

## **NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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Dear Board of Education:

To date, Phil Ross has managed projects within the confines of the budget. This year, for the first time since we have started completing improvement projects through the Capital Improvement Plan, we have not received any bids for a general contractor and only one for HVAC that was not within the budgeted dollars. Therefore, despite Phil Ross' best venture to move the project forward as planned, we are at an impasse. The question is whether we spend additional funds to complete the scope of the project or change the scope and eliminate creating the event center for this summer.

Currently in the Capital Improvement Plan two projects have funds that are allocated for projects that have not begun and could be used to supplement the needs. One is the Consolidated School Parking Lot project: \$125,456. The other project is the High School Auditorium: \$155,000.

The funds allotted for the High School Consumer Science area project are \$441,207 (due to the closing of other completed projects and reallocation of available funds.)

The difference between what is needed to complete just the kitchen and what has been allotted is \$150,000. To add the event center would increase the needed funds by about \$50,000. If we still desire to complete the project, our recommendation is to take \$100,000 from each of the two projects discussed above.

It is difficult for us to ask for additional funds, as this is the first time that we have not been able to move forward and complete the work based on the allocated amount. Changes in the economy are driving prices up and we need to decide if this investment is one the district wishes to make. Student interest in the program is high and the offerings to the students are ones that will bring lifelong skills.

Sincerely,

Dr. Alicia M. Roy

Superintendent of Schools