



# Update Information LIBRARY

Preparing all students for success with future ready facilities



*We have a responsibility to prepare our students for an ever changing world. The world of work is evolving, and the jobs of the future will require problem solving over rote knowledge. We must provide a learning environment that excites and engages students and supports modern learning.*

**Superintendent of Schools**  
Dr. Dave Palzet

**Board of Education**  
Mark Mirabile – President  
Kristin Violante – VP  
Mary Lenzen – Secretary  
Jon Buralli  
Vipul Dedhia  
David Negron  
Michael Rak

## Realizing Our Strategic Vision

In 2016 the district adopted a Strategic Blueprint that set us on a course of sustained improvement. To realize our vision of creating a community of inspired learners, our plan seeks to improve our district in three categories: Building Learning Capacity, Building Human Capital, and Building Learning Environments. Updated learning spaces falls under the Building Learning Environments goal. In the fall, a task force was convened to develop a plan for updated libraries in both schools. The committee identified four components of modern school libraries.

### Modern Libraries Are Flexible...

School libraries need to host multiple activities at the same time. Spaces should allow for whole class as well as small group activities simultaneously. Furniture should be flexible and allow for multiple arrangements based on activities. Likewise, furniture should nest for easy storage to allow for large group activities. Our libraries will be able to seat 100 students comfortably.

### Modern Libraries Are Welcoming...

We want our libraries to be places where students feel comfortable and connected. The library is an extension of the classroom and

should be a space students choose to go. The proposed libraries include a variety of seating including traditional tables, high seating, and soft seating spaces. Additionally, these spaces include kid friendly spaces like reading caves and theater seating.

### Modern Libraries Are Productive...

Collaboration is a 21st Century skill that will serve our students well. As such, our libraries will be set up to facilitate collaboration between students and staff. Small group work rooms, video production areas, and moveable furniture all contribute to a collaborative environment. Likewise, spaces within the library will have the technology students need to do their work including monitors, sound systems, and Wi-Fi.

### Modern Libraries Are the Learning Hub of the School...

Our libraries need to support the work taking place in the classroom. This goes beyond pulling materials for research and providing a quiet study area. Our libraries will be spaces where students present and perform, create and collaborate, and experiment and evaluate. The library is a space that can benefit every child in both schools on a daily basis.



The Board of Education, as stewards of the community and in performing its responsibility of acting in trust for the best interest of the community, believes this project is vital to making sure our students are being provided the best preparation for their success while simultaneously keeping the best interest of our community in mind. Through our Strategic Blueprint we are working to incorporate best educational practices as well as a modern learning environment, and this project helps make this a reality.



**Mark Miriable**  
President PSD 107  
Board of Education



## Financially Responsible Funding

District	2017 Tax Rate	2016 Tax Rate
Pleasantdale 107	2.125	2.535
Western Springs 101	2.742	3.293
LaGrange 102	3.714	4.436
Lyons 103	5.062	5.796
LaGrange Hodgkins 105	3.359	3.75
LaGrange Highlands 106	2.993	3.61

All too often, funding for improvement projects fall on taxpayers through increased tax rates. The Board of Education directed the administration complete these projects without impacting our community's tax bills. The project will be funded through utilizing existing bonds and the district's cash reserves. **This funding method does not require the district to go to referendum, and it does not raise the tax rate for our community.**

