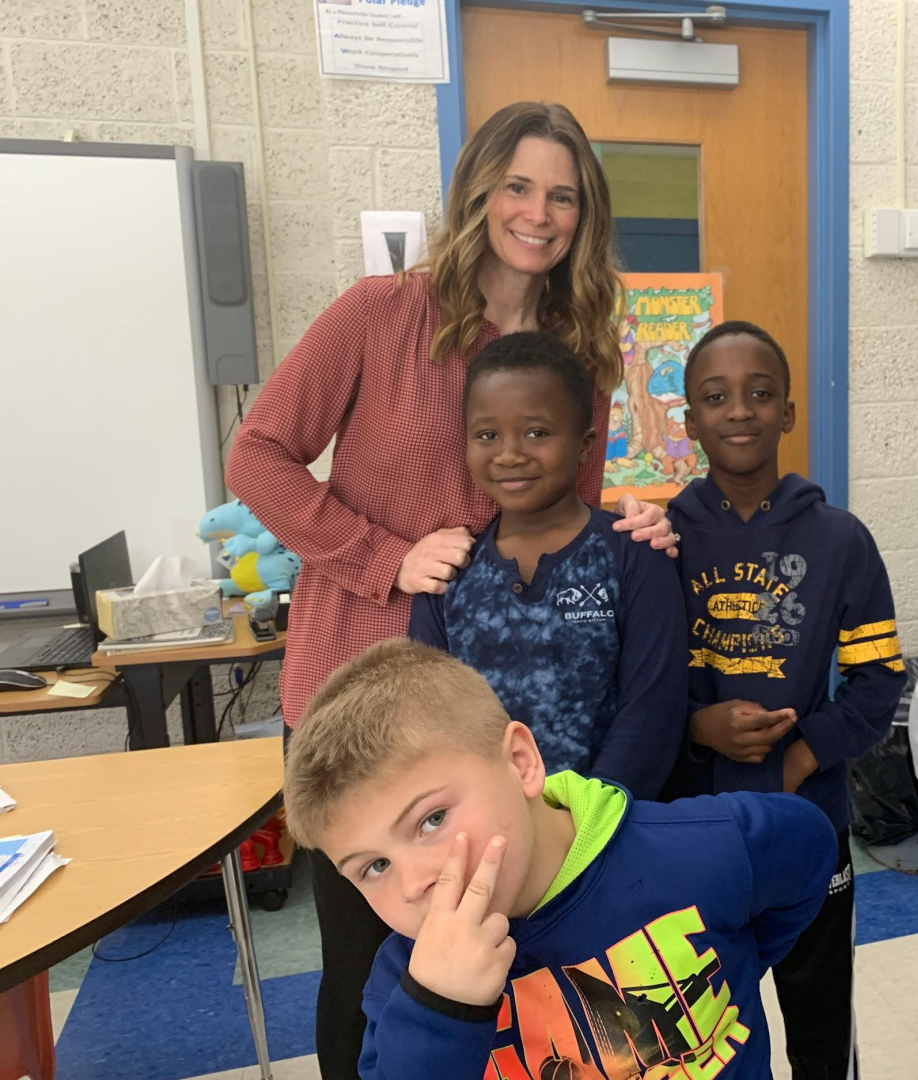


FY 24 REFERENDUM

It's Time. Colonial Nation deserves it.



TOPICS FOR TODAY'S DISCUSSION

01 / Why do we need more?

02 / What about Reassessment?

03 / William Penn Projects

Operating vs. Capital Requests

The referendum has 2 different components that will be voted on separately.

The operating request will provide increased funding for daily operations.

The capital request provides funds to our needed major renovation projects.

The next portion of the presentation focuses on the Operating side of the request.

