



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

February 16, 2023

City Council President Linda M. Morad and
Honorable Members of the City Council
133 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Council President Morad and Honorable Members of the City Council:

I am submitting for your approval an ORDER authorizing the Statement of Interest (SOI) Form to the Massachusetts School Building Authority for the following elementary school: Charles S. Ashley Elementary School, 122 Rochambeau Street, New Bedford.

Please see the attached memorandum from Superintendent Anderson, which provides further background.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jon Mitchell
Mayor



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

CITY COUNCIL

February 23, 2023

RESOLVED, Having convened in an open meeting on Thursday, February 23, 2023, prior to the closing date, the City Council of New Bedford, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated January 25, 2023, for the **Charles S. Ashley Elementary School** located at 122 Rochambeau St., New Bedford, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future for Priority 7: (Replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements). This SOI is specifically for replacement of an obsolete building; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City of New Bedford to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority



NEW BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PAUL RODRIGUES ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

455 County Street, New Bedford, MA 02740

www.newbedfordschools.org (508) 997-4511

KAREN A. TREADUP
DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT

ANDREW O'LEARY
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
FINANCE & OPERATIONS

THOMAS ANDERSON
SUPERINTENDENT

January 13, 2023

Mayor Jonathan Mitchell
City of New Bedford
133 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

Re: Charles S. Ashley and Jireh Swift Elementary Schools Core Projects

Dear Mayor Mitchell,

We are eligible to resubmit the Massachusetts School Building Authority's (MSBA) Statements of Interests (SOI) relative to the Charles S. Ashley and Jireh Swift Elementary Schools. These SOIs were initially submitted in FY2022, but did not progress. These SOIs are for Core Program projects under Priority 7, "Replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements." The MSBA reimbursements will be 80%, minus non-reimbursable items. The Capital Improvement Program anticipates funding for the local share of these Core projects. Our desired result for these two SOIs is for one new school to be built. Like the John B. DeValles/James B. Congdon Elementary Schools project, the MSBA requests that we submit two SOIs, one for each school.

These SOI applications incur no financial obligation on the part of the City. However, if the MSBA Board votes to allow this project to proceed, then I would anticipate a request for an appropriation during the first half of FY2025 to fund the project's Feasibility Study, an MSBA module intended to provide a guide to the procedures and approvals needed to work collaboratively with the MSBA. This SOI scope of work will be for replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements.

The following actions must occur in order for this SOI to be accepted:

1. The School Committee must vote using specific language prescribed by the MSBA, to authorize the submission of these Core SOIs for each specific school.
2. The City Council must vote using specific language prescribed by the MSBA, to authorize the submission of these SOIs for each specific school.
3. The City Clerk must certify a copy of the votes of the City Council and must submit a copy of the full text of the certified votes to the MSBA on or before the deadline for submission of the SOI (April 01, 2023).
4. The minutes of the meeting at which the School Committee votes to authorize the Superintendent to submit these SOIs, reflecting the votes with specific references to the school, must be signed by the Chairperson of the School Committee and submitted to the MSBA. This set of minutes must be received by the MSBA on or before the deadline for submission of new SOIs (April 14, 2023).

Sincerely,

Thomas Anderson, Superintendent

TA/br

Enclosures

Massachusetts School Building Authority

Next Steps to Finalize Submission of your FY 2023 Statement of Interest

Thank you for submitting an FY 2023 Statement of Interest (SOI) to the MSBA electronically. **Please note, the District's submission is not yet complete if the District selected statutory priority 1 or priority 3.** If either of these priorities were selected, the District is required to mail the required supporting documentation to the MSBA, which is described below.

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION FOR SOI STATUTORY PRIORITIES #1 AND #3: If a District selects Statutory priority #1 and/or priority #3, the District is required to submit additional documentation with its SOI.

- If a District selects statutory priority #1, Replacement or renovation of a building which is structurally unsound or otherwise in a condition seriously jeopardizing the health and safety of the school children, where no alternative exists, the MSBA requires a hard copy of the engineering or other report detailing the nature and severity of the problem and a written professional opinion of how imminent the system failure is likely to manifest itself. The District also must submit photographs of the problematic building area or system to the MSBA.
- If a District selects statutory priority #3, Prevention of a loss of accreditation, the SOI will not be considered complete unless and until a summary of the accreditation report focused on the deficiency as stated in this SOI is provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: In addition to the information required above, the District may also provide any reports, pictures, or other information they feel will give the MSBA a better understanding of the issues identified at a facility.

