

## Massachusetts School Building Authority

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### Next Steps to Finalize Submission of your FY 2013 Statement of Interest

Thank you for submitting your FY 2013 Statement of Interest (SOI) to the MSBA electronically. **Please note, the District's submission is not yet complete.** The District is required to print and mail a hard copy of the SOI to the MSBA along with the required supporting documentation, which is described below.

Each SOI has two Certification pages that must be signed by the Superintendent, the School Committee Chair, and the Chief Executive Officer\*. Please make sure that **both** certifications contained in the SOI have been signed and dated by each of the specified parties and that the hardcopy SOI is submitted to the MSBA with **original signatures**.

#### **SIGNATURES: Each SOI has two (2) Certification pages that must be signed by the District.**

In some Districts, two of the required signatures may be that of the same person. If this is the case, please have that person sign in both locations. Please do not leave any of the signature lines blank or submit photocopied signatures, as your SOI will be incomplete.

*\*Local chief executive officer: In a city or town with a manager form of government, the manager of the municipality; in other cities, the mayor; and in other towns, the board of selectmen unless, in a city or town, some other municipal office is designated as the chief executive office under the provisions of a local charter.*

**VOTES: Each SOI must be submitted with the proper vote documentation.** This means that (1) the required governing bodies have voted to submit each SOI, (2) the specific vote language required by the MSBA has been used, and (3) the District has submitted a record of the vote in the format required by the MSBA.

- **School Committee Vote:** Submittal of all SOIs must be approved by a vote of the School Committee.
  - For documentation of the vote of the School Committee, Minutes of the School Committee meeting at which the vote was taken must be submitted with the original signature of the Committee Chairperson. The Minutes must contain the actual text of the vote taken which should be substantially the same as the MSBA's SOI vote language.
- **Municipal Body Vote:** SOIs that are submitted by cities and towns must be approved by a vote of the appropriate municipal body (e.g., City Council/ Aldermen/Board of Selectmen) in addition to a vote of the School Committee.
  - Regional School Districts do not need to submit a vote of the municipal body.
  - For the vote of the municipal governing body, a copy of the text of the vote, which shall be substantially the same as the MSBA's SOI vote language, must be submitted with a certification of the City/Town Clerk that the vote was taken and duly recorded, and the date of the vote must be provided.

**CLOSED SCHOOLS: Districts that have reported closed school information must** download the report from the "Closed School" tab, which can be found on the District Main page. Please print this report, which then must be signed by the Superintendent, the School Committee Chair, and the Chief Executive Officer. A signed report, with original signatures must be included with the District's hard copy SOI submittal. **If a District submits multiple SOIs, only one copy of the Closed School information is required.**

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION FOR SOI PRIORITIES #1 AND #3: If a District selects Priority #1 and/or Priority #3, the District is required to submit additional documentation with its SOI.

- If a District selects Priority #1, Replacement or renovation of a building which is structurally unsound or otherwise in

a condition seriously jeopardizing the health and safety of the school children, where no alternative exists, the MSBA requires a hard copy of the engineering or other report detailing the nature and severity of the problem and a written professional opinion of how imminent the system failure is likely to manifest itself. The District also must submit photographs of the problematic building area or system to the MSBA.

- If a District selects Priority #3, Prevention of a loss of accreditation, the MSBA requires the full accreditation report (s) and any supporting correspondence between the District and the accrediting entity.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** In addition to the information required with the SOI hard copy submittal, the District may also provide any reports, pictures, or other information they feel will give the MSBA a better understanding of the issues identified at a facility.

If you have any questions about the SOI process please contact Brian McLaughlin at 617-720-4466 or [Brian.McLaughlin@massschoolbuildings.org](mailto:Brian.McLaughlin@massschoolbuildings.org).

## Massachusetts School Building Authority

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School District Carver

District Contact Elizabeth Sorrell TEL: (508) 866-6150

Name of School Carver Elementary School

Submission Date 3/15/2013

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### SOI CERTIFICATION

To be eligible to submit a Statement of Interest (SOI), a district must certify the following:

- Ⓟ The district hereby acknowledges and agrees that this SOI is NOT an application for funding and that submission of this SOI in no way commits the MSBA to accept an application, approve an application, provide a grant or any other type of funding, or places any other obligation on the MSBA.
- Ⓟ The district hereby acknowledges that no district shall have any entitlement to funds from the MSBA, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 70B or the provisions of 963 CMR 2.00.
- Ⓟ The district hereby acknowledges that the provisions of 963 CMR 2.00 shall apply to the district and all projects for which the district is seeking and/or receiving funds for any portion of a municipally-owned or regionally-owned school facility from the MSBA pursuant to M.G.L. c. 70B.
- Ⓟ The district hereby acknowledges that this SOI is for one existing municipally-owned or regionally-owned public school facility in the district that is currently used or will be used to educate public PreK-12 students and that the facility for which the SOI is being submitted does not serve a solely early childhood or Pre-K student population.
- Ⓟ After the district completes and submits this SOI electronically, the district must sign the required certifications and submit one signed original hard copy of the SOI to the MSBA, with all of the required documentation described under the "Vote" tab, on or before the deadline.
- Ⓟ The district will schedule and hold a meeting at which the School Committee will vote, using the specific language contained in the "Vote" tab, to authorize the submission of this SOI. This is required for cities, towns, and regional school districts.
- Ⓟ Prior to the submission of the hard copy of the SOI, the district will schedule and hold a meeting at which the City Council/Board of Aldermen or Board of Selectmen/equivalent governing body will vote, using the specific language contained in the "Vote" tab, to authorize the submission of this SOI. This is not required for regional school districts.
- Ⓟ On or before the SOI deadline, the district will submit the minutes of the meeting at which the School Committee votes to authorize the Superintendent to submit this SOI. The District will use the MSBA's vote template and the vote will specifically reference the school and the priorities for which the SOI is being submitted. The minutes will be signed by the School Committee Chair. This is required for cities, towns, and regional school districts.
- Ⓟ The district has arranged with the City/Town Clerk to certify the vote of the City Council/Board of Aldermen or Board of Selectmen/equivalent governing body to authorize the Superintendent to submit this SOI. The district will use the MSBA's vote template and submit the full text of this vote, which will specifically reference the school and the priorities for which the SOI is being submitted, to the MSBA on or before the SOI deadline. This is not required for regional school districts.
- Ⓟ The district hereby acknowledges that this SOI submission will not be complete until the MSBA has received all of the required vote documentation and certification signatures in a format acceptable to the MSBA.