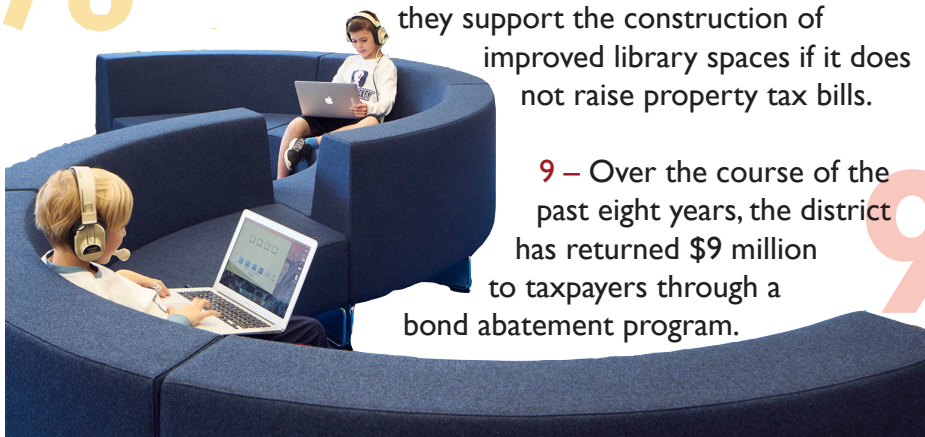
## By The Numbers:

**10** – The number of years since the last construction project in the district. At that time the district added a large gym to the middle school and preschool classrooms to the elementary school.

**4** – The district has received Financial Recognition or a 4 ranking from the state of Illinois for the past 15 years. This is the best rating available and shows the Board has been good stewards of the taxpayers' dollars.

**78%** – The percentage of respondents who said, "yes" they support the construction of improved library spaces if it does not raise property tax bills.

**9** – Over the course of the past eight years, the district has returned \$9 million to taxpayers through a bond abatement program.



Pleasantdale has an excellent track record of sound fiscal management and a great financial story to tell our community. Over the last eight years, the district has refunded over \$9 million back to taxpayers through a bond abatement. Additionally, the district boasts the lowest tax rate of all the Lyons Township High School associate districts. Finally, the district holds 78% reserves further proving our ability to save and spend wisely. Excellent outcomes combined with great financial management make Pleasantdale a great value for the dollar.

Capital improvements in schools are also proven to benefit communities through increased home values. When asked why new families choose our district, the number one answer given is, "the schools." It is a well known fact that when schools engage in improved facilities often the market takes notice. In our community home values continue to rise; it is our hope to contribute to that improvement.

# Designing Our Future: A Collaborative Process

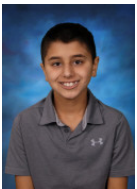
A task force made up of parents, teachers, students, and administrators took on the the task of investigating modern library spaces and recommending a design that was the best fit for our district. The group began by learning about how school libraries have evolved and then identified our belief statements about how our libraries should be designed. The committee agreed that updated library spaces needed to be flexible in design, inspiring to students, enhance the classroom experience, and include BOOKS.

To that end, the library at the elementary school will nearly double in space

and will provide our teachers the opportunity to use the library as a second teaching space. At the middle school the space will be opened up and both the technology lab and existing library will be available for student use. Spaces at both schools will provide better flow, and our library staff will be better able to supervise students. Our updated libraries will include small, medium, and large group spaces and will allow students to interact with technology in new ways. Each school library will include presentation spaces and allow for unique displays of student artwork and projects. The spaces will seat 100 students, so author visits and

