

ENCLOSURE NO. 8

OCT 23 2007

APPROVED

EDUCATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS

Stratfield Elementary School

Fairfield Public Schools

Fairfield, CT 06825

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RATIONALE FOR THE PROJECT

BACKGROUND:

On February 13, 2007 the Fairfield Board of Education adopted the Fairfield Public Schools Facilities Plan. The plan responds to the ongoing need for additional school space to accommodate the continued increase in elementary student population and the renovation of elementary schools. The renovation of Stratfield Elementary School is a major recommendation for space for our increasing student enrollment. The Facilities Plan also states that elementary schools undergoing major renovations will be designed using the same educational specifications and standards as used for the Burr Elementary and McKinley Elementary Schools.

On October 3, 2007 the Town Facilities Commission presented a report to the Board of Selectmen that stated that Stratfield Elementary School is worthy of a renovation which should include replacement of existing portable classrooms via an addition to the existing building, updating of mechanical systems and other alterations as determined by the design team.

ENROLLMENT:

Between 1997 and 2007, the number of elementary students has increased from approximately 4009 students to over 4823. This represents an increase of over 814 students or 20.3% growth. This growth pattern has been documented in a number of facility reports and student enrollment studies. Applied Data Services has completed 10 year enrollment projections by school that project slight decline in the overall elementary population. The most recent enrollments (October 1, 2007) show a continued increase. Applied Data Services will complete new projections based on the most recent figures. An important factor in projecting enrollment is the number of children born to Fairfield families each year. Historically, approximately the same number of children enter Fairfield's kindergartens each year as the number of children who were born to Fairfield families five years before. However, most recently in-migration has increased this to about 105% of the children born to Fairfield families enter kindergarten five years later. This is a significant change in the demographic pattern.

CAPACITY:

The Fairfield Public Schools currently has eleven elementary schools and twenty-six relocatable classrooms. The Fairfield Public Schools Facilities Plan indicates that the total capacity of Fairfield's elementary schools and relocatables is 5040 students. The actual average class size over the past several years has been close to 21 students. The Board's goal to achieve lower class size in grades K through 2, while maintaining reasonable class size in grades 3 through 5, is the driving force behind this class size average.

In developing elementary capacity ratings, full size classrooms are dedicated to art, music, science and special education, as required. A media center with an integrated or adjacent computer lab is allocated as well. Specifically, Stratfield School has a capacity of 399 students without relocatable classrooms. This is the oldest elementary school building in the district and requires a full renovation. The projected enrollment for Stratfield Elementary School is expected to increase to 490 students in 2008-09 with a sustained enrollment between 450-500 students through 2012. Stratfield Elementary School has a full day kindergarten program and has participated in the Open Choice Program with neighboring Bridgeport, CT in accordance with C.G.S. 10-285a(g), as amended.

LONG RANGE EDUCATIONAL PLAN:

On August 27, 2004 the Fairfield Board of Education approved the following policies which explain the long range educational plan of the district.

MISSION STATEMENT

Policy Number 0100

The Fairfield Board of Education, in a cooperative partnership with the parent or guardian, staff, and community, will provide the students in our town's public schools with the high-quality instruction, learning opportunities, and positive environment they require to realize their potential as lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

LONG-TERM GOAL

Policy Number 0110

Sustain the continuing improvement of the Fairfield Public Schools so that they will continue to rank with the best in the nation.

EDUCATIONAL GOALS

Policy Number 0200

Preamble

The ultimate goal of a school system is to promote the positive development of students so they can be productive members and shapers of a democratic society. Toward this end, the Board of Education and staff of the Fairfield Public Schools are committed to make all reasonable efforts to create an environment that will help each student achieve the goals listed below.

Goal One: Motivation to Learn

Students will adopt the high expectations of their parent or guardian, teachers, and society. Fairfield Public School students will:

- develop a personal identity;
- develop self-understanding and a positive self-concept;
- understand and strive to fulfill their own personal aspirations;
- develop positive feelings of self-worth and pride which contribute to self-reliance, responsible behavior, and personal growth, health, and safety;
- demonstrate strong motivational and persistence to learn;
- exhibit an inquisitive attitude, open-mindedness, and curiosity; and
- take responsibility for their own learning.