**Chief Executive Officer \***

**School Committee Chair**

**Superintendent of Schools**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(print name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(print name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(print name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

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Date

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Date

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Date

\* Local chief executive officer: In a city or town with a manager form of government, the manager of the municipality; in other cities, the mayor; and in other towns, the board of selectmen unless, in a city or town, some other municipal office is designated to the chief executive office under the provisions of a local charter.

## Massachusetts School Building Authority

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School District Carver

District Contact Elizabeth Sorrell TEL: (508) 866-6150

Name of School Carver Elementary School

Submission Date 3/15/2013

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### Note

#### The following Priorities have been included in the Statement of Interest:

1.  Replacement or renovation of a building which is structurally unsound or otherwise in a condition seriously jeopardizing the health and safety of school children, where no alternative exists.
2.  Elimination of existing severe overcrowding.
3.  Prevention of the loss of accreditation.
4.  Prevention of severe overcrowding expected to result from increased enrollments.
5.  Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility.
6.  Short term enrollment growth.
7.  Replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements.
8.  Transition from court-ordered and approved racial balance school districts to walk-to, so-called, or other school districts.

### SOI Vote Requirement

I acknowledge that I have reviewed the MSBA's vote requirements for submitting an SOI which are set forth in the Vote Tab of this SOI. I understand that the MSBA requires votes from specific parties/governing bodies, in a specific format using the language provided by the MSBA. Further, I understand that the MSBA requires certified and signed vote documentation to be submitted with the SOI. I acknowledge that my SOI will not be considered complete and, therefore, will not be reviewed by the MSBA unless the required accompanying vote documentation is submitted to the satisfaction of the MSBA.

**Potential Project Scope:** Renovation/ Addition

**Is this SOI the District Priority SOI?** YES

### District Goal for School: Please explain the educational goals of any potential project at this school

The District Goal is to provide a functional educational space for the preK-grade five students of Carver. If this goal can be achieved by renovation and new construction/addition, with the support of the taxpayers, the district wishes to solve the two building problem with a one building solution. Problem Statement: The Carver Elementary School is comprised of two buildings that share a 23.7 acre site on Main Street in Carver. The Gov. John Carver (GJC) building opened in 1951. In 1957 a two story addition was added to provide a cafeteria and kitchen on the main floor and additional classrooms on the second floor. The GJC building has 34,618 square feet. The building lacks barrier free access to all programs and services for students and visitors. The GJC building does not have art, music, reading, or special education rooms and it lacks a library/media center. To

access these programs students must walk to the EKW building several times per day. The GJC electrical service of 400 AMPs will not support the consistent use of technology as a tool for learning. There are only two outlets in each classroom. There are no meeting rooms in the GJC building. Parent meetings must be held in the EKW building. The nurse's office does not have adequate plumbing. The original hot water boiler has pipes that are exterior to the concrete block interior walls and present a potential danger to staff and students due to their age. The hot water boiler has undermined the floor of the classroom above the boiler room. Although the floor supports, sub floor, and flooring were replaced five years ago, the floor continues to deteriorate. The small cafeteria and gymnasium does not accommodate the use and needs of the 408 students in the building. The student restrooms are small and do not meet the needs of the number of students in the building. The drinking fountains are not functional. The building does not have an adequate sprinkling system. The front entrance doors enter at mid-level between the first and second floors presenting a security risk and a barrier for access. Recently these two entrance doors have been closed as entrances due to security and access concerns. The Erwin K Washburn (EKW) opened in 1975. EKW is a prototype one-story open plan system building built with plans purchased from the Town of Plymouth. In 1984 an 8 classroom wing was built and a double wide portable classroom was added in 1988. The EKW building has 64,392 square feet. The EKW open plan classrooms create a negative impact on teaching and learning. There are only 8 classrooms with walls and doors. The lack of walls and doors negatively impacts the ability to secure the building. There is no storage in classrooms due to the lack of walls. Crates, bins, and moveable storage containers litter the classrooms. In winter, coats, hats, boots, etc. are spilling into the teaching and "hallway" space. Of the 8 heating/cooling rooftop units, 3 are original. If the roof top units need to be repaired, parts have to be manufactured in order to keep them operational. The windows are sealed and cannot be opened. When the air conditioning malfunctions, the building has very limited ventilation. The metal panel interior walls are no longer moveable. The exterior doors are in need of immediate replacement in order to adequately secure the building. The 420 students in the EKW classrooms share all special subject rooms with the students in the GJC. Music classrooms consist of one on the stage in the cafeteria and one in the deteriorating portable classroom. Special services such as speech and language support, occupational and physical therapy are provided to students in converted closets which lack the space and ventilation system for adequate teaching and learning. The EKW cafeteria does not have a cooking kitchen. The kitchen can only keep food warm, there are no cooking facilities. All food is prepared in the GJC kitchen and transported via carts across a parking lot to the EKW, five times per day. In both buildings, all electrical, plumbing, heating, and cooling systems are well past terms of service. There is no space to provide adequate consistent access to technology for all students. With state-wide assessments requiring online testing in 2015, neither building has the electrical capacity or space to test 150 children simultaneously. Much teaching and learning time is lost due to moving students between buildings to access all programs. The District Goal is to renovate and add new construction to connect these buildings and add much needed space for classrooms and all programs. The goal is to work with the Carver community and MSBA to agree upon the building project scope and budget which will meet the MSBA standards for reimbursement and provide a functional and secure educational space which the community will support with a debt exclusion.

