

Watchung Hills Regional High School Referendum

September 24, 2019



Discover the facts...
A Media Center for today and beyond

www.wrhhs.org



Watchung Hills Regional High School



908.647.4800



Referendum Details

We are asking voters to approve funding to make upgrades and improvements to the Watchung Regional High Schools.

Electrical Panel Replacement in the South Building

Why?

The South Building electrical distribution boards and panelboards are original to the school which was constructed between 1957-1964. Most of these panels have no spare breakers, are well beyond their useful life, and do not meet current electrical code.

Solution

Replace all the original panelboards and distribution boards with code compliant versions. These new versions will allow for electrical distribution growth by having additional spare breakers. This will create a safer and more secure school environment and allow for supplementary equipment and services to be added in the South Building.

The 21st Century Media Center

Fostering Growth and Exploration

Learning environments of the 21st century should promote a multitude of approaches for student learning. This can be facilitated by creating spaces that support both individual and group work, provide space for presentation and exploration, promote interaction and a sense of community, and foster both formal and informal learning.

21st century educational spaces provide opportunities to make connections through learning with peers, faculty, family and the surrounding community and should encourage learning and growth.

As technology progresses, facilities must be able to accommodate the current needs and the needs of the future. Due to enhanced teaching methods and ever changing technology, spaces must be designed to be flexible and should accommodate the blending of physical and digital learning environments.

The current Media Center will be transformed into a multi-media Learning Commons that will serve as an academic hub where students and faculty gather to foster interaction and connection. The redesigned space will foster learning and communication, host integrated technology, and be flexible enough to quickly manifest itself to accommodate a myriad of activities. The newly transformed Learning Commons will be a place to engage, explore, collaborate and learn.

The 21st Century Media Center

Fostering Growth and Exploration

The following will be integrated into the redesign of the Media Center.

Instructional Space – This flexible space will host the necessary technologies for a flexible, active learning environment.

Classroom Space – A newly created enclosed classroom space will provide much needed additional teacher led learning space.

Virtual Learning – Areas assigned for students enrolled in online classes will have a place to reside and attend class.

Print and Digital Resources – Current print resources will be retained. A tech desk will provide access to and training for the latest digital technologies for research and information gathering.

Quiet Zones – Areas for quiet study and research will be established and maintained.

Collaborative Space both open and closed - Enclosed Collaborative spaces with glass walls for sound privacy with visual access will be provided.

Furnishings - Diverse and flexible seating with high tables and chairs, quiet study, as well as standard tables and chairs. Comfortable seating to support individuals and large and small groups will be added.

Additional spaces and technologies being considered in the planning process:

A/V Lab with Control Room

Podcast Room

CAD/Computer Stations

Enhanced Printing Technologies – 3D Printing, Large Format and Color Printing

Culinary Arts Annex

When the freedom to explore is encouraged, possibilities are endless.