

# **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

SYOSSET CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT – APRIL 2021



# STILLWELL PARK

POTENTIAL INTER-GOVERNMENTAL TRANSFER



# SALE OF STILLWELL FROM NASSAU COUNTY TO SYOSSET CSD

## Elements of the Project

- Property transfers to Syosset school district for \$1.
- Syosset CSD improves the property.
- Improvements are used for Syosset schools and athletics, property still available to the community.
- Other details:
  - All existing use permits remain in force;
  - County residents remain permitted to use (as now);
  - Only affects the cleared portion (~35 acres);
  - Wooded area (270 acres) remains County property.

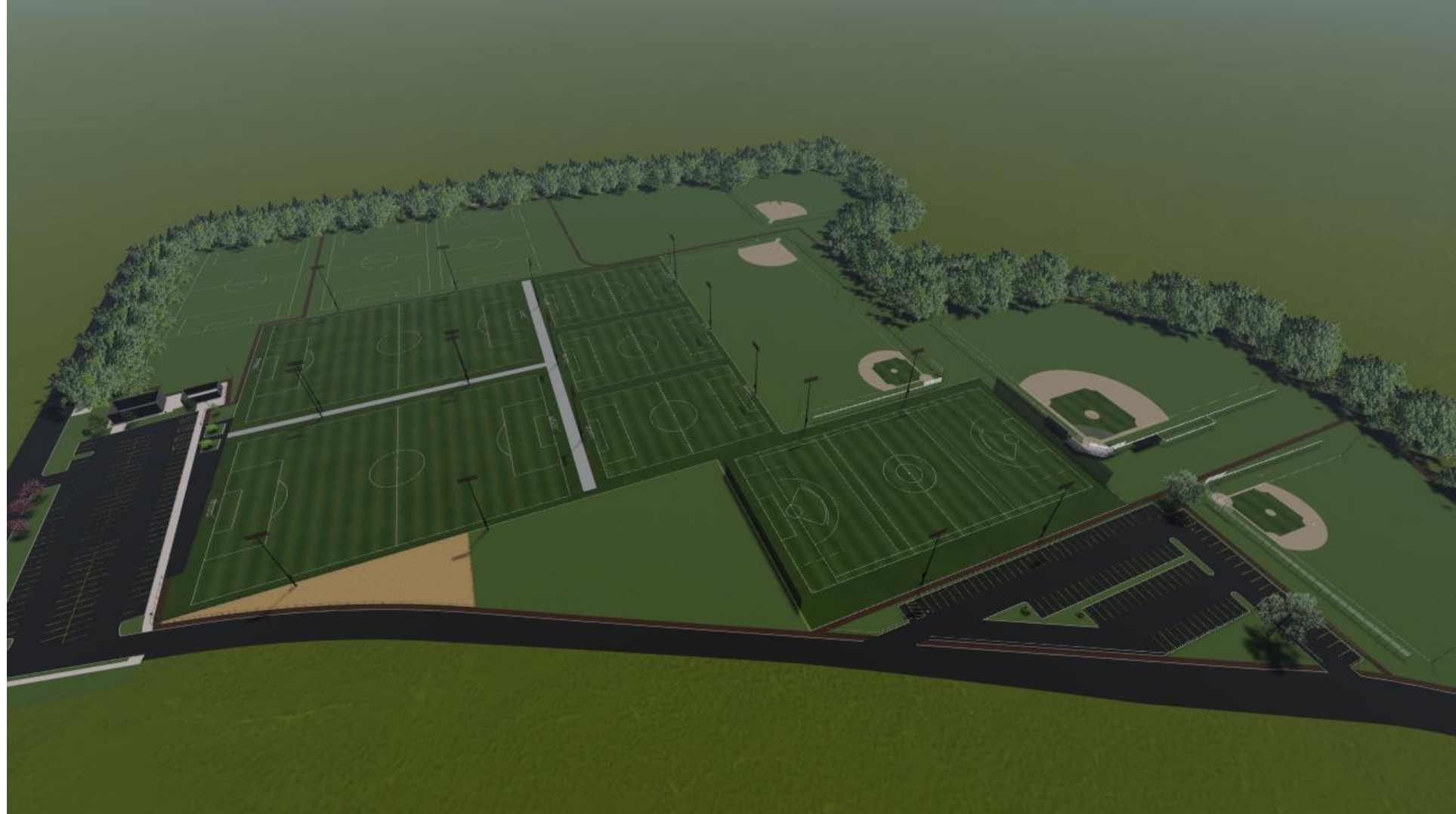
## Financing

- County investment of \$3 million secured in 2019
  - Previously announced by Legislator Lafazan
- School district investment of:
  - \$1 million mitigation payment from developer of 80 Jericho Turnpike
  - \$1 million received from developer of The Sagamore at Mills Pond
  - \$5.5 million from bond issue (requires voter approval)
- Total investment \$10.5 million
  - Annual debt service cost approximately 0.25% of levy.
  - Rolling off existing debt service of approx. 0.50% of levy.
  - Net change won't increase tax levy.
- Approx. \$300,000/year maintenance costs

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# PROJECT VISION

- Convert 6 grass fields to multi-sport synthetic turf.
- Add 1 mile asphalt walking/running path around perimeter for seniors and others
- Improve turf infields for baseball/softball
- Add/improve parking
- Add playground for younger children
- Other safety improvements
  - Security lighting
  - Surveillance cameras
  - Additional bathrooms



# STILLWELL – MORE DETAILS

## Next Steps

- Needs voter approval by Syosset school district  
May 18, 2021:
  - Must approve the sale for \$1.
  - Must approve the bond for \$5.5 million.
- Needs approval by County Legislature
- Needs approval by State Legislature

## Financing

- County investment of \$3 million from 2018
- School district investment of:
  - \$1 million pledged from developer of 80 Jericho Turnpike
  - \$1 million from developer of The Sagamore at Mills Pond
  - \$5.5 million from bond issue
- Total investment \$10.5 million.

# STILLWELL – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## What are the estimated operating costs?

Function	Cost
Grounds Staff	\$146,300
Security Staff	\$47,180
Turf Field Maintenance	\$112,000
Utilities	\$21,500
Other Materials & Supplies	\$9,500
Insurance	\$7,000
<b>Preliminary Annual Operating Costs</b>	<b>\$343,480</b>