If you have any questions about the SOI process please contact the MSBA at 617-720-4466 or SOI@massschoolbuildings.org.

Massachusetts School Building Authority

School District New Bedford

District Contact Barry Rabinovitch TEL: (508) 997-4511

Name of School Charles S Ashley

Submission Date 1/25/2023

SOI CERTIFICATION

To be eligible to submit a Statement of Interest (SOI), a district must certify the following:

- ☒ The district hereby acknowledges and agrees that this SOI is NOT an application for funding and that submission of this SOI in no way commits the MSBA to accept an application, approve an application, provide a grant or any other type of funding, or places any other obligation on the MSBA.
- ☒ The district hereby acknowledges that no district shall have any entitlement to funds from the MSBA, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 70B or the provisions of 963 CMR 2.00.
- ☒ The district hereby acknowledges that the provisions of 963 CMR 2.00 shall apply to the district and all projects for which the district is seeking and/or receiving funds for any portion of a municipally-owned or regionally-owned school facility from the MSBA pursuant to M.G.L. c. 70B.
- ☒ The district hereby acknowledges that this SOI is for one existing municipally-owned or regionally-owned public school facility in the district that is currently used or will be used to educate public PreK-12 students and that the facility for which the SOI is being submitted does not serve a solely early childhood or Pre-K student population.
- ☒ Prior to the submission of the SOI, the district will schedule and hold a meeting at which the School Committee will vote, using the specific language contained in the "Vote" tab, to authorize the submission of this SOI. This is required for cities, towns, and regional school districts.
- ☒ Prior to the submission of the SOI, the district will schedule and hold a meeting at which the City Council/Board of Aldermen or Board of Selectmen/equivalent governing body will vote, using the specific language contained in the "Vote" tab, to authorize the submission of this SOI. This is not required for regional school districts.
- ☒ The district hereby acknowledges that current vote documentation is required for all SOI submissions. The district will use the MSBA's vote template and the required votes will specifically reference the school name and the priorities for which the SOI is being submitted.
- ☒ The district hereby acknowledges that it must upload all required vote documentation on the "Vote" tab, in the format required by the MSBA. All votes must be certified or signed and on city, town or district letterhead.
- ☒ The district hereby acknowledges that this SOI submission will not be complete until the MSBA has received all required supporting documentation for statutory priority 1 and statutory priority 3. If statutory priority 1 is selected, your SOI will not be considered complete unless and until you provide the required engineering (or other) report, a professional opinion regarding the problem, and photographs of the problematic area or system. If statutory priority 3 is selected, your SOI will not be considered complete unless and until you provide a summary of the accreditation report focused on the deficiency as stated in this SOI. The documentation noted above must be post-marked and submitted to the MSBA by the Core Program SOI filing period closure date.

**LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT/SCHOOL COMMITTEE CHAIR
(E.g., Mayor, Town Manager, Board of Selectmen)**

Chief Executive Officer * **School Committee Chair** **Superintendent of Schools**

_____	_____	_____
(signature)	(signature)	(signature)
Date	Date	Date

* Local chief executive officer: In a city or town with a manager form of government, the manager of the municipality; in other cities, the mayor; and in other towns, the board of selectmen unless, in a city or town, some other municipal office is designated to the chief executive office under the provisions of a local charter. Please note, in districts where the Superintendent is also the Local Chief Executive Officer, it is required for the same person to sign the Statement of Interest Certifications twice.

Massachusetts School Building Authority

School District New Bedford

District Contact Barry Rabinovitch TEL: (508) 997-4511

Name of School Charles S Ashley

Submission Date 1/25/2023

Note

The following Priorities have been included in the Statement of Interest:

1. ☐ Replacement or renovation of a building which is structurally unsound or otherwise in a condition seriously jeopardizing the health and safety of school children, where no alternative exists.
2. ☐ Elimination of existing severe overcrowding.
3. ☐ Prevention of the loss of accreditation.
4. ☐ Prevention of severe overcrowding expected to result from increased enrollments.
5. ☐ Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility.
6. ☐ Short term enrollment growth.
7. ☒ Replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements.
8. ☐ Transition from court-ordered and approved racial balance school districts to walk-to, so-called, or other school districts.