The Operating Request

Local Operating funds pay for the day to day costs of serving students



Building and
Department budgets



Transportation Expenses



Arts, Sports and
extracurricular Programs



Competitive Salaries for
1,500 employees



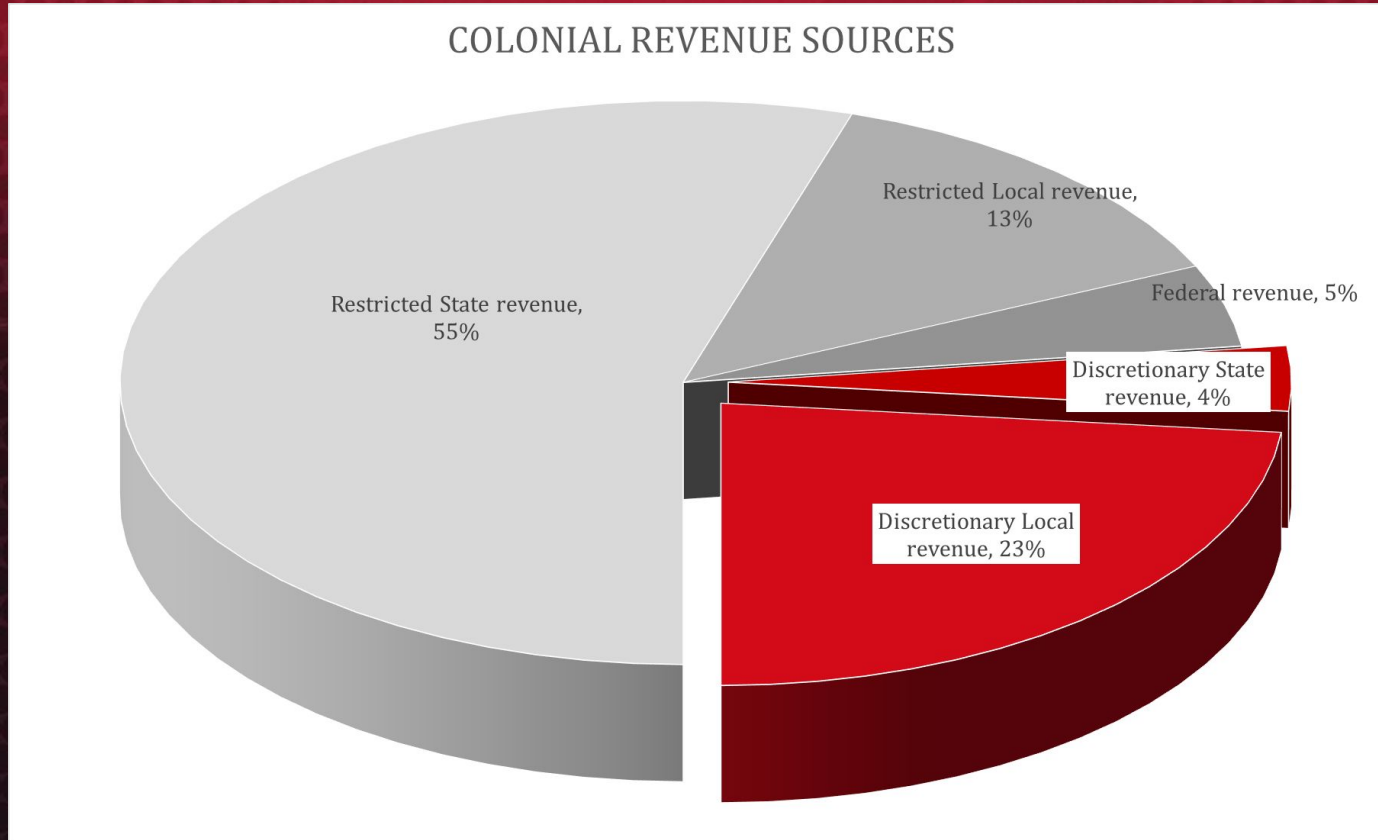
Technology including 1:1 Student
Chromebooks & staff devices



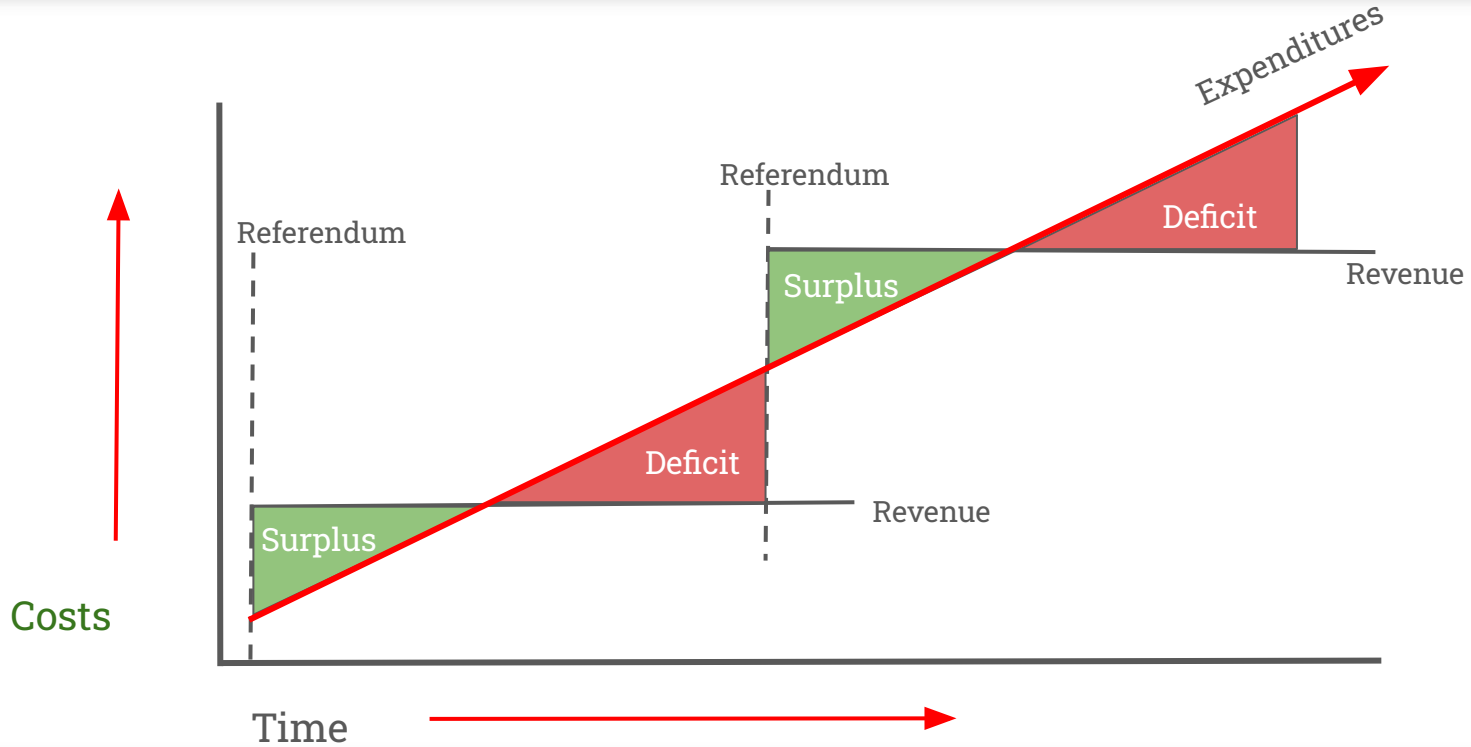
Daily cleaning and
maintenance of over 800
classrooms and 17 buildings

