

COW Agenda Cover Sheet

Meeting Date: November 15, 2023

Topic: Improving Systems - Facilities Services: Facilities Assessments

Presenter(s): Theresa Severance

Attachment (yes or no): Yes

Brief Summary of Presentation or Topic (no more than a few sentences):

The Facilities Services Department supports the District to ensure that instructional facilities are conducive to learning and are properly maintained. The Facilities Services Department continues to work to direct our resources to remove facilities-related issues from the focus of instructional personnel. We remain steadfast in seeking out methods that will not only improve the delivery of construction and maintenance services to the district but also deliver these services in a cost-effective and efficient manner. As we complete capital and maintenance projects, we work to strengthen our efforts to maintain and maximize the useful life of our capital assets. The focus of all of our efforts is establishing and maintaining excellence in our facilities.

An overview of Facility Assessments for both condition and capacity will be briefly discussed. A sample assessment report and occupancy report are attached.

Capital Facilities Infrastructure

The current replacement value of the District's capital facilities infrastructure is estimated at roughly \$675 million dollars. The District maintains approximately 1.75 million square feet of building floor area (as of July 2023). Recent construction experience indicates our school facilities would cost approximately \$300 per square foot to rebuild. If provided with proper maintenance and repair, it is reasonable to expect that most of the Duluth school buildings will provide adequate educational program space for a total of at least 50 to 75 years.

Facility Conditions Assessment Reports

The District engaged with ICS to perform a condition assessment on all instructional buildings which included inspecting, reviewing and evaluating every school. The project is now completed, and we have a full Facility Assessment Report and individual School Reports that convey the condition of our schools. The data collected, estimated costs, and condition scores will be utilized by the District to address facility needs and to guide long-range planning decisions.

Facility Capacity

In 2018, the District completed capacity and occupancy reports for every school. We will be updating these reports over the next school year to provide a comparison of district-wide pupil enrollment with how the instructional spaces are utilized.