PEEKSKILL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEW YORK STATE SMART SCHOOLS BOND ACT
SMART SCHOOLS INVESTMENT PLAN

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I. INTRODUCTION

In November 2014, New York State's voters approved the Smart Schools Bond Act (SSBA). The Peekskill City School District was allocated a total of $3,202,505. The following are allowable use of the Smart School Bond Act funding:

1. School Connectivity
2. Connectivity Projects for Communities
3. Classroom Technology
4. Pre-Kindergarten Classrooms
5. Replace Transportable Classrooms
6. High-Tech Security Features

As stated in the Smart Schools Guidance by NYSED, every public school district is required to submit and get approval of a District Instructional Technology Plan. Peekskill CSD Tech Plan Survey was submitted and approved on October 2015. As outlined in the plan, our district will spend the SSBA funds on the following two areas that are in most need of improvement. They are high-speed broadband connectivity of our buildings and high-tech security system.

II. JUSTIFICATION OF NEED

In alignment with our 2015-2018 Instructional Technology Plan Approved by NYSED, the Peekskill City School District is a community of learners who collaborate, explore, and seamlessly apply technology throughout all aspects of teaching and learning in preparation to be productive and responsible members of a global information rich society.

Goal 1: Promote the safe ethical use of technology resources across all stakeholders.
- Develop an approach and implementation plan that teaches and promotes digital citizenship throughout the community.
- Administrators will model safe and ethical use of technology at staff and student meetings and gatherings where technology is used.
- Teachers will reinforce the safe and ethical use of technology throughout the school year by highlighting it in lessons that integrate technology.
- Teachers will participate in professional development to increase skills around the topic of digital citizenship.

Goal 2: Ensure teaching and learning provides the opportunity for authentic experiences to encourage flexibility, risk taking, and problem solving through the use of technology.
- Provide professional development to increase knowledge, skills and awareness of the use of appropriate technologies.
- Infuse technology literacy skills throughout all aspects of the curriculum and curriculum maps

Goal 3: Inspire students to question, research, explore, learn and grow through a technology infused environment.
- Classroom lessons will be designed and/or modified to provide students with opportunities for self-directed learning.

- Teachers will participate in professional development to build the skills and knowledge to teach in a student centered, self-directed classroom.
- Library media specialists will pilot the assessment of Information Literacy Skills for students in grades 6 as a way to inform instruction.

Goal 4: Provide technology-rich environment that supports a rigorous curriculum.

- Pilot and evaluate appropriate technology software and hardware to supplement teaching and learning.
- Promote the appropriate use of existing technology resources in schools.
- Identify appropriate and necessary funding for professional development, hardware and software through the general fund, aid, grants and e-rate.

Goal 5: Ensure all members of the school community are safe and secure through updated systems and procedures.

- Expand the IP Telephony system to include all buildings for emergencies and security.
- Upgrade to digital Security Software and Cameras and integrate IP Telephone system thought out the district.
- Implement visitor control system through the school buildings.

Our current status justifies multiple investments in technology to support upgrades, extension and replacement of infrastructure. Furthermore, in regards to Wifi saturation and connectivity, although all the schools have wifi-access, there is not saturation to provide appropriate access to support mobile instructional devices.

III. PRECONDITIONS

As a precondition to utilizing the SSBA allocations, the district has ensure that the there is adequate internet bandwidth to further expand wireless connectivity for classrooms, upgrade the internal network backbone and upgrade the district security network and cameras. Currently Peekskill CSD has 100Mbps of bandwidth. We will be increasing our bandwidth to 400 Mbps in order to match and exceed the requirement of a standard of 100 Mbps per 1,000 students by the 2016-2017 school year.

Peekskill CSD has fiber connectivity between buildings in the schools private network which provides up to 10 Gbps interconnectivity . Currently the district has 1 Gbps connectivity between sites for district interconnectivity. With the proposed upgrades to the network infrastructure this will be increased to 10 Gbps between schools.

All New York State public school districts are required to complete and submit a District Instructional Technology Plan survey to the New York State Education Department in compliance with Section 753 of the Education Law and per Part 100.12 of the Commissioner's Regulations. District that include Smart Schools Investment Plan in high speed broadband or wireless connectivity and/or learning technology equipment or facilities as part of their Smart Schools Investment plan must have a submitted and approved instructional Technology Plan survey on file with the New York State Education Department (NYSED). To this purpose the Peekskill City School District submitted it required Instructional Technology Plan survey to NYSED in October 2015 and was approved in December 2015.

IV. INVESTMENT

The Peekskill City School District supports a technology network of over 4,000 users. Under current allocations of resources for technology equipment, that includes: BOCES Purchase Agreements (IPA), District Technology Department yearly budget allocation, e-Rate funding and any grant funding available, we are fiscally unable to move as rapidly as we would like to equip all schools with robust wireless capabilities, upgrade the internal connections, upgrade internal connects and upgrade our security network capabilities. The district will not purchase devices with the SSBA Allocations. *However, the district is committed to enhancing classroom technology using different funding sources to provide classroom instruction devices.

