On November 4, 2014, 62% of New York State voters voted in favor of the Smart Schools Bond Act of 2014, which authorized the creation of state debt and the sale of state bonds in the amount of up to two billion dollars ($2,000,000,000.00) to finance improved educational technology and infrastructure.
Seven Keys to Achieve a Smart School

1) **Embrace and expand online learning** which will break down geographic barriers, provide access to the best sources of instruction in the world, and level the playing field for students in rural and smaller school districts;

2) **Utilize transformative technologies**, such as tablets, laptops, and interactive whiteboards to deliver differentiated instruction tailored to students’ specific abilities and needs that lets them learn and advance at their own pace;

3) Connect every school to **high-speed broadband** using technology that is capable of scaling up over time and deliver sufficient **wireless capability to serve every student**;

4. Extend **connectivity beyond the four walls of the classroom** so students from all backgrounds have equal access to the information superhighway;

5. Provide high-quality, continuous **professional development** to teachers, principals, and staff to **ensure successful integration of technology** into the teaching and learning experience;

6. Focus on in-demand **Science, Technology, Engineering and Math ("STEM") skills** to ensure that students graduate with 21st century skills; and

7. **Plan**, plan and plan again.
SMART BOND ALLOCATION FOR ITHACA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

$2,561,479
Allowable Use of Bond Proceeds
1) The acquisition of learning technology equipment or facilities including, but not limited to, interactive whiteboards, computer servers, and desktop, laptop and tablet computers;
2. The installation of high-speed broadband or wireless internet connectivity for schools and communities;
3. The construction, enhancement, and modernization of educational facilities to accommodate pre-kindergarten programs and the provision of instructional space to replace transportable classroom units; and
4. The installation of high-tech security features in school buildings and on school campuses.

Includes Capital Projects such as:

- Keyless Entry Systems
- Electronic Locking Systems
- Video Cameras
The allocation must be used for a bondable expense, but may not be used for purchases which have already received permanent financing.

The allocation will function as a reimbursement.

There is no “on or after date” for use of the allocated funds.

No school district shall be entitled to a smart schools grant until the district submits a smart schools investment plan to the smart schools review board and receives the review board’s approval of the investment plan.
Smart Schools Investment Plan Development Process:

1. Consult with parents, teachers, students, community members & other stakeholders.
2. Conduct a hearing and prepare a Final Plan to be approved by the Board and post on website.
3. Submit to the smart schools review board for approval, modification or rejection.
4. Develop a Preliminary Plan to be approved by the Board of Education & post on website for 30 days.
Thank You!

Any questions?