Goal Two: Mastery of the Basic Skills

Proficiency in the basic skills is essential for acquiring knowledge and for lifelong success in our society. Fairfield Public School students will:

- learn to communicate effectively in speech and writing;
- listen, view, and read with understanding;
- acquire knowledge of and ability in mathematics;
- demonstrate skills necessary to locate and use information effectively;
- demonstrate decision-making, reasoning, and problem-solving skills alone and in groups;
- demonstrate appropriate study skills; and
- acquire skills necessary for lifelong learning.

Goal Three: Acquisition of Knowledge

Acquiring knowledge leads to an educated mind and contributes to responsible citizenship. Fairfield Public School students will:

- acquire the knowledge of science and technology, mathematics, language arts, history, social science, the visual and performing arts, and literature and foreign languages and understand connections among these disciplines;
- acquire the knowledge necessary to use computers and other technologies for learning and problem solving;
- acquire an understanding and appreciation of the values and the intellectual and artistic achievement of their culture and other cultures; and
- take full advantage of opportunities to explore, develop, and express their own uniqueness, creativity, and flexibility in thinking.

Goal Four: Competence in Life Skills

Students will ultimately function successfully in multiple roles - as citizens, family members, parents, workers, and consumers. Fairfield Public School students will:

- demonstrate an ability to make informed career choices;
- understand the responsibilities of family membership and parenthood;
- demonstrate the ability to undertake the responsibilities of citizenship in their communities, in the state, in the nation, and in the world;
- understand human growth and development and the lifelong value of physical fitness;
- understand the concept of wellness, and apply the basic elements of proper nutrition, avoidance of substance abuse, prevention and treatment of illness, and management of stress;
- understand and develop personal goals and aspirations;
- upon completion of a secondary-level program, be qualified to enter post-secondary education and/or demonstrate the skills, knowledge, and competence required for success in meaningful employment; and
- recognize the importance of social and emotional growth as it relates to lifelong happiness.

Goal Five: Understanding Society's Values

Students, as responsible citizens, will be aware of how they can enrich the world and how the world can enrich them. Fairfield Public School students will:

- respect diversity;
- understand the inherent strengths and weaknesses of a pluralistic society;
- understand justice, and recognize the necessity for moral and ethical conduct in society;
- understand and respond to the vital need for order under law;
- acquire the knowledge to live in harmony with the environment, and actively practice conservation of natural resources;
- respect the humanity they share with other people, and live in harmony with and demonstrate empathy for others;
- acquire and apply an understanding of and sensitivity for the values and achievements of their own culture and other cultures;
- show understanding of international issues which affect life on our planet, and demonstrate skills needed to participate in a global society;
- contribute to the health of the community through service activities, and look objectively at social institutions and consider how these institutions can best serve society.

LEARNING/EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

EDUCATIONAL SPACE REQUIREMENTS SUMMARY:

Auditorium or Area of Assembly/Stage	(seating capacity: an "entire school" assembly with students and staff would be 550 +/-)
Art	Music
Gifted Language Arts/Math	Physical Education
Homeroom Classrooms for grades K-5	School Psychologist
Language Arts Specialists	Science
Library Media Center	Special Education
Main Office	Speech
Math Resource Teacher	Tutoring

ART:

- Art room with adequate areas for student hands-on activities
- Storage areas for supplies and equipment
- Non-classroom based kiln facility with appropriate ventilation, cooling and shelving

HOMEROOM CLASSROOMS FOR GRADES K-5 (24 Classroom Model):

- Twenty homeroom classrooms for grades 1-5
- Four kindergarten classrooms each at 1,000 square feet
- Standard classroom 750 +/- square feet fully networked (data, voice, video and cable) ceiling mounted LCD projector for use with SmartBoard technology
- Wet and dry work areas
- Student cubbies
- Comfortable small group areas