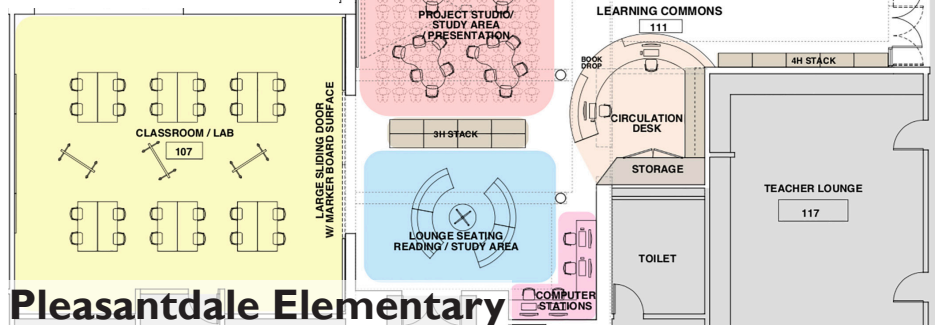
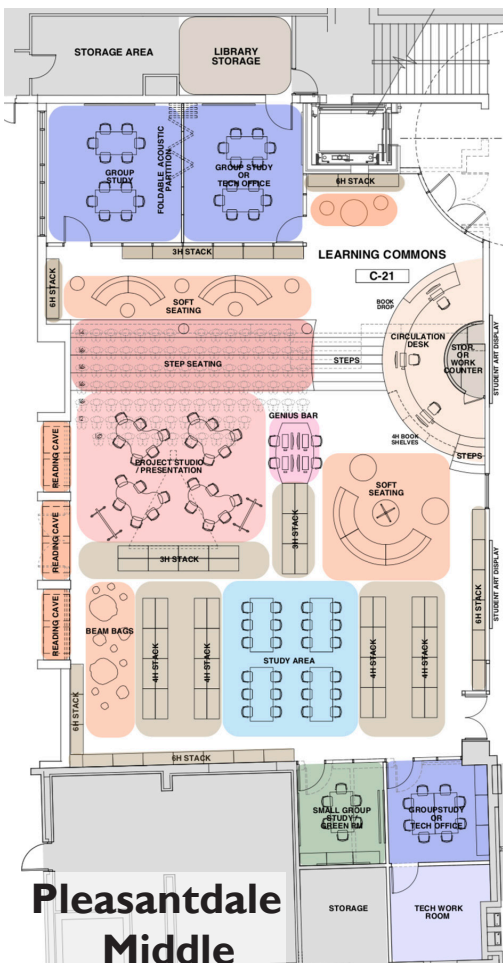
grade level activities can take place in this comfortable space.

This project is an evolution of the work that has been taking place in the district over the past several years. As we put a device in nearly every student's hands, we sought to develop spaces that supported that work. With that said, the task force recognized the fact that there is no replacement for physical books, so ensuring our collection of stacks was maintained was a top priority. As our architects designed our libraries they ensured that we had space for even more volumes in our elementary school library for our emerging readers.



*"I really liked to help design the new libraries. The new library will let us be able to do so much more. I know kids will want to spend a lot of time in this space."*

**– Salvatore Imbarrato,**  
L!BRARY 2.0 Task Force Member and Student



**Pleasantdale Elementary**



**Mandy Davis**  
Parent and L!BRARY 2.0  
Task Force Member

*The L!BRARY 2.0 Task Force was able to design spaces that are just the right fit for our district. The administration and district architects took the input of the Task Force seriously and made changes to ensure our libraries are a good fit for today's classes of kids and beyond. The process was participatory and will establish spaces that provide our kids with the experiences they need to be successful in elementary school and well beyond.*



**Mission:**  
**To create a community  
of inspired learners.**

**NON-PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE PAID  
CROWN POINT  
IN 46307  
PERMIT #473**

7450 S.Wolf Road  
Burr Ridge, IL 60527  
708-784-2013  
www.d107.org

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Pleasantdale Elementary School**  
8100 School Street  
LaGrange, IL 60525  
708-246-4700

**Pleasantdale Middle School**  
7450 South Wolf Road  
Burr Ridge, IL 60527  
708-246-3210

**Pleasantdale District 107**

**Superintendent**  
Dr. Dave Palzet

**Board of Education**  
Mark Mirabile – *President*  
Kristin Violante – *Vice-President*  
Mary Lenzen – *Secretary*  
Jon Buralli  
Vipul Dedhia  
David Negron  
Michael Rak



# INVITATION



## Library Fast Facts

- Increase usable space within both school libraries
- Funded without impacting property tax bills
- Spaces designed with input from parents, staff, and students
- Construction could begin on the last day of school this year
- Supports our community created Strategic Blueprint
- Proposed cost of \$1.3 million
- Funded through existing bonds and reserves
- Construction could begin at the end of the school year and be completed by mid October

**More questions? Learn more about our proposed library project.**  
Join us for our town hall meeting or email Superintendent Dave Palzet at [dpalzet@d107.org](mailto:dpalzet@d107.org).

**Thursday, January 24 at 6:30 PM**  
**Pleasantdale Middle School Library**

**Town Hall  
Meeting**