SOI Vote Requirement

☒ I acknowledge that I have reviewed the MSBA's vote requirements for submitting an SOI, which are set forth in the Vote Tab of this SOI. I understand that the MSBA requires votes from specific parties/governing bodies, in a specific format using the language provided by the MSBA. Further, I understand that the MSBA requires certified and signed vote documentation to be submitted with the SOI. I acknowledge that my SOI will not be considered complete and, therefore, will not be reviewed by the MSBA unless the required accompanying vote documentation is submitted to the satisfaction of the MSBA. All SOI vote documentation must be uploaded on the Vote Tab.

SOI Program: Core

Potential Project Scope: Potential New School

Is this a Potential Consolidation? Yes

If "YES", Please describe Potential Consolidation that is anticipated at the school.

The current Ashley and Swift Elementary Schools are 1.4 miles apart. The Ashley School is 101 years old and the Swift Elementary is 115 years old. the combined enrollments of the two schools during the 2022 -2023 school year is 504 students. An Ashley Swift consolidation makes sense because it takes two 100 + year old schools off our inventory of schools and replaces it with a new school. This makes educational and fiscal sense. This is part of a district facilities plan that has used the ARP program to update our 1950 - 1970 buildings while we try to replace our 100+ year old buildings with the CORE program using consolidation.

Is this SOI the District Priority SOI? No

School name of the District Priority SOI: John B Devalles

Is this part of a larger facilities plan? Yes

If "YES", please provide the following:

Facilities Plan Date: 1/2/2001

Planning Firm: Mount Vernon Group

Please provide a brief summary of the plan including its goals and how the school facility that is the subject of this SOI fits into that plan:

The city hired this firm to do a feasibility study of the twenty-three elementary schools. The purpose of this study was to document existing conditions at each school, assess site sizes relative to expansion; determine the cost of renovations/additions and or new construction, establish enrollment projections for the next ten years at the elementary level PK - 5 and develop long-range facilities use alternatives.

The option that New Bedford followed started with building three new Middle Schools with grades 6-8.

The next steps in the plan called for the enhancement of buildings built in the 60's and 70's, and replacing buildings that 100 years old or older.

Please provide the current student to teacher ratios at the school facility that is the subject of this SOI: 18 students per teacher

Please provide the originally planned student to teacher ratios at the school facility that is the subject of this SOI: 24 students per teacher

Does the District have a Master Educational Plan that includes facility goals for this building and all school buildings in District? No

Does the District have related report(s)/document(s) that detail its facilities, student configurations at each facility, and District operational budget information, both current and proposed? Yes

If "YES", please provide title, author, and date of report in area below.

2022 District Budget - Assistant Superintendent O'Leary Students: Index 2021-2022 - Data Specialist 2022

Facilities and Maintenance Handbook - Al Oliveira Facilities Director

Please include a hard copy of these report(s)/document(s).

Is there overcrowding at the school facility? No

If "YES", please describe in detail, including specific examples of the overcrowding.

Has the district had any recent teacher layoffs or reductions? No

If "YES", how many teaching positions were affected? 0

At which schools in the district?

Please describe the types of teacher positions that were eliminated (e.g., art, math, science, physical education, etc.).

Has the district had any recent staff layoffs or reductions? No

If "YES", how many staff positions were affected? 0

At which schools in the district?

Please describe the types of staff positions that were eliminated (e.g., guidance, administrative, maintenance, etc.).

Please provide a description of the program modifications as a consequence of these teacher and/or staff reductions, including the impact on district class sizes and curriculum.

Does not apply

Please provide a description of the local budget approval process for a potential capital project with theMSBA. Include schedule information (i.e. Town Meeting dates, city council/town council meetings dates, regional school

committee meeting dates). Provide, if applicable, the District's most recent budget approval process that resulted in a budget reduction and the impact of the reduction to the school district (staff reductions, discontinued programs, consolidation of facilities).

The 2020 - 2025 Capital Needs Assessment (CNA) Plan was created to develop the FY2020 - 2025 Capital Improvement Plan. The City has planned for the City's share of potential MSBA projects including: Deferred Maintenance = \$1,935,000; MSBA Accelerated Repair Projects = \$6,512,904 and MSBA Core Projects = \$52,000,000. The latest Capital Improvement Bond was passed by the City Council on May 27, 2021.