LIBRARY/MEDIA:

- General seating for 100 with student worktable seating for 50 to 60 students
- Fully networked and computerized with a variety of print and media storage available as well as Internet access
- Integrated or adjacent computer lab
- Recreational reading area
- Display area, shelving and storage areas for materials and equipment

MUSIC:

- One general music/vocal room with sufficient space for piano and electronics
- Two smaller rooms for lessons and small groups in band and strings with a divider to be opened for larger rehearsals
- Small practice space and lockable office space for teaching staff

PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM:

- Provision for indoor and outdoor activities, which are part of the curriculum (soccer, softball)
- Full size gymnasium with sufficient equipment storage areas
- Small lockable office for teaching staff

SCIENCE:

- A dedicated science room

SPECIAL EDUCATION:

- Two resource-teaching areas (400 sq. ft. each), one area for speech and language (400 sq. ft.) and/or other related services (e.g., OT, PT)

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

- An area of assembly seating 550+/- and a stage
- Cafeteria with serving lines and eating facilities for 200 to 250 students
- Modern food service kitchen with sufficient refrigerator and freezer space for bulk food storage
- Faculty lounge including staff dining area
- Adequate storage space throughout the building for all programs and support activities
- Large dedicated storage area for instructional materials (accessible from exterior and interior of the building)
- Custodial supply storage and work area plus satellite custodial spaces across the building

MAIN OFFICE AREA & SUPPORT SERVICES:

- Principal's office
- Instructional Improvement Teacher
- Nurse's facility (with office for staff, separate toilet room and quiet resting (cot) area)
- School Psychologist
- Three clerical workstations; two secretarial and one for other support
- One large and one small conference area
- Custodial office
- Technology office with storage and counter for repairs

TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE:

- An essential component of this project is to provide electronic access to every segment of the building. All instructional areas, support facilities or areas of assembly should be provided with local and wide-area networks, cable TV connectivity and internal broadcast capability.
- All wiring to be CAT 6 or better and certified. Each patch panel and jack labeled with location and position identifiers.
- Technology Network Space – server room, wiring closets, dedicated area for head-end equipment including extended demarcation points to the server room for all external connections.
(Also see INTERIOR BUILDING ENVIRONMENT – Interior Spaces).

ENROLLMENT DATA AND PROPOSED PROJECT CAPACITY

STRATFIELD SCHOOL	YEAR										
	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17
Enrollment	464	457	490	462	461	459	441	440	432	436	437
Present Capacity w/o Portables	399	399	399	399	399	399	399	399	399	399	399
Proposed Capacity w/o Portables	504	504	504	504	504	504	504	504	504	504	504

DETAILED DESCRIPTION:

The Fairfield Public Schools Facilities Plan provides the following points which are to be considered in planning renovation and/or additions to school facilities:

- As buildings are renovated, provisions will be made to provide identified space for all current Board approved programs (e.g., art, music, band, science, world language, speech and language).
- At the elementary level the average number of students per classroom is calculated based on a capacity of 21 students. Every effort will be made to keep primary grade size at or below average.
- Buildings will be renovated to meet current building, fire and life safety codes. Building will also be renovated to meet ADA / UFAS accessibility requirements.
- Dedicated areas will be provided for instruction in music, art, science, physical education and media center.
- An area dedicated as a computer lab will be integrated with or adjacent to the media center.
- Where appropriate, elementary schools will be configured in the ‘four-section’ grade model generating a maximum capacity of 504 students.