## Are there any potential offsets to these costs?

Item	Potential Offset
Perform Turf Maintenance In-house	\$75,000
Pledged from Syosset Soccer	\$50,000
Current year busing	\$43,000
Other permit fees or tournaments, etc.	??
<b>Preliminary Total Offsets</b>	<b>\$168,000</b>

**Preliminary Net Operating Costs: \$175,480**

# STILLWELL – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## How would usage be prioritized?

1. As school district property, school district needs would take first priority.
2. Existing usage permits (for clubs like Syosset Soccer, etc.) must transfer with the property and continue to be honored.
3. The property would be open to County residents who would apply for a usage permit for any unused times through our Community Use of Facilities Policy.

## What uses are there other than athletics?

- Perimeter running/walking track open to residents during the school day.
- In-district field trips for environmental/ outdoor education.
- “Sensory Trail” similar to the [Autism Nature Trail](#) constructed at Letchworth State Park.
- Small portable stage and lawn for student arts/theater performances.
- Playground equipment for younger children.



# **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**







# SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- HB Thompson Middle School Student Government Representative
- Presentation on World Language Instruction
- Calendar Update: Closed for instruction on May 27 & 28 (Memorial Day Weekend)
- New Social Distancing Guidelines (6' → 3')
- Commencement/Moving Up Activities

# QUARANTINE RULES

## Close Contact – (Unchanged since March)

- Within 6' for a total of 10 minutes over 24 hours.
- Fully vaccinated persons do not have to quarantine after close contact with a COVID+ person
  - Fully vaccinated means 2 weeks after the last dose in a series (2<sup>nd</sup> dose of Pfizer/Moderna, 1<sup>st</sup> dose of J&J).
  - Only applies to the vaccinated individual.
    - Does not apply to unvaccinated family members of vaccinated persons (i.e. their children).
  - Expires 90 days after the last dose in a series.
  - <https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/DocumentCenter/View/32083/Update-to-COVID19-Community-Quarantine-Advisory-March-10-2021?bidId=>

## Travel

- As of 4/10/21, quarantine no longer required after international travel
  - [https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2021/04/updated\\_travel\\_advisory\\_april\\_10\\_2021a.pdf](https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2021/04/updated_travel_advisory_april_10_2021a.pdf)



