

PK-8 Facilities Study Public Forum

November 17, 2021 / 6:00 PM LOLMS Auditorium

Background

In June of 2021, the Lyme-Old Lyme Board of Education enlisted QA+M Architecture to complete a study of the four facilities for our PK-8 students. The four schools were last renovated nearly twenty years ago with renovations at Mile Creek School and Lyme School completed in 2002, LOLMS in 2003, and Center School in 2004.

The study recommends upgrades and renovations focused on several key areas/issues including:

Replacement of HVAC Systems - The heating systems at all four schools are nearing their end-of-useful-life. (Useful life is generally determined to average 25 years.) New systems will be more efficient, introduce ventilation and central air conditioning for healthy indoor environments, and reduce or eliminate dependence on fossil fuels. Replacement of this equipment will not qualify for state reimbursement unless the entire building is renovated as new.*

Code Upgrades - The buildings will need to be upgraded to meet the new code requirements for accessibility, security, hazardous material remediation, and other building and fire code requirements (e.g. fire suppression systems).

Enrollment Increase - Our student population is increasing, particularly at the PK and elementary levels. We now have 1,300 students from PK-12. By 2026 we are projected to have 1,445 students and 1,673 students by 2031. This potential growth will require additional classroom space.

Meeting Agenda

QA+M will share an updated presentation of their findings and proposed options. Community input is sought regarding the options presented. Questions and dialogue are encouraged.

What's Next?

In the next few weeks the Board of Education will decide on an option, or a blend of options, which will allow QA+M to further develop a detailed cost estimate to be brought to a town wide vote in May. The initial proposed options are included on the next page of this document.

Multiple opportunities for public feedback and information will be provided prior to a May referendum. Watch for those opportunities on our [website](#) and social media pages. Presentations, materials, and a forthcoming FAQ can be found at the following links ([November 3, 2021](#)), ([September 30, 2021](#)) or can be viewed on our [YouTube channel](#).

Option One	Option Two	Option Three	Option Four
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HVAC work at all schools ● Code and maintenance only at Center School, Lyme, and Mile Creek ● Renovate LOLMS as new for larger state reimbursement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HVAC work at all schools ● Code and maintenance only at Lyme and Mile Creek ● Renovate both LOLMS and Center School as new for larger state reimbursement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HVAC work at all schools ● Code and maintenance only at Center and LOLMS ● Renovate both Lyme and Mile Creek as new for larger state reimbursement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HVAC work at all schools ● Code and maintenance only at Lyme, Mile Creek, and LOLMS ● Renovate Center School as new for larger state reimbursement
Move 5th grade to LOLMS	Move 5th grade, BOE, and auxiliary programs to LOLMS Move Kindergarten to Center School	Keep existing grades where they are and enlarge Lyme and Mile Creek	Move Kindergarten to Center School Move BOE and auxiliary programs to LOLMS
Estimated cost to Region 18: \$44.5M	Estimated cost to Region 18: \$51.5M	Estimated cost to Region 18: \$43.3M	Estimated cost to Region 18: \$45.5M

***Explanation of Renovating as New**

Renovating as new allows additional grant funding through the Office of State Construction Grants and Review. The current reimbursement rate for Lyme-Old Lyme is 36.43% of costs. Renovating as new requires bringing the building up to code, remediating hazardous materials, and signing off that no further renovations will be needed for 20 years.