SMART SCHOOL ALLOWABLE EXPENDITURE-BUDGET CATEGORY

Budget Category	Sub Allocation
School Connectivity	$1,190,031
Classroom Technology (*)	0
Kindergarten Classrooms	0
Replacement of Classroom Trailers	0
High-Tech Security Features	$1,528,267
Unallocated Funds	$484,207
Total	$3,202,505

School Connectivity

The funds allocated in the School Connectivity budget category will be used to support high-speed traffic requirements for online productivity and assessments. Our SSBA fund allocation will support the upgrade of our internal network backbone to accommodate faster connections and power over ethernet (POE) required for up-to-date network equipment. The funds will also be used to improve our existing wireless infrastructure to bring adequate high-speed wireless saturation.

The investment in WIFI will ensure ubiquitous access to high speed internet at every location in our school buildings to empower teachers and students using rich content and other collaboration tools such as distance learning and active learning tools to enable productive discussion and sharing among peer students.

SSBA Connectivity Projects for Schools	Sub-Allocation
Network/Access Costs	$650,368
Outside Plant Costs	$ 0
School Internal Connections and Components	$ 11,135
Professional Services	$528,258
Testing	$ 0
Other Upfront Costs	$ 0
Other Costs	$ 0
TOTALS	$1,190,031

High-Tech Security Features

The District has security cameras with an age over eight years old, becoming obsolete and end of life. Our intent is to upgrade and extend the coverage of the High Definition Cameras in our premises to ensure a safe environment for students and school community in general.

A primary focus of the instructional model of Peekskill Schools is to ensure a safe environment conducive to learning. Implementing High Tech Security Features in our school buildings will enable our staff and student to focus on instruction and student achievement. Previous initiatives such as NY Safe Schools Act have provided for initial investments to ensure we fulfill our goals and model for safety in our schools.

The following summarizes the proposed investment in high tech security features for Peekskill schools:

SSBA High-Tech Security Features	Sub -Allocation
Capital-Intensive Project (Standard Review)	$600,720
Main Entrance Electronics Security System, Cameras (Streamlined Review)	$0
Main Entrance Entry Control System (Streamlined Review)	$527,547
Approved Door Hardening Project (Streamline Review)	$0
Other Costs	$0
Emergency Communication System Integration VOIP	$400,000
TOTALS	$1,528,267

V. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

As Technology becomes more widely available and continues to change, there is a compelling need to provide on-going professional development to support educational reform goals, New York State standards and Common Core Standards to model collaborative inquiry-based learning and to guide staff toward incorporating the global infrastructure in instruction and productivity.

The Smart Schools Bond act does not provide allocations for professional development. Peekskill City School District will continue to provide resources and funding based on its approved budgets to support and promote activities for technology professional development for staff, teachers and administrators.

The district will also seek and apply for grant opportunities to provide additional professional development. As part of our approved district technology plan the following are the focus for technology professional development over the next three years:
- Google Apps for Education
- Personalized Learning with 1:1 devices
- Blended & Online Learning for Improved Student Outcomes (Ensemble, etc)
- Digital Citizenship
- The 4Cs in the Classroom (Communication, Collaboration, Critical Thinking, Creativity)
- Supplemental Online Tools for Credit Recovery (Edgenuity)
- Effective use of Interactive Whiteboards for teaching and Learning

- Available Databases and Online Tools

Technology professional development is provided by various district staff including, but not limited to:
- Assistant Superintendents
- Director of Technology
- Principals
- Assistant Principals
- Teachers
- Technology Teaching Assistants
- Library Media Specialists

In addition to Peekskill CSD staff, Educational Technology Facilitators from BOCES, and other organizations facilitate professional development for staff, teachers and administrators. Professional development is an ongoing activity provided during conference days as well during scheduled training sessions and job-embedded opportunities in the schools.

The district values providing training that supports our emergency plans. We are currently working with a security company, Altaris, to provide support and training on the district-wide planning & emergency management program. This support and training includes:
- A review of the District & Building Level Emergency Plans.
- A general walkthrough of each school building to identify improvement opportunities
- All necessary district-wide emergency planning steps to support prevention, response and recovery protocols and procedures.
- Bi-annual training of the District Emergency Response Team (DERT) and each Building Emergency Response Team (BERT)
- Facilitation of tabletop exercises for the DERT and each BERT.
- Training of support staff including, greeters, custodians, security and office staff.
- On-site drill evaluations and debriefing.
- Facilitating strong collaboration with community partners including drills.

VI. SUSTAINABILITY

The District is committed to working upgraded and new devices purchased through the Smart Schools Bond Act into the equipment replacement cycle already in place. Currently we replace classroom computers every 5 years and network equipment every 4 years. Each year, over the next 5 years, we will allot our standard amount of funds, which include yearly IPAs and Leases, for the normal repair costs of a percentage of the total devices. After 5 years the devices will be replaced and/or reallocated in order to ensure the equipment stays current and new technology is supported.

We contract with EduTEK Ltd., which provides 3 technicians to repair and maintain the devices, the network and wireless infrastructure. A+ security cameras vendor will provide tech support to sustain the initial investment via the smarter school bonds funding.