**District's Proposed Schedule: What is the District's proposed schedule to achieve the goal(s) stated above?**

1. Gain a majority of votes of the Carver School Committee and the Carver Board of Selectmen in order to submit the SOI by April 10, 2013. 2. If accepted into the MSBA Capital Pipeline, work with MSBA to determine where Carver will start in the process based on the previous failure to place the debt exclusion on the ballot in the town of Carver and the subsequent removal of the Carver project from the funding pipeline. 3. Resume the process at the phase required by the MSBA. Step 4: Carver requires a super-majority (4/5) votes from the Board of Selectmen to put a debt exclusion on the ballot. 4. It takes 14 days to post a special town meeting to approve the funding for a debt exclusion. Note: The Finance Committee takes a vote to recommend or not recommend at the special town meeting. 6. It takes 35 days to post and register a special election for the debt exclusion. The town has a 90 day window after the special town meeting to hold an election to consider the debt exclusion.

**Is this part of a larger facilities plan?** YES

**If "YES", please provide the following:**

**Facilities Plan Date:** 6/1/2006

**Planning Firm:** Kingscott of Kalamazoo Michigan

**Please provide an overview of the plan including as much detail as necessary to describe the plan, its goals and how the school facility that is the subject of this SOI fits into that plan:**

In the fiscal year 2005-2006, the Carver Public Schools went through a bidding process to select a firm to study all

school buildings and make recommendations for the on-going maintenance priorities, repair, and replacement of school buildings. The District contracted with the architectural and engineering firm, Kingscott, Kalamazoo, Michigan. The purpose of the Building Needs Study was to identify and develop a series of concept planning options to address the short and long-term facility needs of the Carver Public Schools in order to prioritize future facilities needs and propose future Capital Improvement Plans. As a result of this study, the two elementary school buildings (Gov. John Carver and Erwin K Washburn buildings) were determined to be the highest priority and concern for the district. In addition, the repair needs of the building shared by the middle and high school were identified and prioritized. The results of the study were incorporated into Five Year Capital Plan for the school district. Each year this plan is updated by the school administration and School Committee and submitted to the Capital Outlay Committee of the Town of Carver. In 2007, Carver submitted a SOI to the MSBA and it was accepted. During the Feasibility Study phase it was determined that Carver would be allowed to pursue a one building solution for a two building problem for our elementary buildings. At the time the buildings operated as separate schools. Due to financial constraints, the two schools were merged in the spring of 2009 under the leadership of one principal for the two buildings who share a 27 acre site on Main Street. During the Schematic Design Phase the town failed to approve a non-binding referendum for the project and the Carver project was removed from the MSBA Capital Pipeline in July of 2010. As a result, the Capital Plan was revised to include urgent repairs for the two aging buildings. In the past two years, the mechanical systems in both buildings have experienced significant failures and required major repairs. Most of the urgent repairs in both buildings would require replacing the entire electrical systems in both buildings because the current electrical service would not support modern mechanical systems. Therefore we have repaired and not replaced. The septic system was in failure. It served both buildings. It was replaced and built to connect and support a renovated and new construction one building project on the site. Recently, we had a security audit which revealed even more issues with the exterior doors and locks in both buildings. The audit recommended complete replacement of doors and locks for the exterior doors in both buildings. We are in the process of determining how to go forward with this recommendation. It is likely that the Capital Plan will be revised to include a phased response to the audit. In the time since the 2006 Kingscott Building Needs Study, the operating systems in the buildings continue to age and require significant repairs. For this reason the two elementary buildings continue to be the top priority to address in the school district. The middle and high school have always shared a single building but operated as two schools. The building was completed in 1988 and an addition was added in 1997. Due to financial constraints the two schools were merged in 2010 to form the Carver Middle High School. There are short and long term issues to address in this building. In the short term (within 5 years) the 25 year old roof and roof top units are in need of a total replacement. The waste water treatment plant which serves the building is deemed in chronic failure by the DEP. An engineering study is in process to recommend the pros and cons of building a new treatment plant or replacing it with a septic system. This is also a short term need. The high school gymnasium floor (PVC) no longer has a bond with the sub floor and is in need of replacement. The seats and curtain in the auditorium are in need of replacement. The science labs are original to the building and are in need of renovation. There have been ongoing upgrades to the technology infrastructure and progress has been made to provide adequate technology for student learning. The submission of the SOI and the completion of the elementary project will allow the capital resources to be dedicated to short and long term needs of the middle high school while maintaining the new elementary building with operating expenses. Ideally, the elementary building would have been replaced in the first attempt and thereby relieved the ongoing extraordinary maintenance costs in the operating budget. This did not happen and therefore the Facilities Plan and the Capital Outlay Plan have a compressed timeline for addressing the needs of both buildings. This is an overview and the complete Kingscott Building Needs Study and Five Year Capital Plan are attached for review.