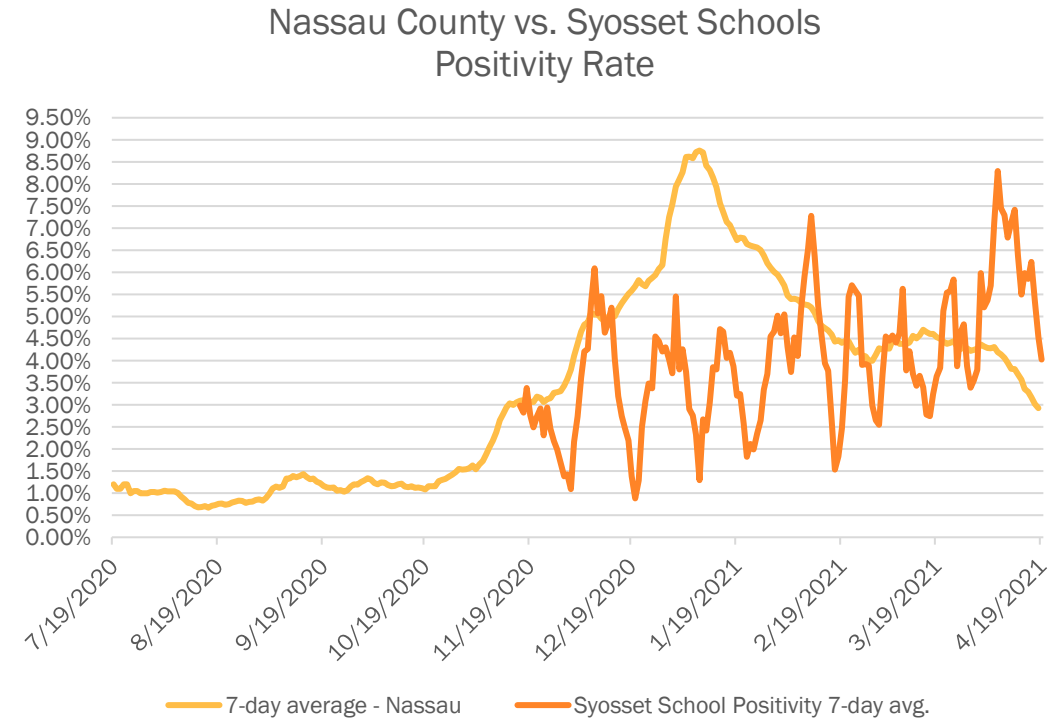
# **STATUS OF IN-PERSON LEARNING**

WHAT ARE THE CURRENT CONDITIONS RE COVID-19



# ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

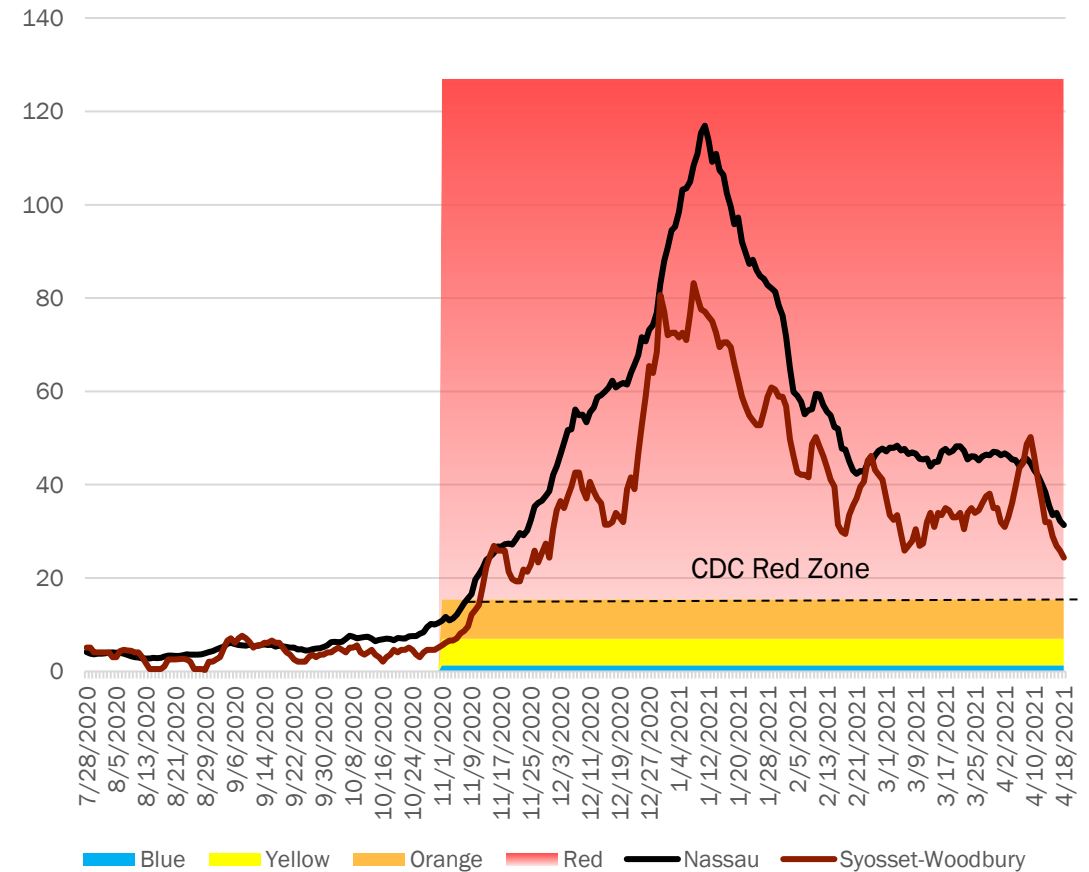
- The plateau has ended. County positivity rates have been dropping for 2 weeks.
- Syosset schools' positivity rates remain above Nassau County rates and remain influenced by the Spring Break spike.



