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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Since the defeat of the December 5th bond referendum vote, the Board of Education and I have been thoughtfully contemplating next steps. While we were examining various options to mitigate some of the immediate challenges facing our school facilities, we also reflected on valuable feedback from different constituents in our community. Responding to a strong appeal from numerous concerned parents, and considering our critical needs related to instructional space, safety and infrastructure, the District proceeded to develop a revised, scaled-back version of the capital project plan. We sincerely appreciate all those who took the time to weigh in on what they believe would be best for our schools at this time.

On Monday, February 5th at the Board of Education Workshop meeting, the design and timeline of the revised capital project plan will be presented by KG+D Architects, and the financial impact of the bond will be presented by our Director of Finance & Facilities, Ms. Lee Lew. This plan will address the District's most basic needs for additional classrooms, safety and security upgrades, and high priority infrastructure repairs. The Board anticipates that it will subsequently vote on February 12th to schedule a public bond referendum vote for April 10th. Our architects have informed us that we will be able to submit this scaled-back version of the plan under an "emergency" status, which may allow us to receive NYSED's approval to begin construction on new elementary classrooms starting in the summer of 2019.

With regard to the 2018-19 school year, the administrative team and I have been working with our architects and building PPLT's (Performance Planning and Leadership Teams) to explore various ways to alleviate the current overcrowding at the William E. Cottle School. The options of installing modular classrooms and relocating 5th grade classes to the Middle School building were both carefully considered, but it was determined that neither was feasible at this time. Therefore, we have decided to maintain all K-5 educational programs in our elementary school building for September 2018. We will certainly weigh all the pros and

cons of our limited choices, but we do anticipate needing to continue delivering art on a cart and scheduling music and small group instructional programs in inadequate spaces for at least one more year. Class sizes may also need to increase on particular grade levels, and the WEC Library may need to be converted to a general education classroom depending on the total number of students entering kindergarten in the fall.

Decisions made over the next few weeks and months will be critical to the future of the Tuckahoe Schools. I will keep you apprised of all new developments with the revised capital project bond referendum vote as well as our contingency plans.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carl L. Albano" with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Carl L. Albano