

MEMORANDUM

TO: NWABSD Board of Education
Members

DATE: June 4, 2024

NUMBER: Work session

FR: Office of the Superintendent.

SUBJECT: Capital Projects Report

Capital Projects Managers, Dena Strait and Kathy Christy report on the following:

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT (DEED): The Alaska Legislature has passed their FY25 capital budget which includes funding for two NWABSD projects. Governor Dunleavy has until June 15th to veto any budget items.

Major Maintenance

Davis-Ramoth K-12 School Renewal is ranked #3 on the Major Maintenance list. The total project amount is \$9,596,772 including a local share of \$1,884,834. Costs incurred prior to grant approval are potentially reimbursable including the replacement of the fire alarm. This project is very likely to be funded.

HVAC Controls Upgrade at 8 Sites is ranked #21 with \$49,911,150 ahead of it. Total project is \$9,838,153 with \$1,967,631 match requirement. This project is currently within the FY25 capital budget but near the end of the projects to be funded, so any changes by Governor Dunleavy may remove that funding.

AHFC TEACHER HOUSING: Kathy to update.

Kivalina – Project closeout documentation submitted to AHFC.

Selawik – Inspection completed and submitted to AHFC. Cost certification has been requested.

Buckland – The Maintenance Department is in the process of ordering materials. Materials will be delivered by barge in July. Housing Alaskans: A Public-Private Partnership (HAPPP) may be able to provide additional funding for the Buckland teacher housing project. Last year the typical grant averaged about \$120,000. HAPPP has not yet received its 2024 grant budget.

DEED PROJECTS

KIVALINA REPLACEMENT SCHOOL

Construction: Construction contract has been completed. ASRC will return in July for warranty work which includes a few exterior items that could not be corrected over the winter.

Percent for Art: A Request for Proposals for additional art was advertised in February. Five proposals were received. If all five proposals were to be awarded there would still be a balance of art funding remaining. A public meeting to review art was to be held following the school dedication which unfortunately had to be canceled due to a death in the community. A virtual meeting will be scheduled to determine support for award of all proposals. Artwork recommendations will be presented to the JMCC and the Board at the June meetings for concurrence and approval.

DEED will allow closeout of the grant prior to completion of artwork. The District is to hold the art funding in a dedicated account. It is anticipated the production of artwork will be completed in FY 25. It is recommended that Kathy Christy continue to support the art component of this project.

Grant Closeout: Although construction is complete, project closeout is an extended process requiring several months. The majority of the documentation required by DEED has been submitted, but a few are still in progress. This includes the final project accounting.

There will be remaining funds in the project budget. DEED funding provides 80% of the project funds. The balance of local share of funding might be reallocated after the project is complete. The Borough attorney has agreed it may be possible to reallocate to other capital projects. The Kivalina project would need to be closed out before funds could be reallocated. It is anticipated project closeout, with the exception of art, will be completed by the end of June.

FY-19 BOROUGH LEGISLATIVE GRANT – The Borough is providing pass-through state funding for two District projects.

Kivalina Vehicle Garage

Garage is in use. Installation of heating system remains to be completed.

Buckland HVAC Upgrade

In January 2023 the Board approved the award contract for Phase I of the Buckland HVAC Upgrade Project in the amount of \$845,136 which was issued to Sturgeon Electric. This phase replaced the existing electric controls in the building with direct digital controls for the air handling units and main pumps. It also installed variable frequency drives on various pumps and motors. This work was completed in October 2023.

In fall 2023, the Denali Commission awarded a grant in the amount of \$1,041,860 to the District for additional HVAC work at Buckland, now known as Phase II. This work will begin as soon as school is out in May and continue into the Fall. Work includes replacement of baseboard and thermostats, ventilation controls, completion of DDC controls for the entire school, pipe insulation, more efficient pumps, flush and replacement of heating liquid throughout, fan replacement, and installation of ventilation hoods and dampers.

