

Financial Considerations 3

Millville Elementary School- Financial Considerations

On average, over the past 5 years an average of \$15,558 per year has been spent on Capital Improvement Projects for Millville Elementary School. This includes 3 big ticket items- oil tank replacement (2014) costing \$11, 913, and septic field (2010) costing \$50 620, and attic insulation (2013) valued at \$15 620. This total comes to \$77 790 in 5 years.

It is interesting to note that a substantial savings in heating cost, \$2,000 in the year following the attic insulation upgrade may be attributed in part to this improvement.

2015 Capital Improvement Projects Recommended		
PRIORITY 1	PRIORITY 2	PRIORITY 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Intercom system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Wheelchair lift and automatic door openers -Roof reshingling -Window replacement -Backflow prevention -Electrical upgrade (panels) - Ventilation system and electrical upgrade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Office relocation -Floor replacements -Siding replacement - Paving

Capital Improvement Projects are listed in order of priority from 1 to 3.

Currently, \$836,900 (eight hundred thirty-six thousand nine hundred dollars) worth of repairs and upgrades have been recommended for

Millville Elementary School. Some of these are normal, long term maintenance for any building.

We noted that 10 of the 11 Capital Improvement Projects have been designated as priority 2 or 3. In fact, they are of such low priority that the majority of the projects were recommended in the 2004 Sustainability study without follow through. The only priority 1 item listed was an intercom system. This has been described by District Superintendent, David Mc Timoney as a **low** priority 1.

We would like to address each of the recommendations individually:

Intercom System- Priority 1

The school has functioned for 66 years without an intercom system. The classrooms upstairs are located within ten feet of the office. In an emergency all classes are within shouting distance. A buzzer was installed 4 years ago to contact the office if required. Today's technology allows for instant communication through instant messaging systems. The teachers use 2-way radios during outside duty. The fire /evacuation alarm can be heard outside and students have been trained to respond to this accordingly. Although this is considered a priority # 1 item, it is a low priority one.

Wheelchair lift/automatic Doors- Priority 2

We have not had a requirement for a wheelchair/lift for approximately 23 years. Should the need arise, we are certain that a solution would be found. Until that time, it is not necessary.

Roof Shingling- Priority 2

There have been few issues with the roof to date and the roof is in good repair. This has been added to the list due to life expectancy of the current shingles.

Window Replacement- Priority 2

The south side windows were replaced in 2003 and 2005. The remaining windows are listed as in poor condition. They are presently categorized as priority 2.

Backflow Prevention- Priority 2

This install is typically done in structures hooked up to municipal systems. Millville Elementary has its own well and sewer system. Both have recently been updated. The sewer system has no backflow issues.

Electrical Upgrades- Priority 2

This upgrade is on the list due to the life expectancy of the current panels. The panels have been evaluated to be in good condition. This is part of normal long term maintenance at any school.

Ventilation System- Priority 2

The school is equipped with two Venmar systems. All rooms also have functioning windows that can accommodate air exchange.

Office Relocation- Priority 3

The rationale for moving the office does not make sense in light of the fact that students are escorted to and from the bus during loading and unloading time as required by district, by either the principal or a

teacher. All accesses to the school are locked throughout the day. A buzzer to announce visitors was installed four years ago. Staff admits all visitors. A security camera could be installed at a fraction of the cost. This is common in other schools in the district.

Floor Replacement- Priority 3

All of the floors in the school have been replaced with the exception of two low traffic areas (staff room and the library). The floors are in excellent condition with the exception of a few tiles. Floor replacement is unnecessary.

Siding Replacement- Priority 3

The siding on the building is the original siding. It is showing signs of wear, not surprising given its age.

Paving- Priority 2

The driveway and parking lot are currently gravel and have worked well in the past. There is a need for additional gravel to fill in pot holes as can be expected from time to time. This has minimal cost impact. The paved basketball area provides students with a hard surface for outdoor sports. This was paid for by community members and fundraising efforts.

The current sustainability study identifies 11 capital investment projects deemed needed for Millville Elementary. We believe this assessment to be misleading as the majority of the projects have been carried over since the last sustainability study 12 years ago. It seems reasonable to assume that they will remain low on the priority list in

the future. None of the recommendations listed are pressing or necessary at this time.