The Case for Investing in our Nation’s Crumbling Public School Infrastructure

- Introductions
- Get the facts
- Hear from our panel
- Discuss how school facilities needs, inequity and public support align to Congressional action
is a non-partisan coalition that supports federal funding to ensure all children attend safe, healthy, educationally inspiring and environmentally sustainable school facilities.
Meet the Panel

✓ Mary Filardo, 21st Century School Fund, facilitator

✓ Jerry Roseman, Philadelphia Federation of Teachers, Health & Welfare Fund

✓ Zachary Scott, National Association of Secondary School Principals

✓ Robert Boyd, Secure Schools Alliance

✓ Adrienne Dayton, Ed Market Association

✓ Brian Kennedy, International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

✓ Bryan Howard, U.S. Green Building Council

✓ Stephen Ward, VH Strategies
Scale

Elementary and Secondary Public School Infrastructure: State of our Schools 2016 America’s K-12 Facilities www.stateofourschools.org
55 million children and adults are in schools every weekday = 1 in 6 Americans.

100,000
Public K-12 schools in U.S.

1 in 6 Americans sets foot in a school each day

total square footage equal to 2,800 Empire State Buildings

2nd largest public infrastructure investment after transportation

CRV
$2 T

$2 trillion is the 2014 current replacement value (CRV) of our nation’s public school facilities
Percent of total state and local capital outlay, 1995–2012

K-12 FACILITIES ACCOUNT FOR NEARLY ONE-FOURTH OF STATE AND LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS
20 YEARS OF FACILITIES INVESTMENT & SPENDING

ANNUAL AVERAGE (2014$)

$99 BILLION

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION

PER YEAR (1994-2013)

$49 BILLION

MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS

PER YEAR (2011-2013)

$50 BILLION
Need for Federal Funds

Low-wealth school districts cannot deliver healthy, safe and educationally inspiring public school buildings and grounds.
Public Schools Need Facility & Grounds Improvements

✓ Public school facilities = 50 years old on average
✓ Over half of U.S. schools are estimated to need major repairs
✓ Facilities’ use serves entire communities
✓ Construction codes, including ADA compatibility
✓ Enrollment changes + expanded early education
✓ Education delivery and curriculum changes = more technology
✓ Sustainability and disaster resiliency concerns
✓ Safety and security concerns
Projected Annual Facilities Need for School Construction Capital Outlay is $87 Billion

**Recommended Annual Spending**
- Maintenance & Operations: $58 billion
- Capital Construction: $77 billion
- New Facilities: $10 billion

**Historic Annual Spending**
- Maintenance & Operations: $50 billion
- Capital Construction: $49 billion
- Projected Spending Gap: $46 billion
MODERN STANDARDS FOR K-12 FACILITIES

3% of CRV
Annual M&O
Such as cleaning, grounds keeping, routine and preventive maintenance, minor repairs, utilities and security

2% of CRV
Periodic Renewals
Such as replacing key components that wear out, roofs, windows, doors, boilers, etc.

1% of CRV
As-Needed Alterations
Such as adding space for smaller classes, expanding early childhood, addressing environmental concerns, integrating technology, and improving safety and security

1% of CRV
Systematic reduction of deferred maintenance
Making up for delayed M&O, renewals, and alterations

BASIC
A School District's Federal Infrastructure Vision
Gap Between Historic Investment and Current Expenditures Has Grown

- Local district long term debt of $434 billion end of FY2016—nearly $9,000 per student.
- $18 billion for interest on district long term debt in FY2016—more than the annual Title I Federal Funding for school districts.
AN INEQUITABLE FUNDING SYSTEM

Local communities pay 45% of M&O and 82% of capital construction outlay.

Because local wealth varies greatly, some communities have modern, high-quality schools, while others do not.
School Facilities Data

Learn about your state, know your Congressional District
Example of State Profiles: www.stateofourschools.org

Colorado K–12 Public School Facilities

Capital Construction Investment Standards

Colorado should plan to spend an amount equal to at least 4% of its facilities' CPV annually in capital funds on building system and component replacements, including accelerated deferred maintenance, and making allocations to ensure that its existing facilities support the educational programs and modern health and safety requirements estimated to total $1.305 million per year. On average, from 1994 through 2013, Colorado districts spent 50% of the standard. Meeting the standard for the existing facilities would require an annual average capital construction investment of about $440 million statewide or $720 per student.

New Construction to Meet Enrollment Growth

The National Center for Education Statistics projects that, between 2012 and 2024, Colorado's school-aged population will increase from 270,000 to 334,000, a 25% increase. Colorado should accordingly plan to spend an average of an additional $1.70 million per year for new facilities to accommodate the additional students.