Not all funds are created equal.

Over 70% of the funds Colonial receives annually have restrictions or requirements. This limits the ability to cut from many areas to repurpose funds elsewhere.



The Referendum Cycle for Operating Funds



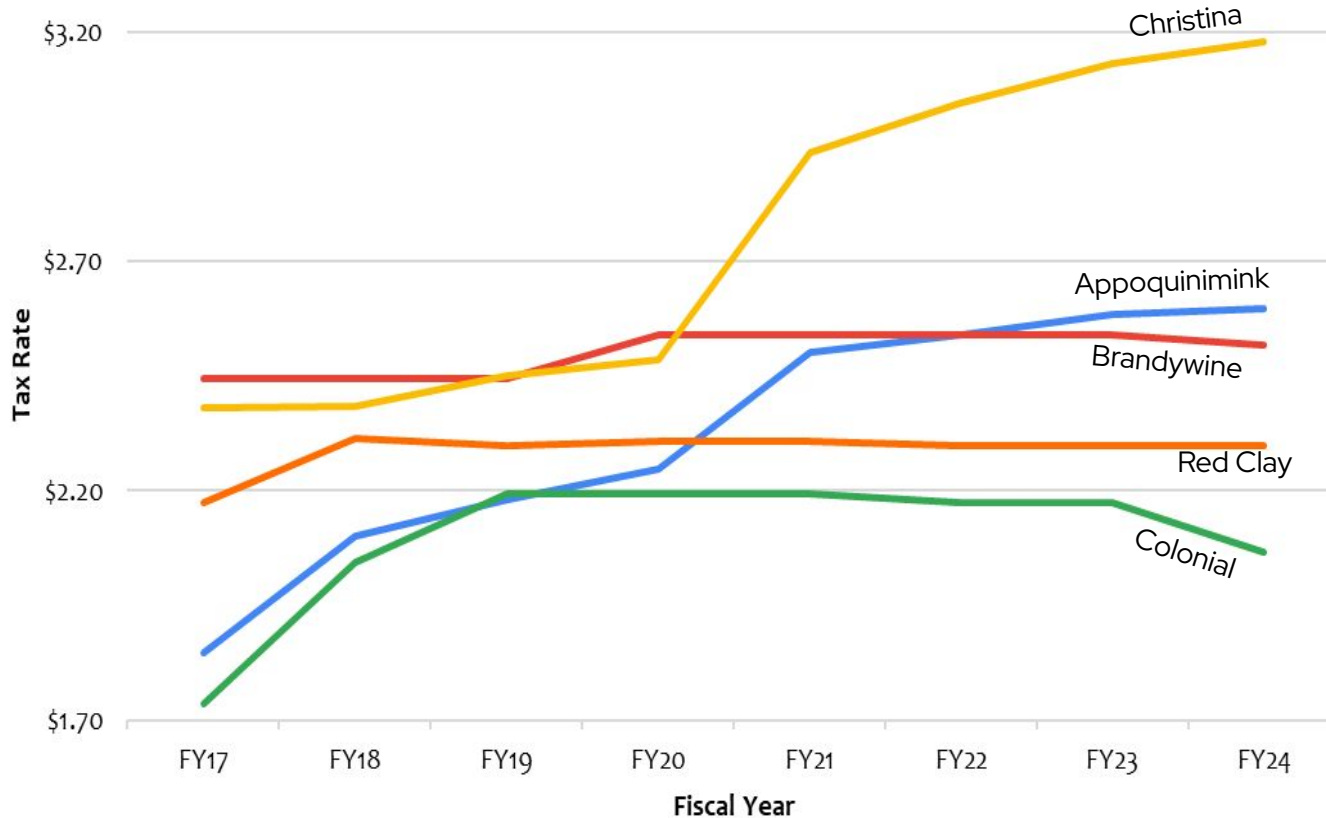
The Operating Ask... Why do we need more?