**Please provide the current student to teacher ratios at the school facility that is the subject of this SOI: 15 students per teacher**

**Please provide the originally planned student to teacher ratios at the school facility that is the subject of this SOI: 15 students per teacher**

**Does the District have a Master Educational Plan that includes facility goals for this building and all school buildings in District? YES**

**If "YES", please provide the author and date of the District's Master Educational Plan.**

The Master Educational Plan is updated yearly keeping the goals and reviewing action steps for completion in a timely

fashion. The Superintendent is the final author. It is based on school and community contributions. The plan begins as a yearly update to the Individual School Improvement Plans authored by teachers, parents, and principals. These plans are incorporated in the Master Educational Plan: The District Improvement Plan includes the input from the administrators and School Committee

**Is there overcrowding at the school facility?** YES

**If "YES", please describe in detail, including specific examples of the overcrowding.**

The overcrowding exists because there are not enough rooms to provide all programs effectively. In the question above it asks about the student/teacher ratio. The average class size is 23 students per classroom teacher. Special Education teachers serve subgroups of students in the regular education classroom and in specialized instructional groups. These special education teachers are counted into the total number of teachers (55). Two of the special education teachers have their own classrooms, The other special education teachers are "inclusion" and work with a grade level of students in their regular education classroom. When you take the total number of students(828) and divide by the total number of teachers (55) the ratio is 15 students to 1 teacher. The average class size is 23 with some classrooms having as few as 19 and others more than 25. The District considers this average class size to be an effective way to provide the educational program. . The Carver Elementary School is comprised of two buildings: The Erwin K Washburn (EKW) and the Gov John Carver (GJC). The overcrowding exists due to the lack of classroom space for all of the programs. The GJC has no space for special education, music, art or reading classes. The students walk outside to go to the GJC for music ,art, and reading in the EKW. Music classes are held on the stage in the cafeteria and the other "classroom" is in the 25 year old portable classroom. Art classes are held in the open plan building classrooms without full walls and doors which is a distraction for the other classrooms. There is no library/media center in the GJC and those 408 students must share a very small library that also houses the only student computers in both buildings with the 420 students in the EKW. There are no spaces for special services in the GJC. Students receiving occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech and language services, specialized instruction for special education must walk outside and go to the EKW to use converted closets and offices in the EKW. When the weather is very bad, these special services may be delivered in the hallway of the GJC. These closet classrooms do not have adequate ventilation and provide a very cramped space for learning. There is no cooking kitchen in the EKW. All food is cooked in the GJC and rolled over on carts, five times per day, across a parking lot to the EKW. There are no meeting rooms in the GJC. Parents must attend meetings in the one room available, the principal's office, in the EKW. The combined square footage of the two buildings is 99,010 square feet for the student population of 828. The lunches must be scheduled in five periods in both buildings. Neither cafeteria will seat all of the students in one grade level. The open plan design of the EKW has no storage closets and instructional materials are stored in mobile carts, bins, and crates. There is no place for students to put winter clothes and they spill into the instructional space and litter the floors of the space between classrooms with no walls. The lack of space and overcrowding has a negative impact on the learning environment in both buildings. Because of the open plan, more "classroom" spaces can be configured in the EKW but these learning spaces do not meet current space requirements. Most classrooms lack water which is a significant hindrance when trying to provide science education. The buildings are overcrowded and lack space to provide a suitable environment for learning for many programs.

**Has the district had any recent teacher layoffs or reductions?** YES

**If "YES", how many teaching positions were affected?** 12

**At which schools in the district?** Carver Elementary School and Carver Middle High School

**Please describe the types of teacher positions that were eliminated (e.g., art, math, science, physical education, etc.).**

Since 2009, Carver Elementary School lost five teachers, one each at grades 1-5 and 1 physical education teacher/ Carver Middle High School lost 1 English teacher, 1 science teacher, 2 social studies teachers, 1 math teacher and 1 health teacher.

**Has the district had any recent staff layoffs or reductions?** YES

**If "YES", how many staff positions were affected?** 12

**At which schools in the district?** Carver Elementary School and Carver Middle School

**Please describe the types of staff positions that were eliminated (e.g., guidance, administrative, maintenance, etc.).**

Since 2009, Carver Elementary School lost 1 clerk, 2 custodians, 1 assistant cook, and 1 principal. Carver Middle High

School lost 1 secretary, 1 attendance clerk, 2 custodians, 1 nurse, 1 librarian, 1 technology teacher and 1 principal.