General Description

BRIEF BUILDING HISTORY: Please provide a detailed description of when the original building was built, and the date(s) and project scopes(s) of any additions and renovations (maximum of 5000 characters).

The Charles S. Ashley School is a multilevel, brick masonry exterior wall building on a raised basement level. The building has masonry parapets with internally pitched roofs at varying heights. Construction of the building began approximately in 1922. The building plan is very similar to the Mt. Pleasant School. It is a common cruciform shape, which is basically symmetrical. This layout is used repetitively on several floors with some modifications.

There have been no additions to this building.

no major repairs with exception to the following:

- 2017: LED light conversion, steam traps upgrades
- 2019: minor roof/flashing repairs
- 2020: radiator covers, vestibule 2021: new entrance doors

The building described above is typically accessed through the entrance located off Norman Street. The overall building dimensions measured approximately 250'-0" north to south and 154'-4" east to west, measured at its widest points. The gross footprint area is 23,310 square feet and a total square footage of 61,840 square feet

TOTAL BUILDING SQUARE FOOTAGE: Please provide the original building square footage PLUS the square footage of any additions.

61840

SITE DESCRIPTION: Please provide a detailed description of the current site and any known existing conditions that would impact a potential project at the site. Please note whether there are any other buildings, public or private, that share this current site with the school facility. What is the use(s) of this building(s)? (maximum of 5000 characters).

The property is bordered by Brooklawn Street to the north, Cartisle Street to the south, Rochambeau Street to the west and Ashley Boulevard to the east. The school building & site occupy the entire city block. The site is surrounded on three sides by a single-family residential neighborhood and across for Brooklawn Park. Next to the school is a large field with a playground at one end. This field would make an excellent site for a new school or addition. The site is 3.8 acres.

visual observations indicate relatively minimal gradation changes around the building and paved areas. It is noted however that substantial grade variations occur along the east side of the site. A change in elevation of 10 feet was determined, from the rear of the building to the eastern border of the site.

There are no overhead utilities; electricity and water are fed to the building from the Rochambeau Street.

There is a fair amount of original landscape in place; there is however a lack of a coherent landscape plan. The site is partially covered with original bituminous concrete surface on both the north and south sides of the school.

There are mature shade trees along the perimeter of the site, lawns are extensive and in good condition.

ADDRESS OF FACILITY: Please type address, including number, street name and city/town, if available, or describe the location of the site. (Maximum of 300 characters)

122 Rochambeau St., New Bedford 02470

BUILDING ENVELOPE: Please provide a detailed description of the building envelope, types of construction materials used, and any known problems or existing conditions (maximum of 5000 characters).

The exterior walls are of solid unreinforced masonry wall construction. Typical exterior punched openings in the brick are supported with stone lintels bearing on adjacent masonry as well as arched masonry openings. The main entrance to the building located on Carlisle Street. There are six additional entranceways located around the sides and back of the building, which have similar details. There are several continuous stone bands around the building as well as limestone entrance archways and stone ornamental elements throughout the façade. The granite base course of the foundation is in fair condition and there were no notable signs of damage.

The building masonry façade remains virtually unchanged since the original construction. The mortar joints over time have deteriorated in many locations and require repointing. There is water damage at the northeast entrance. There is no visual evidence of insulation the wall system, which is not consistent with current energy efficient construction practices.

Has there been a Major Repair or Replacement of the EXTERIOR WALLS? NO

Year of Last Major Repair or Replacement:(YYYY) 1922

Description of Last Major Repair or Replacement:

No major repairs have been done to the exterior walls.

Roof Section A

Is the District seeking replacement of the Roof Section? YES

Area of Section (square feet) 23500

Type of ROOF (e.g., PVC, EPDM, Shingle, Slate, Tar & Gravel, Other (please describe))

a tar/gravel built-up system on top of a wood frame structure with copper parapet flashing. This is a common system amongst flat roofed school structures in the city.

Age of Section (number of years since the Roof was installed or replaced) 30

Description of repairs, if applicable, in the last three years. Include year of repair:

Leaks repaired when observed

Window Section A

Is the District seeking replacement of the Windows Section? YES

Windows in Section (count) 200

Type of WINDOWS (e.g., Single Pane, Double Pane, Other (please describe))

The window system for the most part is incorporated into the door systems. They are comprised of hollow metal doors with glass lights, and pressed metal doorframes with transoms. All of the openings are single pane, and are not thermally broken.