- ★ Current deficit is \$5.7 million.
- ★ Without additional revenue, we need to cut \$6 million from our budget next year. The size of the cut needed will increase each year without a referendum due to our stagnant revenue stream.
- ★ Discretionary budget cuts will not be enough.
 - Facilities, Maintenance & Custodial budgets: \$1.72 million
 - Safety and Security budget (funds all Constables): \$795,000
 - ALL School budgets: \$1.2 million
 - Curriculum & Instruction budget: \$337,500
 - Technology budget: \$1.5 million
- ★ 83% of our discretionary dollars are spent on staff (salaries & benefits). We cannot eliminate the deficit without cutting staff and eliminating programs.

The Operating Ask... Fiscal Responsibility

- ★ Discretionary budget growth has been minimal in most areas since the last referendum. Key investments have been made in:
 - **Security**- hiring constables, installing camera systems and card access systems etc.
 - **Facilities maintenance and custodial services**- needs increasing as buildings age.
 - **Student wellness** - addressing growing needs among students.
 - **Compensation**- offering competitive salaries is key to retaining educators and staff.
 - **Substitute costs**- increased costs and the impact of staffing shortages have required funds be added to this budget.
- ★ **Outside of those areas, discretionary budget growth has been 4.95% since the last referendum- less than 1% annually (FY 2018 to FY 2023).**
- ★ We have also pursued grants and other funds to support initiatives as much as possible. Since the last referendum, we have received over **\$18.7** million in competitive grant funding. This made more programs and supports available with no added cost to Colonial residents.

New Castle County Tax Rate History



Districts seeking operating tax increases this year.

Appoquinimink: \$0.43

Red Clay: \$0.50

Brandywine: \$0.45

Colonial: \$0.40

(Total is shown- may be phased in over multiple years)

Reassessment

How will it impact taxes and revenue?

TAXES ARE PAID ON THE ASSESSED VALUE OF THE PROPERTY, WHICH IS BASED ON DATA FROM 1983 (INCLUDING NEW CONSTRUCTION).

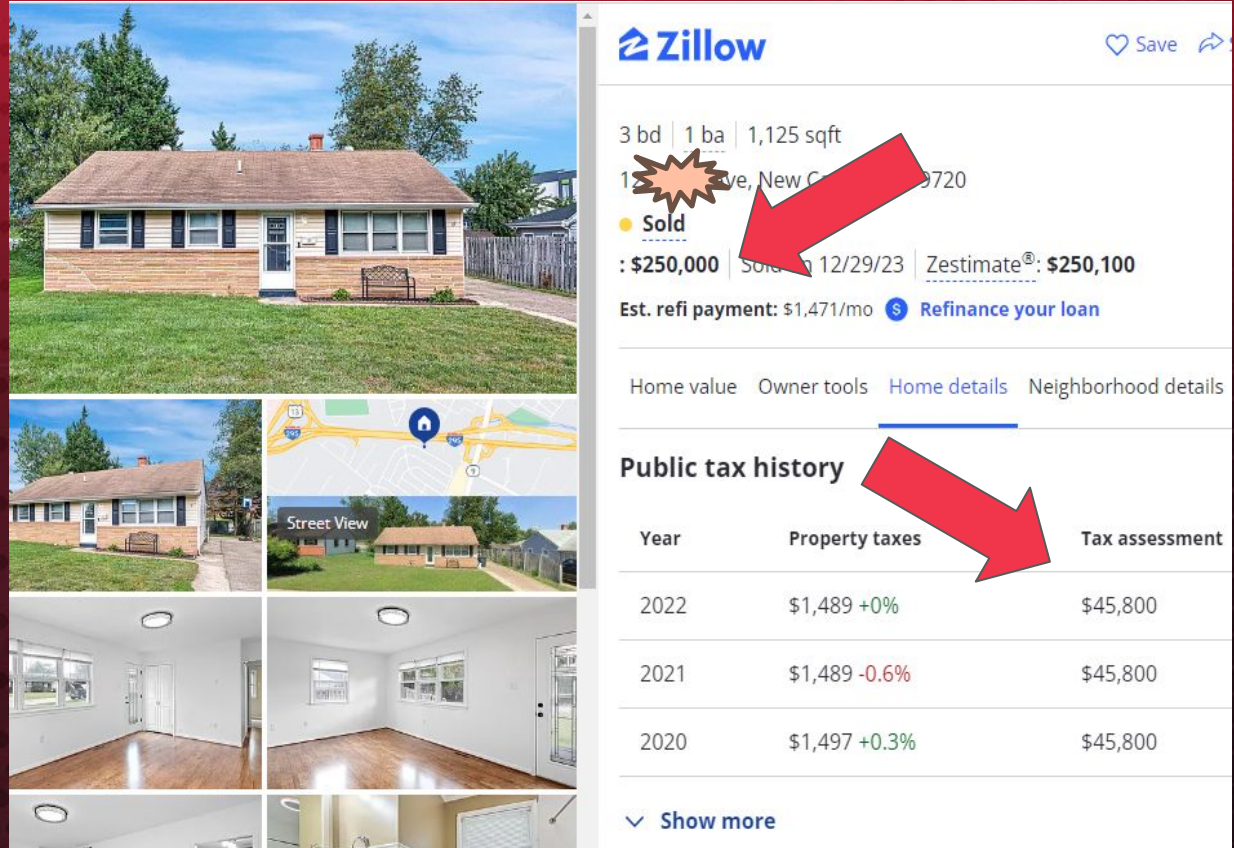
You can find the assessed value of your home at:

Newcastlede.gov or google
New Castle Parcel search

Assessed values are anywhere
between 25% to 35% of the
market value.