**Please provide a description of the program modifications as a consequence of these teacher and/or staff reductions, including the impact on district class sizes and curriculum.**

At each grade level in grades 1-5 average class size was increased by 2 - 4 students. In grade 1 class size went from 18-22, In grade 2 class size went from 19-23, in grade 3 class size went from 17-19, in grade 4 class size went from 19-22, in grade 5 class size went from 22-27. The school management under one principal increased from 420 students to 828 students. The custodians were taken from rotating shifts. At Middle High School class size averaged 3-5 more students. The school nurse doubled the number of students she served. The librarian doubled the number of students and classes she served. The principal manages a school and student body that doubled in number with the elimination of the middle school principal position there is one building principal. No programs have been eliminated. Class size average in all classes is under 25 with the occasional class of 28.

**Please provide a detailed description of your most recent budget approval process including a description of any budget reductions and the impact of those reductions on the district's school facilities, class sizes, and educational program.**

The budget process begins with teachers and principals determining the program and staffing needs. Next is the approval by the elected school council of parents, teachers, administrators, and community members. The building budgets are incorporated into the district budget which is built by the administrative team in central office. The central office builds in the fixed costs such as insurance and benefits, contractual obligations for salaries, utilities, transportation, food services, and out of district costs for vocational and special education. The Director of Special Education builds the budget for in district special education costs. There are meetings with the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen as well as the Town Administrator and Town Accountant. The final budget is approved by School Committee before Town Meeting in June. Town Meeting historically supports the school budget. The Town of Carver spends 70 cents of every dollar on the school budget. The district maintains a positive relationship with the town and work together to bring in a balanced budget that meets all of the needs of the town. The town has slowly taken on a higher percent of the school budget during the recession. Chapter 70 provided 50% of the school budget and the town 50% but during the down turn in the economy, the Chapter 70 funds make up 48% and the town contributes 52% of the total budget. There have been budget cuts in recent years but we have not lost programs. We have larger class sizes and we are using fewer support personnel and fewer administrators but we are able to work together to avoid large scale across the board cuts. We work together with the town to plan for short and long term capital expenditures. Carver supports its school operating budget to the extent that it is possible given the revenues available in a small rural community where there is no commercial tax base and the schools are the largest employer.

## General Description

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**BRIEF BUILDING HISTORY: Please provide a detailed description of when the original building was built, and the date(s) and project scopes(s) of any additions and renovations (maximum of 5000 characters).**

The Carver Elementary School is made up of two buildings that share a 23.7 acre site on Main Street (MA-58). The Gov. John Carver building was built in 1951. It is a two-story building where you enter at mid-level on Main Street. In 1957 a two-story addition was added to the northwest side with classrooms on the upper level and a Cafeteria and Kitchen on the lower level. This building has 34, 618 square feet and houses grades three through five (408 students). There have been no renovations to the Gov John Carver building. Regular repairs and maintenance include the replacement of some of the windows facing Main Street in 1996. Two boilers were replaced in 1985. The domestic hot water heater is original (1951) and does not have sufficient capacity. The existing single ply roof was replaced in 1994. It has a 15 year warranty which expired in 2009. The exterior doors are original and in need of replacement. The building is served with cast iron piping below and above grade. The domestic water piping is located in the ceiling. The piping is 62 years old and has internal corrosion. The Erwin K Washburn Building was built in 1975. The original building was a prototype one-story open plan system building built with plans purchased from the Town of Plymouth. In 1984 an 8 classroom addition was built. A double wide portable classroom was added in 1988. The square footage of the building is 64,392. PreK-grade 2 students (420) are served in this building. The existing single ply membrane roof was replaced in 1994. It has a 15 year warranty which expired in 2009. The exterior doors are original and in need of replacement. The Erwin K Washburn is an open plan building laid out on a five feet by five feet module. Some interior walls have been built to partially close the library/media center and eight classrooms. The windows are original (38 years old). The kitchen in this building can only serve and it is not built or equipped to cook. All meals are prepared in the Gov John Carver building and rolled on carts across a parking lot to the EKW warming/serving stations in the cafeteria. The stage in the cafeteria was walled -off and has been used as a classroom for over 15 years. The portable classroom is in extremely poor condition. Both buildings are served by a two well system for fresh water. The system is integrated for both buildings. The septic system that serves both buildings failed in 2010. A new geo system was installed to serve both buildings and built to integrate with a renovation/addition.

**TOTAL BUILDING SQUARE FOOTAGE: Please provide the original building square footage PLUS the square footage of any additions.**

99010

**SITE DESCRIPTION: Please provide a detailed description of the current site and any known existing conditions that would impact a potential project at the site. Please note whether there are any other buildings, public or private, that share this current site with the school facility. What is the use(s) of this building(s)? (maximum of 5000 characters).**

The Carver Elementary School buildings are on a 23.7 acre site and is landlocked by adjoining properties and MA Highway 58/Main Street. Well 1 and 2 are integrated to serve both buildings and during the previous Feasibility Study the DEP approved the current placement of the wells on the site. The parent drop off for both buildings occurs in a parking lot adjacent to Gov John Carver Cafeteria. This parking lot is also a driveway for all deliveries to both buildings. During the school day, access to the parking lot is closed because students have to walk across the parking lot to the playgrounds and playing fields. The playing fields are surrounded by a fence, the playgrounds are not. There are several playgrounds that serve both buildings. There have been some upgrades to play surface for the Kindergarten playground and some handicap accessible play equipment has been added but mostly the playfields are original to the buildings. The parking lot and service drive are paved and are in repairable condition but would likely be relocated in a renovation/addition project in order to separate parking, driving, and the playgrounds. The lot is wooded and recently extreme weather felled several trees. There is a District Central Supply Building on the site for the purpose of housing mowers, snow removal equipment, etc.