Projected Annual Gap in Facilities Spending and Investment

Including the costs of any new construction required to accommodate enrollment growth, Colorado should plan to spend an average annual total of $1.4 million on new K–12 facilities. Based on historic rates of spending, meeting this standard would require spending an additional $1.7 million statewide or about $1,459 per student.

Data Sources

- Basic data are from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Common Core of Data (2012–13) with other school enrollment and number of students included, when included in NCES state tables.
- The percentage of new construction is based on Cogent Data & Analytics costs at contract start at public district schools construction projects by project type and state and year (1992–2013).

21st Century School Fund
Center for Green Schools at USGBC
National Council on School Facilities
CDs Include 100s of K-12 Schools with 1000s of Children

- Avg # of publicly funded schools is 230 per congressional district
- Average enrollment in these schools is 115,000 students
Making the Case
Perspectives from the Field

✓ Jerry Roseman, Philadelphia Federation of Teachers, Health & Welfare Fund
✓ Zachary Scott, National Association of Secondary School Principals
✓ Robert Boyd, Secure Schools Alliance

✓ Adrienne Dayton, Ed Market Association
✓ Brian Kennedy, International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers
✓ Bryan Howard, U.S. Green Building Council
Examples of public school facilities that need local, state, and federal funds so districts can provide their students and staff healthy, safe, and educationally inspiring public school facilities.
• Elementary School Bathroom – Condition pictured present for 3+ years

• Significant damage to lead paint and plaster from moisture & steam leaks

• Unguarded radiator – 200°F – exposed to children

• Children run their hands over efflorescing lead-painted wall

• > 2000 SF of deteriorated lead paint present in dozens of spaces and hundreds of individual walls ceilings & other structures throughout the school

• Debris on multiple surfaces [floors, window sills, desks, chairs, etc.]
Consequential & Cascading Damage
Steam Leak in Mechanical Space - Present for Extended Time [months/years]

- Low Priority – Non Teacher/Student Occupied
- Next to Cafeteria and leading to Hallway
- Steam & Moisture Impacted Asbestos Floor Tile and Electrical System Components
- Mold Growth Resulted from ongoing steam leak
- Problem scale, scope and costs greatly escalated
- A simple fix became a very complex fix
Elbow to elbow
Knee to knee
I’ll read to you and
You’ll read to me!
A District and PFT partnership to improve school conditions.
Panelist

Zach Scott
NASSP Senior Manager of Advocacy
Structurally sound and well-maintained schools can help students feel supported and valued. Students are generally better able to learn and remain engaged in instruction, and teachers are better able to do their jobs, in well-maintained classrooms that are well-lit, clean, spacious, and heated and air-conditioned as needed. In contrast, when classrooms are too hot, too cold, overcrowded, dust-filled, or poorly ventilated, students and teachers suffer.

- U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights
School Infrastructure and Equity

- School districts with higher enrollments of students from low-income families are more likely to report their buildings in “fair” or “poor” condition.
- School districts with higher enrollments of students from low-income and minority families invest thousands of dollars less per student in facilities capital improvements than districts in high-wealth communities.
- Infrastructure’s effect on teacher and principal turnover
About The Secure Schools Alliance

• Focused on improving the security infrastructure, security technology and life safety systems of America’s K-12 public schools
• Recognize that secure schools need to also be safe and healthy to have a positive impact on students and teachers
• Safe means that we oppose any solution to make a school secure by violating life safety codes and laws that serve the handicapped and disabled (ADA)
• Healthy means that we want to see safe and secure solutions applied to school facilities that are free from environmental hazards and have working systems
• Support economically sound decision making (better pricing as a part of renovation and master contracts that bring down costs)
K-12 Public School Infrastructure Facts

• 100,000 K-12 public schools; age 45 years; 7.5 billion square feet; 2 million acres of land; 50 million students, and 6 million teachers and staff.

• American Society of Facility Engineers rates school infrastructure as a D+ in 2017. Poor or substandard school buildings and grounds negatively affect the health of children and adults in schools, which in turn negatively affects their academic and job performance.

• School climate and positive social relations = key for academic achievement.

• Facility quality = key in shaping a schools’ social climate. Properly planned, designed, and maintained school facilities promote the health, well-being, and performance of children and adults in schools.

• Most schools were built before we had studies on the critical role facilities play in education.
K-12 Public School Security Facts

• 100% of mass incidents in elementary and 35% in secondary schools committed by intruders.

• 65% of mass incidents in secondary schools committed by students.

