

BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE



SUFFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL PROPOSAL

Building a new school is the most cost-effective option, due to state reimbursement and escalating maintenance costs for the existing building. **A “no cost” option does not exist.**

THE PROJECT

The Suffield Middle School project features an innovative, 21st century learning design that will inspire students to achieve greater academic success while enhancing safety, security and functionality. The project will improve traffic safety, strengthen residential property values, and ensure Suffield remains attractive to families.

THE NEED

The current building was designed for educational programming 50 years ago. Most mechanical systems are either at or near their useful life. The Municipal Facilities Master Plan by Tecton Architects identified the middle school as the town’s highest priority. In a community-wide survey, a majority of residents supported taking action.

Suffield Board of Education:

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Matthew Dunbar, Superintendent
Eric Remington, Business Manager
Larry Plano, Director of Facilities

PRELIMINARY COST ESTIMATES

After extensive research into various options, the Suffield Board of Education supports the most cost effective approach of building a new middle school.

New Construction:

\$40,681,109

**After state reimbursement of*

45%

Potential for unforeseen conditions, conflicts or cost increases:

Limited - 1 to 3% of construction

Maintaining 6-8 Building:

\$61,735,855

**After state reimbursement of*

0%

Potential for unforeseen conditions, conflicts or cost increases:

Extensive - 12.5% of construction

A new middle school would enable the District and Town to incorporate Grade 5, setting up the possibility of school consolidation. Further, the District and Town will receive state reimbursement for the project.

Cost estimates are from a 2022 review and may increase up to 8% annually.



For more information, contact:

SMSproject@suffield.org



INCREASING MAINTENANCE COSTS

Mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems have reached their operational life expectancy. The following systems are functional; however, the District will face significant non-reimbursable expenses to replace them.

System	Life Expectancy	Equipment Age	Useful Life %	Consequence
Fire Alarm	20 years	25 years	125%	Life Safety
Plumbing Water Heater	25 years	25 years	100%	School Disruption
Plumbing Piping & Fixtures	40 years	40 years	100%	School Disruption
Electrical Lighting	30 years	30 years	100%	School Disruption
Mechanical Piping & Equipment	40 years	40 years	100%	School Disruption
Electrical Generator	40 years	30 years	75%	School Disruption
Mechanical Boiler Plant	40 years	25 years	63%	School Disruption
Electrical Service & Distribution	40 years	20 years	50%	School Disruption
Fire Protection System	40 years	20 years	50%	Life Safety

Community Support for New Middle School

In a community-wide survey, **60%** of the **580 respondents** expressed support for addressing municipal facilities and identified Suffield Middle School as the greatest need.

60% favorable

In another community-wide survey, **60%** of the **273 respondents** expressed support for building a new middle school over renovating the existing building or doing nothing.

Scan the QR code to learn more about the Suffield Middle School Project



BENEFITS OF BUILDING A NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

● Advantage ● Neutral ● Disadvantage

Category	New Building	Maintain Existing Building
Program Improvement	●	●
Operational Improvement	●	●
Construction Cost	●	●
State Reimbursement	●	●
Abatement/Demolition	●	●
Additional Site-related Costs	●	●
Work to Existing Buildings	●	●
Swing Space	●	●
Disruption to Students	●	●
Parent & Bus Separation	●	●
Safety & Security	●	●
21st Century Environment	●	●



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