**ADDRESS OF FACILITY: Please type address, including number, street name and city/town, if available, or**

**describe the location of the site. (Maximum of 300 characters)**

Carver Elementary School, 85 Main Street, Carver, MA 02330

**BUILDING ENVELOPE: Please provide a detailed description of the building envelope, types of construction materials used, and any known problems or existing conditions (maximum of 5000 characters).**

The Carver Elementary School has two buildings therefore it has two building envelopes. The Gov John Carver building envelope is masonry with a brick and stone exterior. The majority of the windows were replaced in 1996. The doors are original and need to be replaced in order to adequately secure the building. The main entrances on Main Street enter at mid-level with stairs going up to the second floor and down to the 1st floor. Due to the inability to maintain sight lines with visitors these entrances are closed for entry due to security and access concerns. The building has masonry load-bearing walls and pored reinforced concrete floor and roof structure. There are few interior concrete columns. The majority of the interior walls are masonry and/or plaster on masonry. The heat and electrical service are exposed on the interior walls. The roof is single ply membrane and was replaced in 1994. The 15 year warranty expired in 2009. The Erwin K Washburn building is open plan modular with baked enamel, prefabricated insulated panels with steel or aluminum faces. The aluminum framed fixed windows are an integral part of the wall system. The panels are attached to the structural steel framing system. The exterior doors are in need of replacement as the frames are separating from the foundation and the locking mechanisms present a security risk. These doors are mostly 9 feet tall and the wall panels and frames are no longer manufactured. The inability to open windows results in the air conditioning running in moderate to cold weather, which is not energy efficient. If the power fails, the emergency generator does not have the capacity to run the air conditioning. Of the 8 roof top units, 3 are original. These units require nearly constant maintenance and because of their age, parts are no longer available and must be manufactured in order to repair.

**Has there been a Major Repair or Replacement of the EXTERIOR WALLS ? NO**

**Year of Last Major Repair or Replacement:** 1984

**Description of Last Major Repair or Replacement:**

An addition was built in 1984 to provide eight additional classrooms. There have been no exterior wall replacements to either building in the Carver Elementary School.

**Has there been a Major Repair or Replacement of the ROOF? YES**

**Year of Last Major Repair or Replacement:** 1994

**Type Of ROOF:** Both buildings have single ply membrane roofs that were replaced in 1994. The 15 year warranties on both roofs expired in 2009.

**Description of Last Major Repair or Replacement:**

In 1994 the roofs on both of the Carver Elementary Building were replaced with a single ply membrane roof with a 15 year warranty which expired in 2009.

**Has there been a Major Repair or Replacement of the WINDOWS? YES**

**Year of Last Major Repair or Replacement:** 1996

**Type Of WINDOWS:** Some windows in G.J.C. building were replaced in in 1996 with double pane glass. The windows on the back and ends of the building are original. In the EKW building the windows are part of the wall system and have never been replaced.

**Description of Last Major Repair or Replacement:**

In 1996, the windows on the front side of the Gov John Carver building were replaced with double pane windows. No other major repairs or replacements of windows have taken place in either building

**MECHANICAL and ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS: Please provide a detailed description of the current mechanical and electrical systems and any known problems or existing conditions (maximum of 5000 characters).**

In the Gov John Carver building the original electrical system remains. It consists of a 2P 400 Amp 220 volt 1 phase 3 wire. 400 Amps=88,000 Volt Amps. The building is not air conditioned. For 38,938 sq.ft. at 8 Volt-Amps =311,509 Volt Amps are required. The service is severely inadequate. Recently we have experienced brown outs and failures when teachers try to use electronic devices such as smart boards, projectors,computers,etc. With the physical limitations in this older building there were few options to address these issues. We were able to replace two electrical panels which allowed us to add some additional circuits. This mitigated some situations where multiple classrooms shared a single circuit. This did have a positive

impact in that brown outs and failures were reduced , but it did not fix the problem. In the Erwin K Washburn building the electrical service consists of A 3P 1200 Amp 277/480 volt 3 phase 4 wire service. 1200 Amps = 997,200 Volt Amps. The main distribution panel is "Federal Pacific" with spare spaces. The Building is air conditioned, except the gym. For 64,392 sq.ft. at 9 Volt Amps = 579,528 Volt Amps, the service is adequate. The Gov John Carver building is served by two steam boilers. There is no air conditioning. The Erwin K Washburn Building is served by one hot water boiler. The boiler is original (1975).The boiler capacity is 420,000 BTU but the efficiency is low at 65%. There are 8 Roof Top Air Handling Units with gas-fired heating and DX cooling. 3 of the 8 units are original. The diffusers and registers do not allow walls to be built to isolate classroom spaces. The air handling would be compromised. These units are very energy inefficient. Neither the Erwin K Washburn or the Gov John Carver buildings have fire sprinkling systems.