All three counties are in the
middle of a reassessment of all
properties due to a successful
lawsuit.

The new values are scheduled
to take effect in July 2025.



Zillow Save

3 bd | 1 ba | 1,125 sqft
11000 Ave, New Castle, PA 16132

Sold
: \$250,000 | Sold on 12/29/23 | Zestimate®: \$250,100
Est. refi payment: \$1,471/mo [Refinance your loan](#)

Home value | Owner tools | Home details | Neighborhood details

Public tax history

Year	Property taxes	Tax assessment
2022	\$1,489 +0%	\$45,800
2021	\$1,489 -0.6%	\$45,800
2020	\$1,497 +0.3%	\$45,800

[Show more](#)

Tax Rates and Revenue

Colonial's local revenue is determined by a simple calculation:

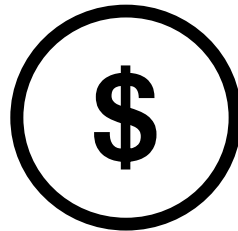
Tax base

(total assessed value of all properties in the district)

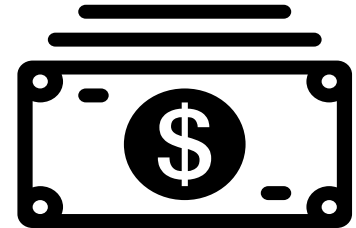


(Multiplied by)