BUILDING SYSTEMS:

Envelope

- Replace windows per district standard while maintaining the architectural integrity of the building
- Roofing systems shall be multi-ply systems (no single membrane systems) 20 year warranty
- Exterior envelope materials shall be consistent and compatible with the existing building façade materials in size, shape, color and texture
- Construction details of exterior elements shall be consistent and compatible with the existing building façade details

Security/Safety

- Reliable internal and external communication should be available between/among all areas of the facility to the degree consistent with safety and security plans
- Electronic security should be provided which shall include video cameras (interior and exterior) and DVR recording devices with remote viewing capabilities (via a secure computer network)
- Door hardware – District Standards – Schelage/Von Duprin/LCN
- Exterior doors to have continuous hinges
- Locks – Everest Keyway – Key into existing building system – Master key facility (new and old locks)
- Doors – Narrow vision lites (for restricted line of sight into classroom during lockdowns)
- Primary entrance into the building shall be focused to sign-in location (minimize or eliminate options)
- Primary entrance(s) into the building shall be pre-wired for intercom/camera and remote door release
- Exterior doors used by staff and students for exterior functions shall have CM access control locks by Locknetics
- Evacuation signage with directional maps
- Provide adequate site lighting
- Protective window covering at locations subject to damage (rear play area)

Code

- UFAS/ADA review to be part of design for entire building and site
- Code update entire facility – sprinklers/UFAS/ADA/alarms/MEP (fresh air)
- Abate any hazardous material – encapsulation is not acceptable
- ILSM – Interim Life Safety Measures for working in an occupied building

INTERIOR BUILDING ENVIRONMENT:

Mechanical Systems

- Separate independent commissioning of Mechanical Electrical Plumbing (MEP) systems to include air flow balancing contractor hired directly by the building committee and reporting directly to the building committee and the Board of Education
- Lighting fixtures – standard type(s), ease of maintenance, coordinated with presentation stations
- Boilers shall be capable of dual-fuel operation (oil/gas)
- Deletion of existing building management controls only with specific approval of the district
- Low voltage systems to be designed to district standards
- Proper shutoff and backflow valves located to provide easy and quick access

Interior Spaces

- Ceiling systems – standard sizes 2x2 or 2x4, standard tiles, wide grids 9/16”, no strange patterns, consistent choices
- Millwork – solid surface countertops/plastic laminate cabinets/wire pull handles/euro-hinges
- Flooring – carpet in office areas and LMC only, VCT or other easily mopped finish in classrooms, corridors etc.
- Review the need for magnetic hold-open devices throughout the building
- Storage/Maintenance requirements need to be reviewed for the entire facility
 - Storage for grounds – gasoline storage, snow blower, lawn mower, etc.
 - Storage for office and curriculum – office supplies, art supplies, gym equipment, music equipment, PTA, etc.
 - Custodian – office space with desk and computer, breakroom, appropriately sized space in each area (floor) for daily maintenance equipment and supplies
- Accessory toilet rooms to meet district standards
- MDF/IDF room with temperature control and alarms
- Kitchen update – Review equipment (size, condition, etc.), storage space, serving line, etc.
- FF&E – Lockers, SmartBoards, desks, chairs, library books, gym equipment & mats, room-darkening shades, wall pads in gym, adjustable basketball hoops, etc. as determined by a survey of existing FF&E
- Drinking fountains – update to UFAS/ADA throughout

SITE DEVELOPMENT:

- Exterior traffic patterns – bus drop off large enough for a 6 bus queue, parent drop off reconfiguration, additional parking
- Site drainage review and upgrade (including the field drainage)
- Re-establish basketball court (including stripping)
- Review condition of all site constructions (retaining walls, curbs and sidewalks, pavement, soccer field etc)

CONSTRUCTION BONUS REQUESTS:

Stratfield Elementary School, at present, hosts Open Choice students. Given participation in the program the district will pursue a construction grant bonus in accordance with Connecticut General Statute 10-285a(g).

COMMUNITY USES:

Stratfield Elementary School does not contain or host space(s) for other town departments or outside firms. The building is used exclusively as an elementary school. The building facilities are available to the public on a reservation basis when the building is not in use (nights and weekends). Some of these uses include among others:

- Parent Teacher Association (PTA) meetings and events
- Cub Scouts
- Girl Scouts
- Various school clubs
- Civic group meetings

Stratfield Elementary School is not used as a polling place.