**Has there been a Major Repair or Replacement of the BOILERS? YES**

**Year of Last Major Repair or Replacement: 1985**

**Description of Last Major Repair or Replacement:**

In the Gov John Carver building the 2 boilers were replaced in 1985. In the Erwin K Washburn building the boilers are original (1975).

**Has there been a Major Repair or Replacement of the HVAC SYSTEM ? YES**

**Year of Last Major Repair or Replacement: 2013**

**Description of Last Major Repair or Replacement:**

In the Erwin K Washburn building Roof Top Air Handling Units have been replaced. #2-replaced in 2001;#3-replaced in 2004;#4 replaced in 1999;#5 -replaced in 2000. #1,#8,and #7 (heating only) are original. Major repairs to replacement and original units have been made in the past 5 years. Repairs include circuit boards, compressors, and other mechanical parts. Most parts are no longer available and must be manufactured in order to repair these units.

**Has there been a Major Repair or Replacement of the ELECTRICAL SERVICES AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM? YES**

**Year of Last Major Repair or Replacement: 2012**

**Description of Last Major Repair or Replacement:**

Please review Mechanical and Electrical Systems above.

**BUILDING INTERIOR: Please provide a detailed description of the current building interior including a description of the flooring systems, finishes, ceilings, lighting, etc. (maximum of 5000 characters).**

In the Gov John Carver building the interior is original. The exposed concrete floor and roof structures together with original 1951 hard tile floors provide very poor acoustics. The majority of interior walls are masonry and/or plaster on masonry. The interior walls are painted as needed but no other renovations have been made. The double loaded corridor design is narrow (8ft wide). On the first floor the gymnasium is below the level of the first floor in the center of the building. To get to the cafeteria and nurse's office, you must walk across the gym, even when gym classes are in session. Besides stairs, there are two chair lifts for access on either side of the gym. The cafeteria and nurse's office were part of the 1957 addition. Because of the masonry walls, all heat and electrical services are on the exterior of the interior walls. The building is not sprinkled for fire protection. Lighting is inadequate. The gymnasium and cafeteria cannot serve all 408 students in the building. There is no library/media center, computer lab, reading classroom, special education classroom, or spaces for providing OT, PT, and speech services. Students must walk to the Erwin K Washburn building for these programs and services. In the Erwin K Washburn open plan building the interior walls are prefabricated painted steel or aluminum modular panels. They were designed to be movable. Originally spaces were further divided with mobile storage and coat cabinets. Because the walls were intended to move, lighting control, clocks, receptacle, etc. were located in fixed interior power panel serving each classroom and/or on the exterior wall. The ceilings in the 1975 building are a 5 ft x 5 ft-vaulted module with a fluorescent fixture. In the 1984 addition these modules are flat. Both the wall and ceiling systems are no longer made and replacement parts are unavailable. Over the life of the building walls have been relocated, added and/or extended to the ceiling. Various arrangements of fixed and moveable equipment divide and/or isolate teaching spaces. The original carpet flooring was replaced by hard surfaced vinyl tile. This increased the noise level and significantly changed the environmental quality of the building. The absence of and/or uneven air distribution is caused in part by alterations to walls in the building. None of the windows are operable. The gymnasium has only heating and no air conditioning and no windows. The building is not sprinkled for fire protection. The classroom computer drops system is inadequate, per required 5 drops per classroom. The clock

system is inadequate, the computer lab is part of the media center and open to the hallways. There is no cooking kitchen in this building. All meals must be cooked in the Gov John Carver building and rolled by cart to the EKW cafeteria. The stage is no longer used for performances. The stage is a classroom. The portable classroom is 25 years old and all interior surfaces are in poor condition due to age and materials. The emergency generator services both buildings. The generator is natural gas powered. Roof Top units are not connected to the emergency generator. Barrier free access is a significant problem in the Gov John Carver building and of some concern due to access to the restrooms in the Erwin K Washburn building.

**PROGRAMS and OPERATIONS: Please provide a detailed description of the current programs offered and indicate whether there are program components that cannot be offered due to facility constraints, operational constraints, etc. (maximum of 5000 characters).**

