

FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Three of Medfield's five school buildings received significant additions and renovations during a major building project that was completed in the fall of 2005. A concerted effort has been made in recent years to put significant capital improvements into the two school buildings that were not part of the building project. The following is a summary of what has been accomplished in terms of building additions, renovations, capital improvements and major maintenance projects in each school building over the last few years.

Memorial Elementary School (Grades K and 1)



The building underwent an addition and renovation project that was completed in the fall of 2004. The building received:

- A brand new classroom wing.
- The original building, which had deteriorated and become inadequate, received a complete renovation upgrading the older building to near-new condition.
- Appropriate classroom space is available for each grade level.
- Specialized learning areas of art, music, physical education and student special educational services are now available.
- The library is outstanding and age appropriate materials are available in the newly expanded collection.
- The building also has improved security systems.
- Replaced lighting in gymnasium and cafeteria. Gymnasium fixtures outfitted with motion sensors.

The Ralph Wheelock School (Grades 2 and 3)



During the feasibility phase of the building project, it was determined that, while the Wheelock school building was in need of some upgrading, it would be adequate for the immediate needs of the students. The building did need significant capital improvements and the following investments have been made over the last few years:

- Completed multi-year program of removing classroom carpets and installing tile.
- Updated restroom facilities throughout building – including new floors and partitions.
- Made significant improvements to the two gymnasiums, including replacing the carpeted floors with a new, more appropriate surface. Painted the walls and ceilings and replaced wall pads in both gyms. Replaced backboards and installed climbing wall in large gym.
- Significant upgrades were made to the physical layout, appearance and function of the school library including the installation of air conditioning, the replacement of carpeting, as well as painting and carpentry work.
- Utilized funds from CSA and community partners to continue improvements to courtyard clean-up, creating a “quiet space” that will eventually be accessed through library where students/teachers can sit outside with books.
- Installation of elevator, handicapped accessible lavatory and additional handicapped parking.
- Painting of the hallways and other common areas
- Installed entrance security (monitoring/intercom/release).
- Replaced main entrance doorway. Other outside hollow metal doors have begun to be replaced.
- Power door operators have been installed to enhance accessibility for those with physical limitations.
- Replaced interior stairwell railings to provide enhanced safety for children.
- Replaced the intercom system.
- Renovated cafeteria: replaced floor, refinished trim, painted walls.
- Installed automatic fire suppression system in kitchen.
- Installed magnetic hallway door hold-backs, integrated with fire alarm system.

Dale Street School (Grades 4 and 5)



Part of the Dale Street School is the oldest school building still in use in Medfield. While many aspects of the building are obsolete by today's standards, it was determined that with limited resources, the needs of the Memorial, middle school and high school were more pressing.

The following capital improvements have been made over the last few years:

- Carpeting has been removed and replaced with resilient floor tile throughout most of the building.
- All bathrooms in the building have been renovated including painting, ceiling replacement, partitions, and ventilation improvements.
- HVAC system and controls have been upgraded. Boiler was replaced. Installed new emergency generator.
- Replaced all lighting fixtures with energy efficient lamps.
- Completed library renovation (new windows, shelving, carpeting etc.) providing a newer and updated facility to support instructional goals.
- Have begun replacement of exterior windows in original building (multi-year project).
- Repaved Adams Street circle.
- Installed hand rails on front steps – gymnasium entrance.
- Installed entrance security (monitoring/intercom/release).
- Painted hallways, gymnasium and stairwells.
- Gutter/fascia replacement program is underway.
- Building trim has been painted and entrance columns have been repaired and painted.
- Refinished wood paneling and painted cafeteria
- Replaced gymnasium wall pads.
- Power door operators have been installed to enhance accessibility for those with physical limitations.
- Renovated OT room including replacement of ceiling, installation of energy efficient window, repainting.

- Renovated and expanded a bathroom in main lobby to improve handicapped accessibility.
- Installed automatic fire suppression system in kitchen.
- There is a systematic program in place for repainting classrooms.

Thomas A. Blake Middle School



During the recent building project, which was completed in the fall of 2005, the former high school changed its use to the Middle School. While still the high school, the building had received significant renovations in the 1990s. During the more recent building project, the building received six additional classrooms due to rapid enrollment growth. Now the Blake Middle School, the building also received improvements including:

- Revamping of entrances,
- Improved parking,
- Roof repairs
- Interior painting
- Carpeted floors were replaced with resilient tile.
- Directional and informational signage was installed.
- Installed CO2 sensors in classrooms to improve the indoor climate while enhancing energy efficiency.
- Installed energy efficient lighting in cafeteria hallways, offices and gymnasium. Gymnasium lights outfit with motion sensors.
- Air conditioning installed in server room.
- Due to limited funds, the building's auditorium was not renovated during either building project. This is a need we hope to address in the future.

Amos Clark Kingsbury High School



Utilizing the building that had been the middle school, the new high school building project was comprised of two significant additions and the complete renovation and adaptation of the original building to its current use as a high school. The significant increase in size was needed to accommodate rapid enrollment growth. The high school population has grown by more than 35% since the school building project was initiated. The building was completed in the fall of 2005. In addition to the added classroom space to accommodate the increase in student population, some of the new features include:

- A beautifully designed library media center equipped with 20+ computer workstations, smart boards and three small group meeting rooms.
- A bright and spacious gymnasium that will support a variety of athletic events as well as all school meetings and other large events. This gymnasium is 30% larger than the former high school gym. It has greater seating capacity and expanded areas for locker rooms and a fitness center complete with a weight room and cardio room.
- An air-conditioned auditorium with a top quality sound system and exceptional lighting with a seating capacity of over 500 people.
- The foyer of the auditorium is also used as a student art gallery.
- New specialized instructional facilities include a TV studio and improved space for art, music, drama and photography.
- The fully equipped television studio has the capability of broadcasting throughout the building.
- A state of the art air-conditioned language lab.
- Updated technology with over 400 individual computer workstations and four fully equipped computer labs with ceiling mounted LCD projectors and advanced software.
- Six science labs equipped with brand new equipment including lap top computers and digital microscopes.
- A two level cafeteria (thanks to the former middle school stage area) complete with loose and fixed seating, and a sound system that can be used for a variety of events.
- Appropriate informational and directional signage was installed.
- Replaced lighting with energy efficient fixtures in hallways and gymnasium. Gymnasium fixtures outfitted with daylight and motion sensors.
- Installed CO2 sensors in classrooms to improve the indoor climate while enhancing energy efficiency.