



Port Jervis City School District

John Xanthis, Superintendent of Schools

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Letter to the Editor

A note of thanks to the Port Jervis School District community

Dear Parents and Community Members,

On behalf of the Board of Education, students and staff of the Port Jervis City School District, I want to express our sincere appreciation to all of the district residents who turned out Feb. 23 to support the proposed capital renovation projects. In spite of the harsh weather, residents came out in large numbers to support both building propositions, which passed in all four voting districts.

Thanks to your support the district can now take the steps needed to make our schools safer and more secure. The new windows, ventilation systems and other building renovations will also make our schools more energy efficient and serve to improve our students' educational environment. In the long run, the improvements and cost savings will benefit everyone in the district for years to come.

I want to stress again that the bond projects will not increase taxes! After the previous referenda were defeated in November, the Board of Education and district administrators heard loud and clear that residents didn't want any new taxes associated with the capital improvements. By cutting energy costs and recapturing money from Albany that belongs to our community, we were proud to present an improvement plan with no local cost share.

We appreciate your willingness to allow us to implement our plan to improve Port schools. Our goal is to start the work this summer. The first step will be to address our top two priorities - replacing the unsafe window units and the antiquated Hamilton Bicentennial Elementary School public address system. We will use every tool available to us, including the district web site and newsletters, to keep you updated on the projects as they are taking place. I also invite you to stop and visit us and see firsthand how your support will help improve the safety and quality of Port Schools.

On behalf of everyone in the Port Jervis School District, thank you again for your support!

Port Pride!
John Xanthis
Superintendent
Port Jervis School District