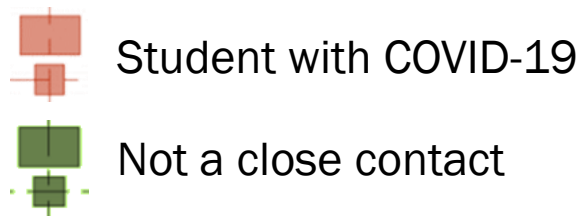
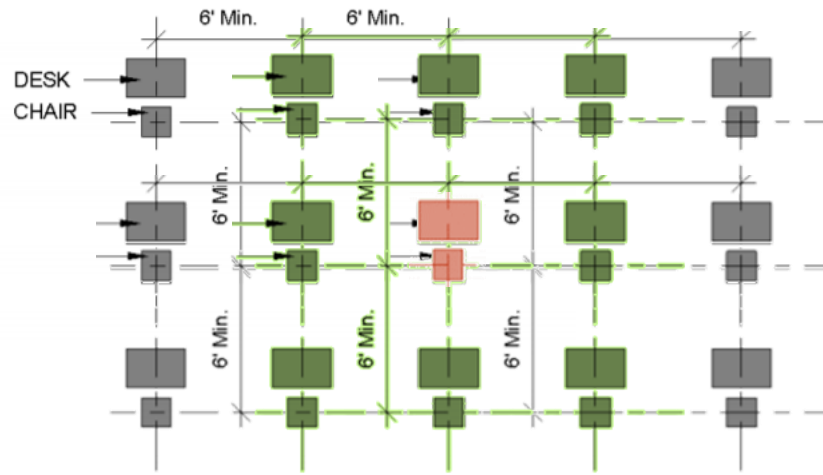
# ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

- Nassau County remains in the Red Zone
- High schools cannot be less than 6' social distance in a Red Zone unless operated in “cohorts” (like an elementary school)
- Rapid growth of Variants in NYC:
  - **27 percent** (2/24/21) <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/02/24/health/coronavirus-variant-nyc.html>
  - **51 percent** (3/10/21) <https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/coronavirus/all-new-yorkers-age-60-can-now-get-covid-vaccines-pharmacies-gain-bigger-role/2934602/>
  - **70 percent** (4/12/21) <https://gothamist.com/news/map-heres-where-the-covid-variants-are-spreading-most-in-nyc>

Nassau vs. Syosset-Woodbury  
Daily Cases per 100,000 (7-day average)