Tax rate

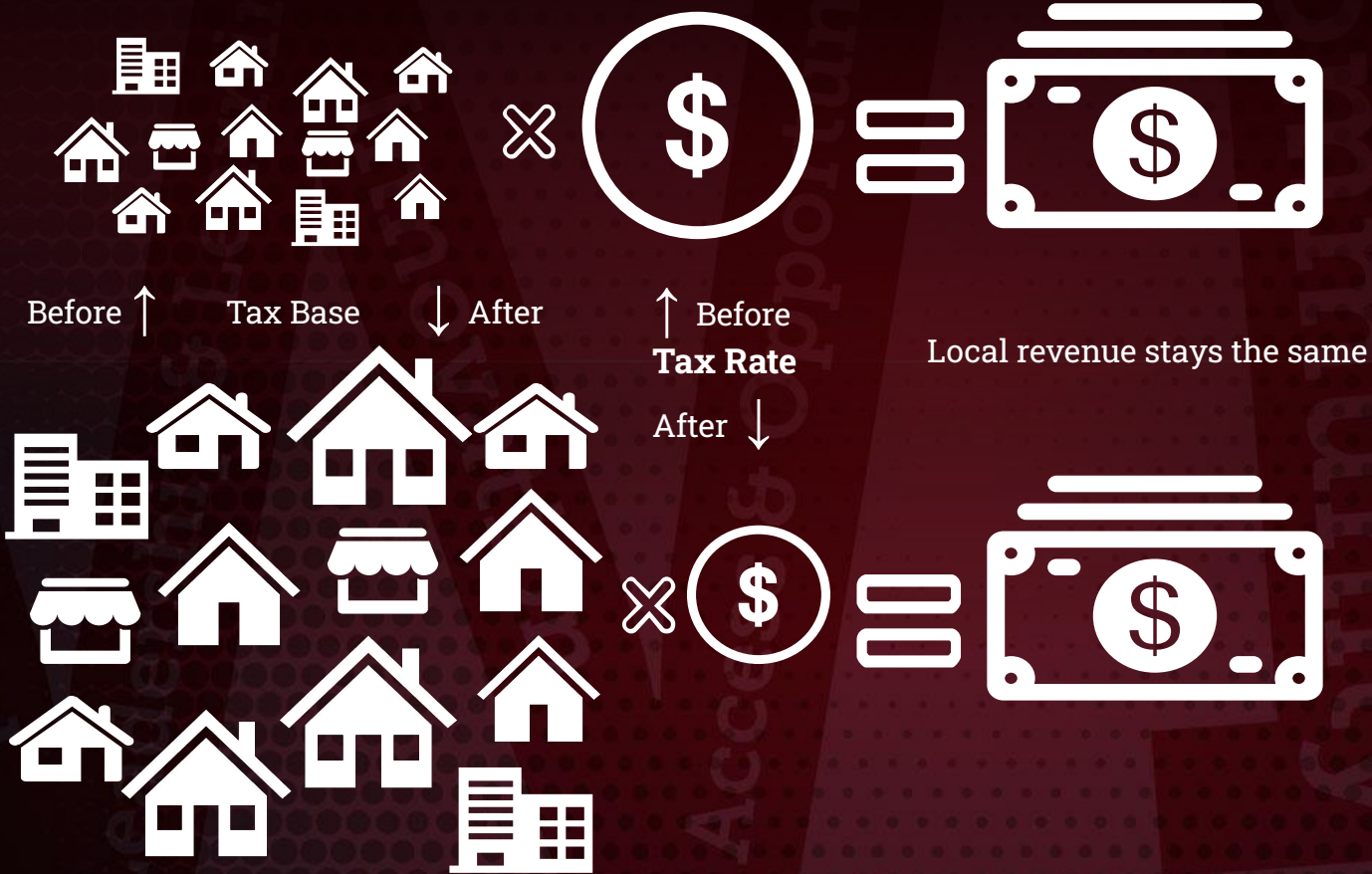


Local Revenue



Impact of Reassessment:

Delaware law requires districts to reset tax rates after a reassessment to be revenue neutral.



If the tax base doubles after reassessment, the tax rate has to be cut in half to ensure that the district generates the same amount of revenue.

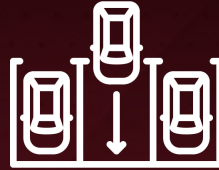
Individual Taxpayer Impact

- ★ Determining the exact impact on any individual home or property in advance is impossible but we can provide some general principles that should hold true.
- ★ **The tax rate will be reset based on the increase to the overall cumulative tax base. If the tax base doubles, the rate will be cut in half to generate the same amount of revenue as before** (revenue neutral).
- ★ The impact to any individual property will depend on how that assessed value changes relative to the overall change.
 - If the tax base doubles and your property assessment doubles, your tax bill will stay the same. If your property increases more than the overall tax base, your bill may go up and if your property increases less than the overall tax base, you bill may go down.

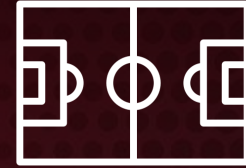
Summary of Capital Projects



Complete Remaining
Priority Roof Projects



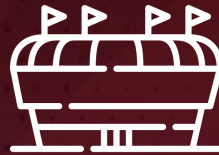
District-Wide Parking
Lots and Pathways



Middle School Athletic
Field Renewal



K-5 Playground Renewal



William Penn
Athletic Complex and Fields



Secure Entrances/Vestibules
and Other Security
Enhancements

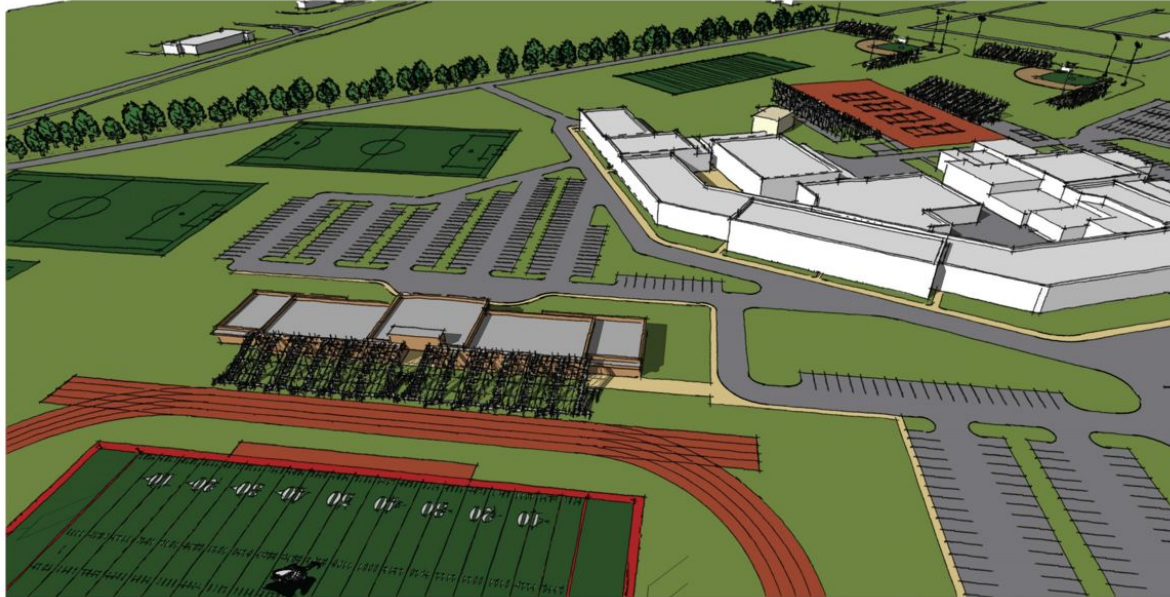
Capital Request Overview

- ★ The Department of Education recently approved the CNs that we submitted for districtwide renovations totaling over \$120 million.
- ★ The State will provide 60% of the funding (\$73.2 million) and we must provide the remaining 40% (\$48.8 million) to secure the State's investment.
- ★ **Colonial schools are, on average, 60 years old.**
Despite diligent maintenance from our dedicated custodial and maintenance teams, there are major upgrades or updates needed district wide.
- ★ These projects were selected through a combination of recommendations from our facility experts and feedback from our community in the spring of 2022.

