



An estimated timeline for bond expenditures was presented to the Chippewa Valley Schools Board of Education on Feb. 4. Work is to be done in several phases through 2023. Construction projects at Dakota High School as part of the Safe Schools, Strong Schools initiative include redesigning Cougar Drive and entryways.

File photo by Erin Sanchez

CVS releases roadmap for 2018 bond program

Work to be done in several phases through 2023

By: [Alex Szwarc](#) | [Macomb Township Chronicle](#) | Published February 18, 2019

CLINTON TOWNSHIP/MACOMB TOWNSHIP — More details have been released about the Safe Schools, Strong Schools initiative.

At the Feb. 4 Chippewa Valley Schools Board of Education meeting, the estimated timeline for bond expenditures was presented by Jeff Atkins, of Barton Malow Co., and Tom Giachino, of Metro Technology Services.

The two talked about construction and technology matters for work that is to be done in several phases through 2023.

“They put together a bond timeline for about the next five years of how they see projects happening in our school district,” Chippewa Valley Schools Superintendent Ron Roberts said.

In November, a \$97 million bond proposal passed, which, in part, would fund security enhancements — including security cameras and replacement of door locks — at existing buildings and facilities.

The initiative is aimed to restructure safety mechanisms and technology; improve infrastructure; and develop and improve school buildings, programming, athletic fields and buses.

An information packet regarding the bond program was presented at the meeting.

It includes a roadmap for technology and construction, outlining various phases and what work will be done.

There are five technology phases – from summer 2019 to spring 2020, spring and summer 2020, the 2020-21 school year, summer 2022, and the 2022-23 school year.

Part of Phase 1 for technology, slated for this summer, is for wireless network infrastructure upgrades in all buildings within the district, security camera system upgrades at the high schools, and partial data center equipment added at the administration building.

“They’re starting with infrastructure because anything we put into our school district has to be supported by infrastructure,” Roberts said. “We will now study what it is we want our end-user devices to be.”

He said the district is currently in the bid process, and a bid for wireless infrastructure may come as soon as this week.

Other technology improvements are career technical education, or CTE, equipment upgrades, and community relations equipment upgrades.

The construction side of the bond program, also to be done in five phases, is highlighted by the redesigns of Cougar Drive and entrances at Dakota and Chippewa high schools, and repaving the parking lot at Ojibwa Elementary School.

“What we’re trying to do with construction is first start with what we think is most important for safety and security,” Roberts said.

This summer, entryways at Dakota and Chippewa Valley will be redesigned to enhance student safety.

Over the last couple of years, emphasis has been placed on traffic patterns around Dakota. Cougar Drive, on the west side of the school, will be redesigned this summer, an area that Roberts calls a safety issue. Instead of students being backed up in traffic on Heydenreich Road, he said the best place for them to be is in a parking space.

At Ojibwa, located on the southeast corner of 21 Mile Road and Heydenreich Road, the parking lot entrances and exits will also be redesigned. The parking lot will be repaved to improve traffic flow.

Additional construction work includes electrical services at Iroquois Middle School; paving, roofing and mechanical work at Seneca Middle School; and paving, renovations and mechanical work at Mohegan High School.

In regard to pricing, Roberts said that anything related to technology is very expensive.

Nine years ago, voters approved an \$89 million bond that funded capital improvements in the district.