Age of Section (number of years since the Windows were installed or replaced) 34

Description of repairs, if applicable, in the last three years. Include year of repair:

If a window was broken it was repaired.

MECHANICAL and ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS: Please provide a detailed description of the current mechanical and electrical systems and any known problems or existing conditions (maximum of 5000 characters).

- The boiler room is provided with two (2) individual Weil McClain cast iron sectional boilers. Each boiler generates low-pressure steam and connects to an overhead header, which distributes out to heating equipment at various zones throughout the building. Each boiler is provided with a Single No. 2 fuel oil burner as well as dual low water cut-offs and all operating and safety controls.

The existing electrical service consists of two (2) services. An original main switch is located in the Janitor's Room. The first service rating is rated at: 400 amps, 120/240 volt, 10 , 3wire manufactured by FPE. The second service is rated at 1 OOA with a 480/277 volt meter. It was fed through a conduit with 4 #3 conductors. The conduit was sealed, but water was present. There were no transformers present in the building. The condition of the equipment is poor. The power company is NSTAR

Boiler Section 1

Is the District seeking replacement of the Boiler? YES

Is there more than one boiler room in the School? NO

What percentage of the School is heated by the Boiler? 100

Type of heating fuel (e.g., Heating Oil, Natural Gas, Propane, Other)

heating oil

Age of Boiler (number of years since the Boiler was installed or replaced) 25

Description of repairs, if applicable, in the last three years. Include year of repair:

none

Has there been a Major Repair or Replacement of the HVAC SYSTEM? NO

Year of Last Major Repair or Replacement:(YYYY) 1922

Description of Last Major Repair or Replacement:

No major repairs to the HVAC system have been done

Has there been a Major Repair or Replacement of the ELECTRICAL SERVICES AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM? NO

Year of Last Major Repair or Replacement:(YYYY) 1922

Description of Last Major Repair or Replacement:

No major repairs have been done to the electrical system.

BUILDING INTERIOR: Please provide a detailed description of the current building interior including a description of the flooring systems, finishes, ceilings, lighting, etc. (maximum of 5000 characters).

Interior Lighting SYStem: Existing classroom lighting consists of 1' x 4' wraparound down light, both pendant and surface mounted

fixtures. The existing lighting system contributes substantial glare onto computer screens present in classrooms. Lighting in the corridors is 1' x 4' wraparound, surface mounted fixtures. Corridor light levels are low. The stage is equipped with old "A" lamp front border lights and new colortran spotlights at the back of the auditorium. The seating floor is lit by HID fixtures. Gymnasium lighting is HID fixtures. Most exit lights were antiquated, built-in wall units.

Emergency Lighting SYStem: The emergency lighting system is battery units. The system does not appear to meet present code in corridors

The typical corridors consist of a glazed brick wainscot to a height of 61 " above finished floor, painted plaster above, and two rows of clothes hooks near the top of the glazed tile. Typical classroom walls are painted veneer plaster over masonry back up. Doors, windows, and base trim are original wood, which is varnished. The interior wall finishes are original with the exception of conventional gypsum board walls were noted in the Auditorium. The ceiling consists of painted plaster throughout the classrooms, corridors, auditorium, and stairs, painted concrete ceilings throughout the basement and gymnasium

Typical classroom floor, offices, auditorium, and gymnasium are strip hardwood flooring. The corridors on the first and second floors are poured in place terrazzo. The basement level consists mostly of concrete slab on grade.

PROGRAMS and OPERATIONS: Please provide a detailed description of the current grade structure and programs offered and indicate whether there are program components that cannot be offered due to facility constraints, operational constraints, etc. (maximum of 5000 characters).

Currently there are 12 general education classrooms - Grades K to 5, with two classes at each grade level.

In addition, there is a grade K-2 substantially separate classroom (mainly ASD students), a grade 3-5 substantially separate classroom and a substantially separate 3-5 (cognitive impairment)

Total of 15 classrooms

Due to space constraints, we are unable to have a dedicated sensory room for students.

No calming area/room.

