

School Administrative District No. 53
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Excellence in Education

Michael A. Gallagher
Superintendent of Schools

Building Committee
Minutes
11/18/10

Members in attendance: P. Williams, R. Basford, M. Brooks and Superintendent Gallagher

Item 1. Repair/Replacement Schedule review to determine summer projects – Superintendent Gallagher distributed a spreadsheet that contained all the projects for 2007 - 2011 on the long range schedule. It included the projects that had been completed and those that were due in 2011. Manson Park has three projects on the schedule – oil tank containment, exit lighting and signage. Vickery has several projects on the schedule including – replace phone system, replace exterior doors, emergency lighting, signage, test sprinkler heads and exterior drainage. Projects listed for Warsaw include – replace phone system, install a dishwasher exhaust and emergency lighting.

It was decided to not complete the oil tank containment project at Manson Park; however, it does make sense to combine signage and any necessary exit lighting with projects at Vickery (signage and emergency lighting) and Warsaw's emergency lighting. In a recent power outage it was learned that the emergency lighting at Manson Park was not working. The replacement of the phone systems at Vickery and Warsaw does not appear to be a need currently. However, the Superintendent's office and the Special Education office are using a separate phone system that doesn't allow for extension to extension dialing. This upgrade may be included as a summer project. If so, the entire Warsaw/Vickery campus would be able to dial extensions to communicate by phone. Vickery will need to update sprinkler heads for maintaining the fire suppression system and complete some drainage projects in back of the school where a swale has blocked up a drainage basin. The exterior door replacement at Vickery is not considered necessary after a review was completed during the 2010 summer. Warsaw's dishwasher moisture exhaust will need to be reviewed and completed if necessary.

Superintendent Gallagher will obtain quotes for the various projects to be completed and if necessary go out to bid for anything over \$5,000. He will provide the building committee with an update on all the selected projects at the January 13, 2011 building committee meeting.

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Item 2. Projects needing attention this year – not budgeted – Superintendent Gallagher distributed a spreadsheet containing three projects – the Manson Park girls’ bathroom toilets and flooring, the Manson Park sprinkler system and the Vickery School sprinkler system. The Manson Park bathroom issue is a space that exists between the current tile flooring and the original concrete floor pad. The plumbing has been leaking into the space and has damaged the flooring under the toilets. This will require the removal of all the toilets for a floor replacement, and re-plumbing the toilets after a new floor has been installed. The cost for the plumbing and the flooring is estimated at \$2,639. The sprinkler heads at the Manson Park School are more than 50 years old and by NFPA rules must be replaced. Additionally, there are two gauges that need to be replaced every five years that are in need of replacement. The costs for these projects are approximately \$1,825. At the Vickery School the sprinkler system needs to replace two old gauges and sprinkler heads that have paint on them. The cost for this is \$920. Although these projects were not budgeted they are necessary to complete as soon as possible. They need to be completed during a period of time when students are not in school; therefore, they will be completed over the two week December holiday break.

Item 3. Electricity Provider – determine whether to purchase the district’s electricity from a local producer or sign a new contract with Constellation - This agenda item was addressed prior to the above two items. Mr. Williams shared information about some calculations that he had done in an effort to determine an estimate of electricity savings to the district if it purchased its power locally. He also discussed the required ownership in the power generating facility if the district purchased power locally. Concerns were expressed about the liability that the district would have if a generating facility malfunctioned/broke down. After weighing the possible benefits with the potential liabilities the committee felt that the district would be best served by renewing its current contract for electricity.

Item 4. Greenhouse gas emissions report – Superintendent Gallagher provided the committee members with a copy of a report that was constructed using our electricity, heating oil and propane use at the Manson Park, Vickery and Warsaw Middle School. Of note is that both Vickery and Warsaw are eligible for an Energy Star label because of their efficiency rating. The efficiency ranking compares each of the district’s schools to other schools across the country on a scale of 1 to 100, using EPA portfolio manager software. A score of 50 would represent a perfectly average school building. Vickery’s efficiency ranking is 91 and Warsaw was 98. These are both excellent rankings and are testament to the extensive energy efficiency projects completed in these two buildings over the last 10 years. Manson Park School’s Efficiency ranking of 60 is slightly better than the average Maine school.

The report has suggestions for further reducing energy consumption, thus lowering costs. They include providing more awareness for staff and students leading to behavior changes and student led survey to gather Greenhouse Gas Emissions information. This would be most appropriate at Warsaw.

Item 5. Other – A short discussion was held regarding vehicle traffic passing between Vickery and Warsaw during the day relative to Vickery students crossing School Street and the Warsaw driveway for their library program at Warsaw. Although the amount of through traffic during the school day is significantly less than during the morning drop off and afternoon pick up times, it is still a cause of concern for those responsible for bringing students back and forth. One of those individuals had wondered if School Street could be closed off during the day. Of course this would not be possible, so the idea of having speed bumps installed was considered. Superintendent Gallagher contacted Pittsfield Town Manager, Kathy Ruth about whether that would be a possibility and found that it was. However, she also noted that there are several difficulties with speed bumps that should be considered, of special note was plowing. She indicated that currently the only speed bumps in Pittsfield are in Manson Park and it is not plowed.

Two measures have already been instituted – the flashing 15 m/p/h school zone lights are on during the entire school day and a “stop for people in the crosswalks” sign was placed in the Warsaw driveway. One already exists in the cross walk on School Street. The building committee thought it would be wise to consider other measures i.e. sending a notice home to parents to be cautious, before further considering placing speed bumps on the roadway.

Being no further business, the committee adjourned at 7:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Gallagher