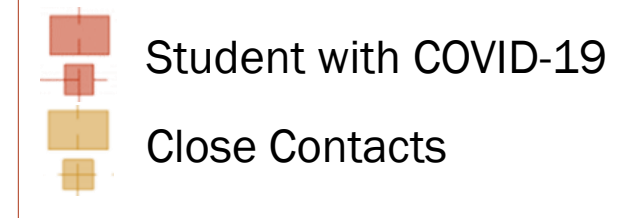
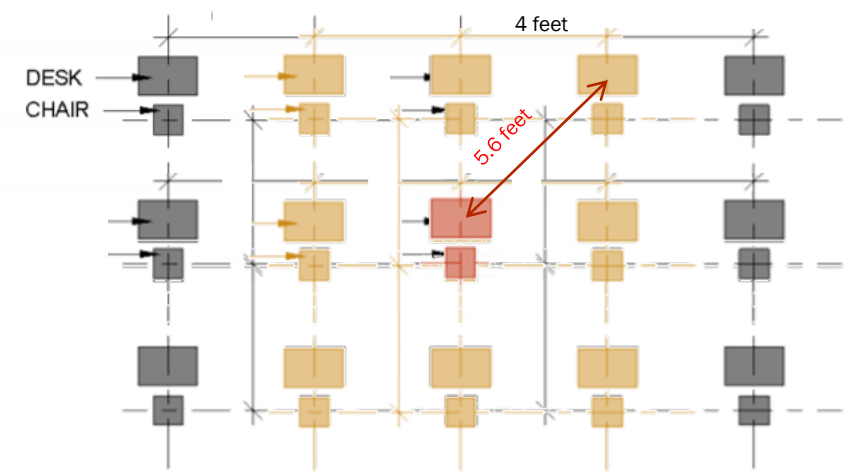
## CONTACT TRACING WITH DESKS 6 FEET APART



### Close Contact Rules Unchanged

- Currently 18 close contacts in quarantine at SHS
- If desks were at 4 feet, 176 students would be in quarantine at SHS today

## CONTACT TRACING WITH DESKS 4 FEET APART



## OTHER CONSIDERATIONS WITH REDUCED SOCIAL DISTANCE

- Each positive case will result in about 29 close contacts at 3'-4' social distance
- Increased numbers of students in quarantine
  - Currently 18 close contacts in quarantine at SHS
  - If desks were at 4 feet, 176 students would be in quarantine at SHS today
- Students in quarantine may not participate in athletics, prom or commencement activities
- If we average 1 case per day at Syosset High School for the remainder of the year (67 days), we will have approximately 1,900 students quarantined once (on average) between now and the end of school.
- If parents do not cooperate with District contact tracing, school may have to close until DOH contact tracers have completed their investigation.



# END OF YEAR EVENTS

COMMENCEMENT, MOVING UP, AND PROM





# MIDDLE AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

## Middle Schools

- Will take place at Syosset's outdoor stadium.
  - Monday June 21 and Tuesday June 22.
  - Details and Rain Date TBD
  - Maximum 200 capacity for spectators.
- Will require multiple ceremonies (like the high school graduation last year).
- No testing or vaccination will be required.

## Elementary Schools

- Moving Up Dates June 14 & 15.
  - Outdoor ceremonies (limit 200 people)
  - Rain date June 16
  - Other details TBD.
- Other celebratory activities:
  - Field Day – By grade level and over multiple days. Activity for the students and staff.
  - Gr. 5 picnic (or SG breakfast and RL Fun Day) – Activity for the students and staff. Virtual students will be invited.

# SYOSSET HIGH SCHOOL

## Commencement

- Will take place at Hofstra's outdoor stadium.
  - June 23, time TBD
  - At least 2,600 capacity for spectators.
- Must provide either:
  - Negative PCR test taken within exactly 72 hours.
  - Negative Rapid test taken within exactly 6 hours.
  - Proof of full vaccination (completed vaccine series + additional 2 weeks)
- Testing opportunities will be facilitated by the District [in advance of the event.](#)

## Prom and Senior Days

- If circumstances prevent a return to full in-person learning, we will host at least one "Senior Day" where 9th, 10th, and 11th graders learn remotely.
- Prom will be at the Heritage Club on June 17 at Bethpage Golf Course
  - Tents provided so rain or shine;
  - Will require 2 sessions to avoid exceeding capacity maximum (300).
  - Must provide either:
    - Negative PCR test taken within exactly 72 hours.
    - Negative Rapid test taken within exactly 6 hours.
    - Proof of full vaccination (completed vaccine series + additional 2 weeks)