William Penn Projects

\$67.8 million for new athletic fields???

Sticker shock?? Seem Excessive??

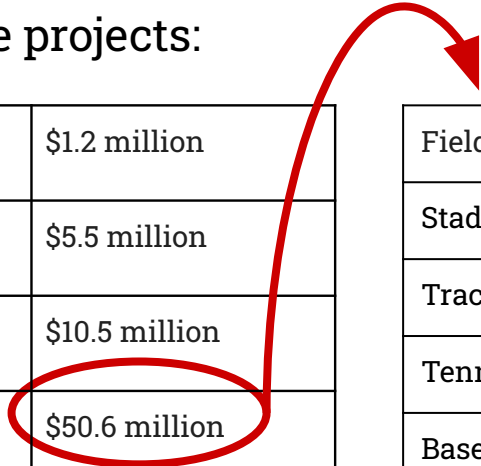


William Penn Projects

WPHS is slated to receive over half of the capital funding being requested (\$67.8 million out of \$122 million).

Breakdown of the projects:

Security Enhancements:	\$1.2 million
Parking & Pathways:	\$5.5 million
Roof replacement:	\$10.5 million
Athletic facilities:	\$50.6 million
All Project total:	\$67.8 million



Component	Est. Cost
Field House Construction	\$25 million
Stadium and Fields	\$13 million
Track Construction	\$2 million
Tennis & Pickleball courts	\$1.5 million
Baseball/Softball fields	\$1.8 million
Misc Sitework/Stormwater Management	\$6 million

William Penn Today

Bill Cole Stadium



Tennis courts

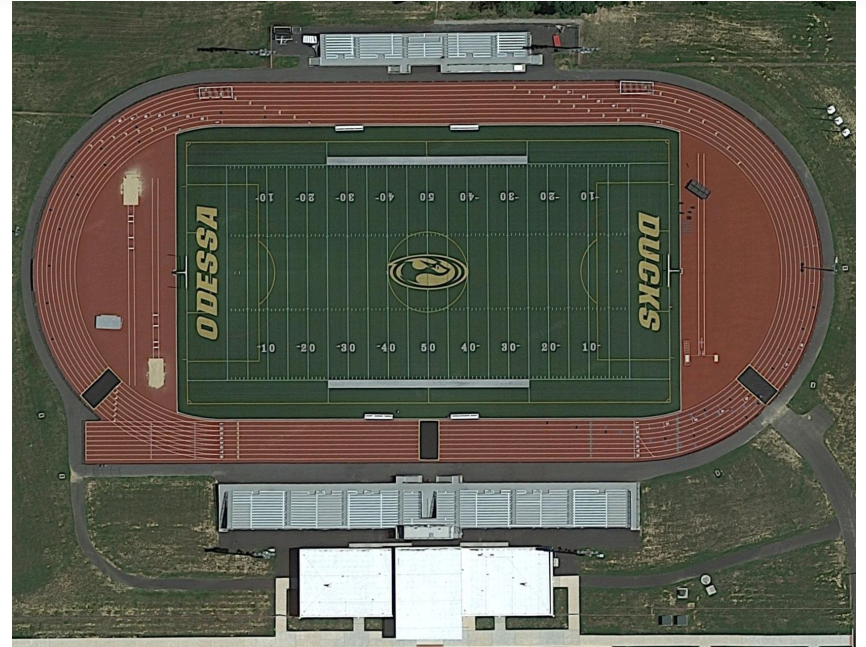
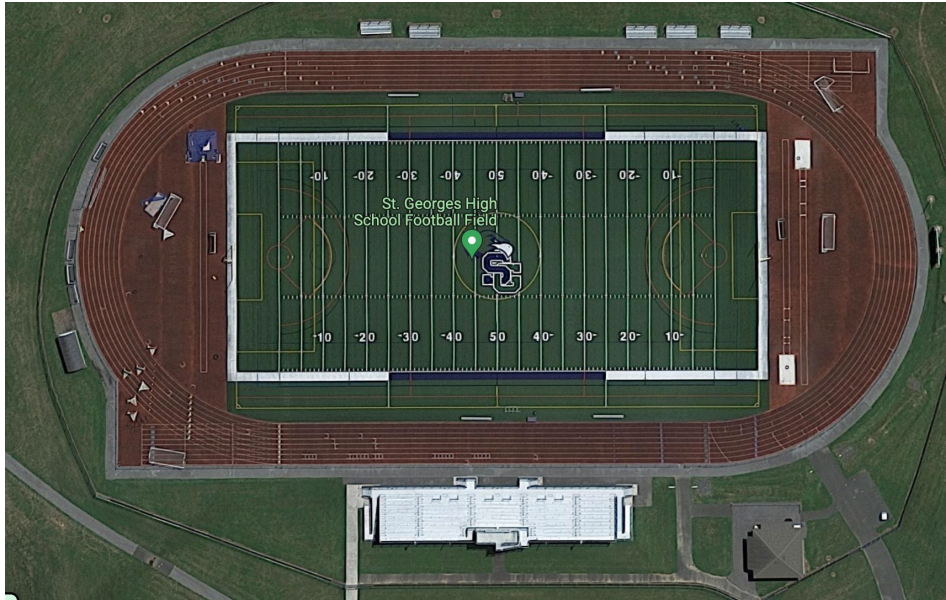
Flooded fields



Check out some surrounding schools:

This is the new standard for high school sports

St. Georges High School



Odessa High School

Charters and private schools too!

