

To: Board of Education for the January 12, 2023, Regular Meeting  
Copies Sent to Members of the Building Committee for Small Projects

From: Adam S. Burrows - Superintendent of Schools

**Re: Agenda Item V-8 (Old Business) - Capital Improvement Plan**

1. Capital Improvements for our school system will be paid, as much as possible, by the annual Board of Education operating budget.
2. VES is an older school with sections built in 1953, 1970, 1990, and 2000. Every effort is made to keep the school in excellent repair. The central office is 35-years old and needs a new HVAC system.
3. We have made repairs and replacements, as needed, rather than build a new school.
4. We have not requested special allocations of funds for unanticipated repairs, but we know that the Board of Selectmen would schedule a town meeting for the citizens to review a special allocation.
5. We have had excellent successes in writing and receiving federal and state grants that have become available and some grants have paid for the complete cost of a project.
6. Voluntown receives about 62% reimbursement for “eligible” expenditures for state grants that require full payment by the town prior to securing from the State Department of Education.
7. The town, from time to time, does create accounts to create a local fund for an identified facilities update to keep the school in good repair.
8. Our Maintenance and Facilities Budget is annually developed through our established IAQ/TfS/Safety Committee or Indoor Air Quality-Tools for Schools-Safety as part of a comprehensive approach to gather appropriate information, prioritize projects and follow-through on frequent building inspections.

**Completed and Upcoming Capital Improvement Projects**

*Please note some numbers below are rough estimates of the actual amounts.*

<b>Project</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Projected Cost</b>	<b>Estimated Final Cost to Town</b>
Boilers	2008	\$280,000	\$117,000 (Remaining Balance paid by state)
Tech Infrastructure Upgrade	2007	\$195,000	\$0.00 (State Technology Grant)
Security Improvements	2012	\$136,000	\$47,600
Roof	2016	\$1,104,304	\$435,000
Stairway to Field (with Rec)	2017	\$180,000	\$0.00 (State Bond Commission)
Pre-K Expansion	2017	\$95,000	\$0.00 (OEC – Office Early Childhood Grant)
Oil Tank Replacement	2019	\$200,000	\$66,000 (\$112,742.49 was paid by the state)
Roof Top Air Handlers	2021	\$46,000	\$0.00 (ESSER II Funds)
Pavilion	2022	\$67,000	\$0.00 (ESSER II Funds)
A/C Gymnasium	2023	\$72,000	\$0.00 (ESSER III federal grant funds)
Telephone System Upgrade	2023	\$14,500	\$0.00 (ESSER III)
Video Surveillance Upgrade	2023	\$60,000	\$0.00 (ESSER III)
Asbestos Abatement	2023	\$112,742.90	\$0.00 (Oil Tank reimbursement to town)
Security for all Entrances	2023/24	\$29,000	ESSER and Operating Budget

*A \$170,000 competitive HVAC grant was submitted on 21-1-22 to the CTSDE School Facilities Department and we are waiting to see if our school system was selected for this allocation. The request is for: HVAC replacement in the central office, A/C in the school library, rooms 27,29, 36, and 38, electrical upgrades, and purification.*

**Projected Future Capital Improvement Projects**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Projected Cost</b>	<b>Estimated Final Cost to Town</b>
Gym Sliding Door	2024/25	\$120,000	Perhaps a special request to Town
Sound System for Gym	2024/25	\$14,000	Operating Budget
BOE Room – Remote Access	2024/25	\$15,000	Operating Budget
Central Office Repairs	2024/25	\$31,800	Operating Budget

*New school buses will be needed in 2025/26 and our School Transportation Committee monitors the “wear life” of all our vehicles and the costs of repairs and maintenance. We have had success in running our own bus company and utilizing a five-year lease-purchase program to minimize budget increases.*

(ASB on 1-8-23)