Courses in the 2017-2018 school year maintained performance levels of 3+ on AP Exams with 74% of test takers achieving that score. This matches our five year high for performance at that level. Students in the Class of 2019 scored the highest percentages of advanced and proficient on the Keystone Literature, Biology, and Algebra assessments. Overall, our students maintain 99% or higher graduation rate and nearly 95% of our students pursue some level of post-secondary education or industry training.

■ The field of competition for our fall athletes produced some wonderful accomplishments. SHS had 4 All Central League Team athletes, 12 Honorable Mentions, and 7 student athletes signed letters of intent to play at the collegiate level - Temple, Alvernia, Widener, Lehigh, St. Joe's and Lafayette.

■ Springfield Theatre Workshop's production of *Junie B. Jones, The Musical* was fantastic and well attended by the community. Congratulations also to Stephanie Eng and Danielle Hathaway on being selected for District Orchestra and to Stephanie for District Band. Congratulations to Marissa Perri and Angela Thornton on their selection to District Chorus. Sarah Sokol, Matt Jenkins, An-Mie Morris, Christy Nguyen, and Jenny Hu were recognized for their exceptional art work by Shippensburg University and the PAEA Virtual Art Show.

■ 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

■ Seven Springfield seniors marked their official commitment to play college sports by signing National Letters of Intent with their respective colleges. Four boys' lacrosse players, two girls' lacrosse players and a field hockey player signed with exceptional universities that bring the best of both academic and athletic worlds to our athletes.

■ Three Springfield athletes were named to the All-Delco teams, with over twenty athletes earning honorable mentions for their respective sports.

■ In 2017, the Springfield High School Varsity Boys Football Team won the Central League title and were District 1 finalists.

■ In 2018, the Varsity Girls Basketball team won the Central League title.

■ In 2018, both the Varsity Boys and Girls Lacrosse teams were district finalists and advanced to the state quarterfinal round.

■ In January 2019, senior Jordan D'Ambrosio scored her 1,000th point in Girls Basketball. She is only the fifth player in Springfield history to hit this grand mark.





## Springfield School District

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Springfield, PA 19064

Tel. 610-938-6000 | [www.ssdcougars.org](http://www.ssdcougars.org)



### BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS



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

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

610.938.6050 | [Anthony.Barber@ssdcougars.org](mailto:Anthony.Barber@ssdcougars.org)

## SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL MASTER PLAN UPDATE



### SPRING 2019

The Springfield School District has continued to advance the high school master plan since our last newsletter in the spring of 2018. The district completed final design elements for the project and solicited bids from contractors in May 2018. In July 2018, the School Board approved Phase 1 base bids and selected alternates for the construction of the new high school, stadium and related site work and awarded \$74.1 million in construction and consulting contracts to various contractors. Project site work commenced in mid-August, and over the last four months, demolition of the existing athletic fields along Rolling Road and the stadium have been completed. During this initial phase of work, contractors have worked on installation of underground utilities and storm water management systems and have prepared the site for the construction of the building. In November, foundations for the building started along the Speakman Drive side of the campus and construction of the masonry walls for the future gymnasiums have started and should be completed in early 2019. The project schedule continues to move forward, and as we approach the winter months, future impacts to the construction schedule will be monitored and managed closely.

### Included below are some items of note regarding project timelines and financing:

- Over the next six months, future project milestones will include completion of the building foundations, floor slab and steel installation, which is scheduled to commence in February. The second half of 2019 will include completion of the storm water management systems and work on the new stadium will also get underway.

- In June 2019, the existing blue gym will be demolished, and South Rolling Road will be closed between Leamy and Saxer for the summer for expansion of the roadway. The total construction period is projected to be three to four years which includes a two year construction period for the new building and demolition of the existing high school, which will occur once the new building is completed. The final phase of the project will be the development of additional athletic and maintenance facilities, which will start once the existing high school demolition is completed.

- In 2018, the district issued an additional \$46 million in new bond proceeds to finance the construction project. To date, the District has issued approximately \$76 million in bonds that are funding current project costs. During the initial project planning, the District projected anticipated borrowing costs and created a borrowing schedule to finance project construction over time. So far, the district has issued initial bonds through 2018 at interest rates lower than projected rates, which in turn has yielded significant reduction in future interest expense. The district expects to issue additional bonds over the next three years starting in 2019 to complete the construction financing.