District has a grant application for Buckland Boiler Replacement, the final phase for this effort, which includes boiler flue and boiler replacement, into the Denali Commission. The application was submitted in mid-April and awards are to be announced in June. Dependent on that potential award and Board direction, an application may also be submitted to DEED before September 1st.

SELAWIK EMERGENCY FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

The fire alarm system has been down since its failure over the winter break. There are no replacement parts for the old, outdated fire alarm system. The Board has approved procurement for replacement of the fire alarm panel and system and the delegation of contracting authority to the Superintendent. Noorvik Fire Alarm replacement has been added to the solicitation, but award is dependent on available funding. DEED procurement requirements are being utilized to secure potential future reimbursement. The Administration is currently bidding the work with bid opening scheduled for June 11th. The Administration will report the results of the bidding and the amount of the issued contract at the next regular Board meeting. If the \$9.6M Selawik project is awarded with DEED FY25 funds, those funds would reimburse for the Selawik portion of this work.

FUTURE CIP PROJECTS

DAVIS-RAMOTH K-12 SCHOOL RENEWAL – This project will likely be funded with FY25 capital funds. Once funded, design will be advanced and then the project bid to start work in Summer 2025. If not funded, it is assumed an FY26 DEED application will be submitted, dependent on Board direction.

DISTRICTWIDE HVAC CONTROLS UPGRADE, 8 SITES – If funded this summer with FY25 funds, the project will move forward with design and then bid to start work in Summer 2025. If not funded, submission of an FY26 DEED grant application is anticipated, dependent on Board direction. Schools included are: Ambler, Noorvik, Kiana, Kobuk, June Nelson Elementary, KMHS, Noatak, and Shungnak.

DISTRICTWIDE FIRE SYSTEM REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT – This project is anticipated to be submitted for FY26 funding dependent on Board direction on the FY26 6-Year CIP list. Once funded, it will reimburse the District for funds spent replacing Noorvik's fire alarm if included in pending Summer 2024 work. Schools included are; Ambler, Noorvik, Buckland, June Nelson Elementary, KMHS, and Shungnak. Funding for design efforts, anticipated to help improve the DEED application scores, was approved in March 2024. Capital Projects Manager has secured design fees and is moving design forward.

DEERING K-12 SCHOOL REPLACEMENT SCHOOL – Construction of new school is dependent on funding and schedule of new DOT airport road. Given the cost and scoring of projects ahead of Deering it may be several years before this project is funded. Since the March meeting, the project manager, along with the Superintendent, met with the ASC in Deering in early April. In mid-May, the project manager and project architect traveled to Deering and met again with the ASC. ASC members provided direction on both site and floor plan design that will be incorporated into DEED grant application documents to be submitted this summer. Funding for the Design Team's work was approved at the March 2024 board meetings.

Buckland Boiler Replacement – This project is seeking funding and will move forward when it is funded. It is the last phase for the HVAC upgrades at Buckland School. An FY26 DEED application may be submitted dependent on Board direction.

OTHER POTENTIAL MAJOR MAINTENANCE PROJECTS – Project efforts other than those noted above are dependent on Board direction on the FY26 6-year CIP list.

DEED FY26 CIP Grant Award Priorities – Documentation to support FY26 DEED applications has begun in preparation for submitting applications prior to September 1, 2024. Final identification and prioritization of projects is also needed to support these applications.

A DRAFT FY26 6-year CIP list has been provided to JMCC as an action item for prioritization and recommendations to Board.

KOTZEBUE PROFESSIONAL HOUSING

The District participated in discussions with the City and Borough regarding funding through Alaska Housing Finance Corporation. Ultimately, it was determined teacher housing was not an eligible project and District did not pursue the matter further.

JUNE 5 BOARD ACTION ITEMS

Memo 24-157 Approval of FY26 contract for Capital Projects Manager
Memo 24-158 Prioritization and Approval of FY26 6-Year CIP list
Memo 24-159 Selection of Art for Kisimigiutuaq School