

MAY 13 2008

APPROVED

**EDUCATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS
OF
A FIVE CLASSROOM ANNEX OF MODULAR CONSTRUCTION**

Osborn Hill Elementary School

Fairfield Public Schools

Fairfield, CT 06825

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Superintendent of Schools

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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 the elementary student population and the renovation of elementary schools. Addressing the need for additional space at Osborn Hill Elementary School is a major recommendation for our increasing student enrollment.

On January 29, 2008 the Board of Education approved funding for additional classroom space at Osborn Hill Elementary School via the construction of a five classroom annex of modular construction. The RTM voted on April 28, 2008 for the final funding approval.

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, Osborn Hill Elementary School has a capacity of 441 students without relocatable classrooms. The projected enrollment for Osborn Hill Elementary School is expected to increase to 535 students in 2008-09. Osborn Hill Elementary School is expected to have a sustained enrollment between 494-527 students through 2012. Osborn Hill 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. Currently (2007-2008 school year) Osborn Hill Elementary does not host Open Choice students but will continue to participate in this program in the future.

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:

ENROLLMENT DATA AND PROPOSED PROJECT CAPACITY

OSBORN HILL SCHOOL	YEAR										
	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18
Enrollment	519	535	513	503	494	486	477	468	474	471	468
Present Capacity w/o Portables	441	441	441	441	441	441	441	441	441	441	441
Proposed Capacity w/ Annex Building	XX	XX	546	546	546	546	546	546	546	546	546

DETAILED DESCRIPTION:

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

- 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.

BUILDING SYSTEMS:

Envelope

- Roofing systems shall be 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).
- All door hardware to be Schlage/Von Duprin/LCN as per district standards. Everest Keyway locks to be keyed into existing building system and master keyed with facility. All classroom doors to have lockdown hardware (double cylinder lever sets).
- Exterior doors to have continuous hinges.
- Doors – Narrow vision lites (for restricted line of sight into classroom during lockdowns).
- Evacuation signage with directional maps.
- Primary entrance(s) into the building shall be pre-wired for intercom/camera and remote door release.
- Exterior door used by staff and students for exterior functions shall have CM (computer managed) access control locks by Locknetics.

Code

- UFAS/ADA review to be part of design for entire building and site.
- Abate any hazardous material – encapsulation is not acceptable.
- ILSM – Interim Life Safety Measures for working in an occupied building.

INTERIOR BUILDING ENVIRONMENT:

Mechanical Systems

- Lighting fixtures – standard type(s), ease of maintenance, coordinated with presentation stations.
- 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 –VCT or other easily mopped finish in classrooms, corridors etc.
- Storage/Maintenance requirements need to be reviewed for the facility.
 - Custodian Space – slop sink, storage and supplies.
- Separate Boys and Girls toilet rooms to meet district standards.
- Staff toilet room to meet district standards.
- Drinking fountains –to be UFAS/ADA compliant.
- FF & E – Lockers, SmartBoards, desks, chairs, etc. as determined by a survey of existing FF & E.
- Technology enhancements – Interactive white boards, CLG mounted projectors.
- Lockers to accommodate student enrollment.
- Sinks in classrooms.

SITE DEVELOPMENT:

- Site drainage review and upgrade (including the field drainage).
- Review condition of all site construction (retaining walls, curbs and sidewalks, pavement, field etc.).

CONSTRUCTION BONUS REQUESTS:

Osborn Hill Elementary School has participated in the Open Choice program in the past. However, currently (2007-2008 school year) Osborn Hill does not host Open Choice students. Given future participation in the program, the district will host Open Choice students and pursue a construction grant bonus in accordance with Connecticut General Statute 10-285a(g).

COMMUNITY USES:

Osborn Hill 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.

Osborn Hill Elementary School is used as a polling place.