Newark Charter



Salesianum High school



William Penn MULTI-SPORT & EVENT Complex

Some key facts and information:

- If a high school the size of William Penn was being built today, the State's funding formula calculates a budget of over \$178 million dollars for construction.
- The majority of athletic facilities at Penn need a complete replacement
 - Tennis courts are beyond repair.
 - Weight room is too small and equipment is outdated.
 - The stadium is only sized for football and the field conditions have caused injuries.
 - The track is deteriorating and needs rehab/replacement.
- There is not enough usable space around Bill Cole stadium to build the multi-sport stadium that is needed - it must be relocated or the baseball fields, track, maintenance buildings and greenhouse must be relocated.
- The modifications needed to keep the stadium in place and make it ADA and Title IX compliant would cost more than the current project budget.

William Penn MULTI-SPORT & EVENT Complex

Benefits of the new facilities

- Allows most outdoor sports to compete in almost all weather conditions
- Reduces the need for re-scheduling which often causes scheduling conflicts and issues with availability of officials/referees
- MORE SPORTS can play in the stadium and have equal access to facilities for both Girls and Boys events
- Various sports can play back-to-back on the same field
 - Ex: Field Hockey @ 1pm, Soccer @ 3:30pm and Football @ 7:00pm
- Maintenance is minimal compared to the preparation and upkeep of grass fields
- Relocating the weight room and locker rooms creates needed space in the high school that can be repurposed to meet other needs.
- Band/Drumline/Color Guard can practice daily on the surface they will most likely compete on at competitions
- Can be used for a variety of events:
 - Band Tournaments
 - Delaware Special Olympics Events
 - State Sponsored Playoff Events
 - Community sports teams can utilize
- Tennis & PickleBall courts available for community use

**It's Time... Our students deserve it.
Our staff deserve it.
Our community deserves it.
Colonial Nation deserves it.**

Feedback and Q&A

How does reassessment impact all of this?

- ★ Delaware law requires that after a reassessment of property, school districts must reset the tax rate being charged in order to maintain revenue neutrality so reassessment will not be a financial windfall.

Before Reassessment	After Reassessment (Hypothetical)
Tax base: \$3.14 billion	Estimated Tax base: \$6.28 billion
Revenue generated: \$64.9 million	Revenue target: \$64.9 million
Tax rate: \$2.066	New tax rate: \$1.033

- ★ The law allows that after a reassessment, local school boards can vote to approve a rate that will yield up to an additional 10% in revenue.

Individual Taxpayer Impact

Let's continue our example with 3 different homes all currently assessed at \$62,547. In this scenario, the tax base has doubled (a 200% increase) so the rate has been cut in half from \$2.066 to \$1.033.

Current assessment:	House #1 - \$62,547	House #2 - \$62,547	House #3 - \$62,547
Current tax bill:	$(62,547 \div 100) \times 2.066 =$ \$1,292.22	$(62,547 \div 100) \times 2.066 =$ \$1,292.22	$(62,547 \div 100) \times 2.066 =$ \$1,292.22
New hypothetical assessed value:	\$125,094	\$137,603	\$112,585
Calculation:	$(125,094 \div 100) \times 1.033 =$	$(137,603 \div 100) \times 1.033 =$	$(112,585 \div 100) \times 1.033 =$
New tax bill:	\$1,292.22	\$1,421.44	\$1,163.00
\$\$ Change (annual):	\$0	\$129.22	-\$129.22

Individual Taxpayer Impact

- ★ Determining the exact impact on any individual home or property in advance is impossible but we can provide some general principles that should hold true.
- ★ The tax rate will be reset based on the increase to the overall cumulative tax base. If the tax base doubles, the rate will be cut in half to maintain revenue neutrality.
- ★ The impact to any individual property will depend on how that assessed value changes relative to the overall change.
 - Example: \$6.28 billion is 200% of our current tax base of \$3.144 billion.
 - The average Colonial home is currently assessed at \$62,547.
 - The impact to the tax bill for this home depends on how close the new assessed value is to the 200% tax base increase.

William Penn MULTI-SPORT & EVENT Complex

Slides will provide more information on why the complex is needed.

- Total cost for WP includes \$10 million to replace the roof.

- Cannot simply put turf in existing stadium because of Title IX concerns. New stadium will have a multi-sport field, which will increase the ability to use stadium all year.

-

- Other events can be held in stadium- band practice and band tournaments, color guard competitions, special olympics etc.

- Community use of new facilities- including pickleball courts.

- Pictures of other school facilities in comparison to WP

- Addition of Field house/weight room will free up space within the school- which is at a premium. Future projects could be done in the newly available spaces.

- WP Athletic complex is the equivalent of the Elementary school playground.

- How much does a brand new high school cost?