• 65% of all public schools have reported incidents of violence in their schools

• Facility quality plays a strong role in shaping a schools’ social climate. Facilities are only a part of the solution, but they play a major role.

• Costs = PASS estimated basic costs = $100K per elementary and $170K per secondary

• 2018 DOJ/COPS grants: $24.5 mil; avg grant = $269K; 91 grants for 5380 schools in 44 states reaching 3 million students; mostly cameras, target hardening and technology
The Education Market Association represents, connects and serves people who want to succeed in the education market by providing events, resources and leadership to those serving education.
Doesn’t Every Child in the U.S. Deserve a School Like This?
Where Students Are Empowered
And Innovation is the Norm
International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

Founded in 1865, the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers represents craftworkers in the trowel trades across the United States and Canada.

Note: Employment statistics represent pooled data from 2009-2012. Supplier jobs include materials and K-input(capital-input) jobs; indirect jobs include supplier jobs and induced respending jobs.

Benefits of 10-year federal investment from Rebuild America’s School Act (RASA) HR 865 and S 266

• Leverage state and local public funds
• Save maintenance and operations costs
• Increase and stabilize construction jobs
• Support resilient public school facilities
• Strengthen property values & communities
WHERE WE LEARN MATTERS

School facilities have a direct impact on:

- Student and staff health
- Academic achievement
- Environmental resources
- Property values
Third-party verification affirms the integrity of green building commitments by guaranteeing that project teams are delivering on design plans and goals.
Looking for a way forward

Federal Policy Opportunities
53% of schools need improvement to reach “good” condition

Detroit Schools Shut Off Drinking Water After Testing for Lead

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Schools Across the U.S. Find Elevated Lead Levels in Drinking Water

Sweltering schools bring up age-old infrastructure problem in Pennsylvania

The New York Times

Students at this high school are so worried about mold, they wore surgical masks

An estimated 43 percent of school districts, serving 35 million students, tested for lead in school drinking water in 2016 or 2017, according to GAO’s nationwide survey of school districts. An estimated 41 percent of school districts, serving 12 million students, had not tested for lead. GAO’s survey showed that, among
Increasing Federal Spending for School Buildings is “Extremely Important” & a Bipartisan Priority

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increasing federal spending on school buildings</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>55</td>
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*Poll conducted by: POLITICO/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
Where are we today?

• **BASIC’s advocacy**
  • 140+ meetings to-date with Members and staff
  • Fly-in ”Advocacy Day” with the National Council on School Facilities—State School Facilities Officials

• **Legislative proposals and pledges**
  • “The Rebuild America’s Schools Act” - H.R. 865, S. 266
    • 181 House co-sponsors, 25 Senate co-sponsors
  • Democratic leadership plan
    • $40 billion for K-12 schools

• **Growing bipartisan support in both chambers**
  • Rep. David Joyce and 14 Republican House Members’ letter to President Trump
    • 10 letter signatories are current House members
  • Senate amendment directing GAO to study the state of our nation’s outdated school facilities for the first time since 1995 (Reed, Murkowski, Brown)
    • Senators Murkowski, Thune, Sullivan & Rounds led GAO request to study rural schools
“The Rebuild America’s Schools Act”
– H.R. 865, S. 266

• **Funding**
  - $100 billion in targeted federal funding to states to allocate competitively to local education agencies (LEAs) based on the poverty level of the school, fiscal limitations to raise funds to improve school facilities, and the severity of the need to improve school facilities.
  - $70 billion grant program and $30 billion tax credit bond program.
  - Provides 8% in direct grants toward the estimated annual school construction capital need for $87 billion.

• **State Role**
  - States are required to provide a 10% match and comply with a maintenance of effort provision and supplement, not supplant requirements.
  - States must ensure that their distribution of grants represents the geographic diversity of the state, and states must collect and provide data, offer LEAs technical assistance, and review and establish standards.

• **Other Key Elements**
  - Use of “opportunity zones” as an alternative financing source is permitted.
  - Encourages “Green” practices and supports American manufacturing
  - Other allowable uses include extending reach of broad-band which is especially important for rural schools and funding new early learning and CTE instructional space
What’s next for school infrastructure?

Scope:
• Will an infrastructure package include infrastructure beyond roads and bridges? Will it include schools?

Scale:
• How big, over how many years?

Approach:
• Pressing need to increase Republican support, especially in the Senate
• Direct investment?
• Tax incentives/new investment structures
• Source of funding

Our Goal:
Multi-billion dollar investment, a major part of which is direct funding to states, targeted to school buildings most in need of replacement or renovation, in lowest wealth communities