

Darlington County School District
Darlington, South Carolina
August 8, 2012

Lamar Area Schools - Building Evaluations

School Name: Lamar High School Observed By: Cannon/Carter
Principal: Ms. Kathy Gainey
Grade Levels: 9th – 12th Grades
Site Size: Approximately 20 Acres
Student Population: 280 (Approximate Student Population)
Staff Size: 38 (Approximate Staff Size)

Campus Narrative and General Observations:

Constructed in the 1950's with the most recent addition completed in 2007, Lamar High School shares its site with Lamar Elementary School which houses 4K – 2nd grade students. Traffic patterns appear to work well with parents using the front of the school, students on the northern side and buses circulating at the rear. Student parking also serves the dual use of event parking for football, baseball, and basketball games. All sporting facilities are located on the campus.

The school is comprised of three buildings. These include the main building, the cafeteria building and the gymnasium building. The Main Building houses the administration, classrooms, art, and the media center. The cafeteria, in addition to the cafeteria kitchen, also contains the band and music rooms. The gymnasium houses the competition gym and locker rooms for physical education and competition. There is an auxiliary gym on the elementary site but it does not appear to be used by the High School.

The design of the school created many interior classrooms. Therefore, natural light is missing in some spaces. The art room is one such room without natural light. The media center is another.

With the exception of the new track, the athletic facilities are in average to below average condition and require significant upgrades.





FACILITIES OVERVIEW					
SYSTEM	0 (adequate)	1 (mild need)	2 (strong need)	3 (critical need)	REMARKS
Safety and Health					
Site Security			■		The Campus is an open campus with numerous access points and little means of control.
Traffic Patterns			■		Traffic patterns appear to work reasonably well Bus drives, student drives and parent drives are separated There is standing water in areas after rains
Main Entrance				■	The main entrance is clearly defined but lacks a secure entry.
Exterior Doors				■	Some exterior doors need replacing to provide: energy efficiency; security and safety as related to hardware; address ADA issues; etc.
Interior Doors			■		ADA door clearances need addressing In most cases, doors have been replaced and meet fire rating requirements Rekeying may need addressing
Windows			■		In some areas, windows do not meet OSF egress requirements
Fire Alarm		■			Recently replaced Emergency lights require testing for foot candles and to ensure batteries are functioning
Fire Protection				■	Wall ratings in the buildings are not rated. Buildings are non-sprinkled



Technology			■		Most instructional areas have had technology upgrades Removal of abandoned wiring and outdated televisions is recommended.
HVAC			■		The majority of the mechanical systems are wall mounted heat pumps. Some package units are also used in interior spaces
Mold/Moisture					No evidence of mold was observed
Plumbing			■		While plumbing systems appear to be functioning, many fixtures require replacement and do not meet ADA accessibility requirements
Teacher Work Areas			■		Appear to be lacking in quantity, technology, and size
Electrical		■			Most buildings appear to have upgraded electrical systems.
Lighting		■			Emergency lighting is required at exterior doors
Electrical Rooms		■			Noncompliant floor clearances exist Some panels are old and replacement breakers may be unavailable
Data/Server			■		Space is not adequate in size MDF has unsecured access and unintentional damage can occur Security issues exist Power may not be dedicated Backup power capacity is questioned
ADA Compliance				■	Additional ADA compliant toilets are needed Many room side door clearances are noncompliant Ramps to some doors are noncompliant



Code Compliance				■	Numerous violations including: life safety; energy efficiency; accessibility; among others
Roof Systems	■				The roof systems have recently been replaced with metal retrofit roofing systems
Structure		■			Minor cracking of masonry is evident Seismic upgrades may be required
Appearance and Finishes					
Curb Appeal			■		Curb appeal is lacking but can be improved
Grounds			■		Grounds at the time of observation were well kept A phased landscaping master plan is recommended
Exterior Envelope			■		Paint is peeling on exterior steel Exterior door frames are in need of paint to freshen the appearance Masonry requires some tuck pointing
Ceilings			■		Ceilings are in average condition
Walls			■		The wall finishes are in average condition
Flooring			■		Carpet needs replacing. VCT sis in average condition
Core Space Assessment					
SYSTEM	0 (adequate)	1 (mild need)	2 (strong need)	3 (critical need)	REMARKS
Administration			■		Office areas and waiting are lacking in space The addition of a security lock is recommended
Health Room			■		The health room is small but functional



Guidance		■			Guidance is located near the office. Additional conference areas are recommended
General Classroom Status		■			Classrooms appear to meet OSF 720 space requirements of the old OSF guidelines Toilet facilities are in need of renovations
Cafeteria/Kitchen			■		The size appears to function well Toilet upgrades for ADA compliance are needed Natural light is good The cafeteria also serves the 5K - 2 nd graders from the elementary school
Media Center				■	Space is adequate Carpet replacement is required Natural light is needed
Art Room				■	Access to the exterior for 2-D and 3-D art is needed There is no natural light
Science Room		■			Room appears to function well
Band/Music Spaces			■		The music room is adequate in size The location is in the cafeteria building A performers' corridor leads to the rear of the stage Acoustical isolation is good Security issues exists due to location
Stage/Theater			■		A stage exists in the cafeteria. While this functions well for small events it does not appear to be large enough for major productions.
Records Vault				■	There does not appear to be a rated records vault
Other:					







Total Campus Square Footage 77,350

Recommendations:

All areas of Lamar High School require some renovations. While these are predominately cosmetic, some will require a greater degree of work.

Shared Administrative and Guidance Offices with the new middle school are proposed. It is also recommended that a new shared Media Center be added as new construction.

In addition to the Middle School Students occupying the site, an enclosed connector is recommended to connect the cafeteria to the main school building. The Middle School will also add a PE/Practice Gym which will assist in scheduling of the current gymnasium.