

## **Clarence Bee Article – May 2021**

### **Update on the Capital Project**

The Clarence community approved a \$27.2 million capital project in December 2019. The first half of the project was approved by the New York State Education Department (NYSED) last December. The second half of the project has been sent for state review and we hope to receive approval from NYSED in December 2021.

Bids on the first phase of the project were approved by the Board of Education in January. The bids came in under budget. Construction began in April.

The first half of the project includes work at Clarence Middle School, Clarence Center Elementary, Ledgeview Elementary, our Bus Garage located on County Road, and on a locker room at the high school sports complex.

Each of the buildings in the first phase of the project will see general renovation work, including HVAC (replacement of air handler units), roofing, flooring, masonry, electrical, and some concrete or paving site work.

Clarence Center Elementary and Ledgeview Elementary will have small additions in their reconfigured entry areas that will allow for a security buffer space when monitoring visitors. The middle school will also have its main entrance reconfigured for security purposes.

Clarence Center will have several exterior and interior doors replaced, along with the main entrance exterior stairs. Flooring in the kindergarten room bathrooms and the library break room will be replaced at Clarence Center. Ledgeview will have new carpeting installed in the library, exterior masonry restoration and new vinyl tile in all original classrooms.

Major roof and electrical work will be completed at the middle school. A new dust collection system will be installed in the technology rooms and CMS will also have upgrades to the music rooms and locker rooms.

A brand-new parking lot will be constructed at the bus garage after gutting the existing lot and installing proper drainage and grading. Restrooms will also be renovated at the bus garage.

The first phase of the project will be substantially completed by the time students are back to school in September. The second phase of the project will include work at the High School, Sheridan Hill Elementary, and Harris Hill Elementary and will break ground in the spring of next year.

Please recall that the project will not result in a tax increase. New York State will provide school aid for approximately 67 percent of the work. The local share of the project will be financed as older debt expires and is replaced by new debt.