We also have shared spaces due to space constraints(for example, my special Ed teacher shares a space with speech and OT) and specialists do not have their own spaces, they travel to classrooms

Many special Ed students also need ABA services and those are also provided in shared spaces.

. Building limitations: not enough electrical outlets for all the technology
 Not enough staff or student restrooms.
 Not enough parking for all staff - although I have already requested expansion.
 Not enough water fountains/bottle filling stations
 Intercom system is old and not consistent in all areas
 Lack of available telephones
 Some classroom closets are unusable due to previous water damage
 Windows- can't see out many of them
 Doors- need frequent maintenance in order to close and lock consistently

EDUCATIONAL SPACES: Please provide a detailed description of the Educational Spaces within the facility, a description of the number and sizes (in square feet) of classrooms, a description of science rooms/labs including ages and most recent updates, a description of the cafeteria, gym and/or auditorium and a description of the media center/library (maximum of 5000 characters).

First Floor SF Classroom 812 SF Classroom 812 SF Classroom 812 SF Classroom 812 SF Classroom 837 SF
 Classroom 837 SF Classroom 828 SF Classroom 828 SF Classroom 828 SF Classroom 828 SF Classroom 342 SF
 Classroom 617 SF Classroom 560 SF
 N.B. Police . 234 SF Principal's Office 251 SF Stage 327 SF
 Subtotal Net 13,560 SF
 Second Floor SF Classroom 603 SF Classroom 603 SF Classroom 603 SF Classroom 603 SF Classroom 637 SF
 Classroom 637 SF Classroom 626 SF Classroom 626 SF Classroom 626 SF Classroom 626 SF Office 226 SF
 Nurse 206 SF
 Subtotal Net 8,632 SF
 Total Net 30,564 SF
 Total Gross 61,840 SF

CAPACITY and UTILIZATION: Please provide the original design capacity and a detailed description of the current capacity and utilization of the school facility. If the school is overcrowded, please describe steps taken by the administration to address capacity issues. Please also describe in detail any spaces that have been converted from their intended use to be used as classroom space (maximum of 5000 characters).

The building capacity is 375 students. The Current enrollment is 265. A combined Ashley/Swift consolidation would bring the enrollment to 504 students. A four track school with a maximum class size of 22 students could have an enrollment of 528 (PK- 5.) Due to space constraints, we are unable to have a dedicated sensory room for students.

No calming area/room.

We also have shared spaces due to space constraints(for example, my special Ed teacher shares a space with speech and OT) and specialists do not have their own spaces, they travel to classrooms

Many special Ed students also need ABA services and those are also provided in shared spaces.

. Building limitations: not enough electrical outlets for all the technology
 Not enough staff or student restrooms.
 Not enough parking for all staff - although I have already requested expansion.
 Not enough water fountains/bottle filling stations
 Intercom system is old and not consistent in all areas
 Lack of available telephones
 Some classroom closets are unusable due to previous water damage
 Windows- can't see out many of them
 Doors- need frequent maintenance in order to close and lock consistently

MAINTENANCE and CAPITAL REPAIR: Please provide a detailed description of the district's current maintenance practices, its capital repair program, and the maintenance program in place at the facility that is

the subject of this SOI. Please include specific examples of capital repair projects undertaken in the past, including any override or debt exclusion votes that were necessary (maximum of 5000 characters).

The Facilities and Operations Department plans and manages maintenance projects. These projects are identified during annual building inspections and as a result of routine or emergency maintenance calls throughout the year. Typically these projects involve building systems or infrastructure of existing spaces throughout the district. Maintenance projects are prioritized based on the urgency of the defect and available funding each fiscal year. The School Department uses both preventive and deferred maintenance to effectively maintain the condition of physical facilities to support the School Department's educational programs, support services, and research initiatives, etc. No debt exclusion has occurred since the law was passed. The Five year Capital Needs Assessment informs our Capital Improvement plan The City has planned for 52 million bonding for the City's share of two Core projects.

Priority 7

Question 1: Please provide a detailed description of the programs not currently available due to facility constraints, the state or local requirement for such programs, and the facility limitations precluding the programs from being offered.

Due to space constraints, we are unable to have a dedicated sensory room for students and no calming area/room, these spaces are necessary for children on the autism spectrum.

We also have shared spaces due to space constraints(for example, my special Ed teacher shares a space with speech and OT) and specialists do not have their own spaces, they travel to classrooms, traveling specialists limit curricular options.

