Greece to decide $107M schools plan

Public vote for athletic fields, remodeling buildings set for Dec. 4

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A $107 million capital project is inching forward for the Greece Central School District.

In December it will be up to the voters.

The Board of Education voted 9 to 0 Tuesday night to put the matter to a public vote on Dec. 4.

The $107 million Reimagine Greece plan has three main ideas: Rebuild, remodel and revitalize. It includes the addition of turf fields and lighted fields at all four high schools. The district currently has neither.

A handful of school board members announced their support before the vote. Members said the proposal is fiscally responsible and that it is about time for the athletic fields to be brought up to par with surrounding schools. In addition to improving athletic fields, the plan calls for remodeling the interiors of all 17 district schools, making safety improvements and building a new transportation facility.

The biggest chunk of the project is the remodeling portion, expected to cost $46,790,800, according to the district.

According to district documents, the work would be done with no additional cost to taxpayers. About $92 million would be covered by state aid, while the remainder would be covered by existing capital reserves. If voters approve the project, there would be no impact on the tax levy.

With nearly 11,000 students, Greece is the largest suburban school district in Monroe County and is the fifth largest by enrollment in the state other than the “big five” city districts: Buffalo, Rochester, New York City, Syracuse and Yonkers.

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Greece Odyssey’s Julian Voltaire, right, and Honeoye Falls-Lima’s Hayden Smith compete Sept. 25. Greece schools lack lighted fields; a project would include them. MAX SCHULTE / ROCHESTER