Many special Ed students also need ABA services and those are also provided in shared spaces.

Not enough electrical outlets for all the technology,

Not enough staff or student restrooms, the only student restrooms are on the bottom floor requiring a lot of travel time and missed classroom time.

Life Safety issues include lack of a Fire Alarm system, not enough water fountains/bottle filling stations, , an intercom system is old and not consistent in all areas, and Lack of available telephones. There are many Code issues that would need to addressed for this building to be used in the future,.

Some classroom closets are unusable due to previous water damage

Windows- can't see out any of them

Doors- need frequent maintenance in order to close and lock consistently

Most of the lack of space issues affect our ability to adequately service our special education students, that with the lack of handicapped accessibility limits who can attend this school.

Priority 7

Question 2: Please describe the measures the district has taken or is planning to take in the immediate future to mitigate the problem(s) described above.

A feasibility Study was prepared in 2001 to identify health, safety, and code issues in all New Bedford Elementary schools. The district followed the recommendations in the study by building three new middle schools between 2001 and 2006 to reduce overcrowding in the elementary schools and improve the educational opportunities for sixth graders. The District continued to implement the plan by replacing some of the Spanish American School Buildings. The Lincoln School was built in 2010, replacing three old school buildings. The Hannigan School was torn down and replaced with the Irwin Jacobs School, the 114-year-old Taylor School was closed, and a new addition was added to the Sea Lab for the Taylor at Sea Lab.

We have recently moved from the Eligibility stage into the Feasibility stage for a consolidation project for DeValles and Congdon Elementary Schools. After this project there still are five 100 + year old buildings needing replacement. This Core project application is for the consolidation of the Ashley and Swift elementary schools. This will further our goal to eliminate the old red stone buildings and have them replaced by new schools.

Our intent is to submit two CORE SOI's with the same preferred outcome. One new school on the Ashley grounds. The Schools are within 1.4 miles distance of each other.

Priority 7

Question 3: Please provide a detailed explanation of the impact of the problem described in this priority on your district's educational program. Please include specific examples of how the problem prevents the district from delivering the educational program it is required to deliver and how students and/or teachers are directly affected by the problem identified.

Due to space constraints, we are unable to have a dedicated sensory room for students and no calming area/room, these spaces are necessary for children on the autism spectrum. Most of the lack of space issues affect our ability to adequately service our special education students, that with the lack of handicapped accessibility limits who can attend this school. We also have shared spaces due to space constraints(for example, the Special Ed Teacher shares a space with speech and OT Teacher and specialists do not have their own spaces, they travel to classrooms, traveling specialists limit curricular options. Shared office space violates privacy rights of individual students.

Many special Ed students also need ABA services and those are also provided in shared spaces.

Not enough electrical outlets for all the technology, this limits one on one learning.

Not enough staff or student restrooms, the only student restrooms are on the bottom floor requiring a lot of travel time and missed classroom time.

Life Safety issues include lack of a Fire Alarm system, not enough water fountains/bottle filling stations, , an intercom system is old and not consistent in all areas, and Lack of available telephones.

Some classroom closets are unusable due to previous water damage

Windows- can't see out many of them, limiting natural light and vitamin D.

Doors- need frequent maintenance in order to close and lock consistently which presents a safety issue.

CERTIFICATIONS

The undersigned hereby certifies that, to the best of his/her knowledge, information and belief, the statements and information contained in this statement of Interest and attached hereto are true and accurate and that this Statement of Interest has been prepared under the direction of the district school committee and the undersigned is duly authorized to submit this Statement of Interest to the Massachusetts School Building Authority. The undersigned also hereby acknowledges and agrees to provide the Massachusetts School Building Authority, upon request by the Authority, any additional information relating to this Statement of Interest that may be required by the Authority.

Chief Executive Officer ***School Committee Chair****Superintendent of Schools**_____
(signature)_____
(signature)_____
(signature)_____
Date_____
Date_____
Date

* Local chief executive officer: In a city or town with a manager form of government, the manager of the municipality; in other cities, the mayor; and in other towns, the board of selectmen unless, in a city or town, some other municipal office is designated to the chief executive office under the provisions of a local charter. Please note, in districts where the Superintendent is also the Local Chief Executive Officer, it is required for the same person to sign the Statement of Interest Certifications twice.