The Carver Elementary School provides core classroom instruction in each classroom (math, science, social studies, reading, writing and social skills) In addition, students are grouped for intervention instruction in reading (45min) and math (30min). Large group interventions meet in the regular classrooms. Small group interventions meet in the reading room which is subdivided by partitions for small group instruction in reading. Math intervention groups meet in the cafeteria when lunch is not being served and in the library/media center during the lunch periods. These are not suitable learning spaces for students who need specialized instruction. Most special education services are delivered in the regular classrooms but some services are delivered individually or in small groups in converted closets that are not suitable for instruction but there is no where else to put these small classes. In some cases small group instruction is given in the hallways. Computer access is very limited for students. There is a small computer lab housed within the library/media center and every student has a computer class once a week in the lab. Teaching in the library/media center which has only half walls and full classes utilizing the library space at the same time is a challenge. Due to lack of electrical service, student computers are scarcely used in grades 3-5 classrooms. The new Massachusetts PARCC assessment is an online test and will be required in 2015. Currently we cannot meet the requirements to test 150 students on computers simultaneously. Valuable education minutes are lost while students go outside to the other building to access specialized instruction, art, music, physical education, computer class, and library. The music "classrooms" have challenging environments: one classroom is on the stage in the cafeteria and the other is in the portable classroom that is 25 years old with many structural challenges. The 828 students are scheduled in 5 lunch periods in two cafeterias. Neither cafeteria has the capacity to seat a grade level of students. They are both undersized. The Erwin K Washburn has the largest cafeteria but the kitchen is only set up to keep food warm and to serve food. All food is cooked in the Gov John Carver building and transported via rolling cart to the serving/warming kitchen in the Erwin K Washburn building where the majority of the students eat. This has been the routine for 38 years. As a result of overcrowding, students do not have regular access to appropriate learning environments that support the use of technology and other electronic devices which support the curriculum. The lighting, heating, and ventilation also have a negative impact on the learning environment. The accelerated failure rate of the roof top units in the Erwin K Washburn building unexpectedly leaves areas of the building without heat or air conditioning in a building with windows that do not open. Although regular maintenance is performed, the age and condition of the roof top units prevents guaranteed maximum performance. Despite the many challenges the building is used nearly 18 hours everyday. There are before and after school programs provided by the schools, the YMCA, and the town recreation committee. Both gymnasiums are used nearly every evening and weekend for recreational sports in the winter. Due to the age and condition of the exterior doors in the Gov John Carver building, we have had to close the front entrance doors and use an escort system from the Erwin K Washburn building to the Gov John Carver building. This is a resource intensive effort to maintain adequate security.

**CORE EDUCATIONAL SPACES: Please provide a detailed description of the Core Educational Spaces within the facility, a description of the number and sizes (in square feet) of classrooms, a description of science rooms/labs including ages and most recent updates, and a description of the media center/library (maximum of 5000 characters).**

In the Gov John Carver there are 18 classrooms. Each is a different shape and size. The following is a list of square feet/classroom: #1-834sf; #2-834sf; #3-853sf; #4-827sf; #5-700sf; #6-825sf; #7-835sf; #8-873sf; #9-913sf; #10-906sf; #11-756sf; #12-861sf; #13-835sf; #14-823sf; #15-869sf; #16-906sf; #17-901sf; and #18-868sf. There is one gymnasium-2916sf and one cafeteria-2044sf. There are no Special Education classrooms or spaces for OT, PT, speech services or reading. In the Erwin K Washburn there are 31 classrooms of varying shapes and square feet. Please note in the building plan, this square footage is "allocated" for classroom space but there is no allocation for hallways/corridors in the open plan therefore the hallway space erodes the classroom space. #1-895sf; #2-890sf; #3-890sf; #4-1094sf; #5-890sf; #6-890sf; #7-

1015sf;#8-1165sf;#9-#16-882sf each;#17-913sf(mobile classroom);#18-892sf;#19-890sf;#20-895sf;#21-1082sf;#22-878sf;#23-878sf;#24-1062sf;#25-1173sf;#26-1172sf;#27-1082sf;#28-898sf;#29-892sf;#30-890sf;#31-1254sf (stage). There are three closets used for OT-PT-309sf; Speech Services are in two closets-152sf; and 90 sf. The computer lab in the library/media center is 850sf. The library/media center is 2110sf. The gymnasium is 4813sf. The cafeteria is 2980 sf. There are no science labs and only a few classrooms have sinks to use for science. The library/media center is located in the center of the Erwin K Washburn building and serves all faculty and students. The computer lab is a classroom in the open space of the library/media center and it is the only one to serve 828 students in both buildings. The educational space is overcrowded and does not meet the standard size of classrooms. The lack of adequate space for special services programs has a negative impact on the programs. When the weather is very bad, the students of the Gov John Carver building receive these services in the hallways of the GJC building. There are hundreds of education minutes per week lost to moving students between buildings for programs. There have been no updates to the classrooms in recent times. Since there are no walls in the open plan building except for a few fixed panels, there is no painting to update classrooms. The masonry in the Gov John Carver is painted to "freshen-up" the 62 year old building.

**CAPACITY and UTILIZATION: Please provide a detailed description of the current capacity and utilization of the school facility. If the school is overcrowded, please describe steps taken by the administration to address capacity issues. Please also describe in detail any spaces that have been converted from their intended use to be used as classroom space (maximum of 5000 characters).**

Both buildings share a total of 828 students in 49 classrooms. Of these 49 classrooms, 8 classrooms are used for music, art, reading, and special education. In 41 regular education classrooms the average class size is 19-26. Of the 8 specialized instruction classrooms, two are converted spaces (stage and portable classroom) and 6 are open plan rooms that are unsuitable for the type of instruction required. The intervention and specialized instruction classes of 4-12 students are meeting in converted closets and common spaces including the hallway. This is an unacceptable learning environment. There is only one elementary school in Carver and there is no other place to provide an education for these elementary students. The library/media center is used for computer classes, library instruction, and small group instruction simultaneously. There are not enough computer centers or classroom drops for student technology use. The concrete block construction of the Gov John Carver building is a barrier to wireless access for the few technology devices that can be supported with the 400 Amp electrical service. If a student, parent, teacher, or visitor has a physical handicap that prevents the use of stairs, he or she can only go to the second floor of the Gov John Carver building by the following route: park in the traffic circle and get over the curb (no ramp) to go to the entry of the Erwin K Washburn building and be escorted to the side door of the Gov John Carver building and then travel through the corridor to the gym. In the gym, this person must use the chair lift to go to floor level of the gym, cross the gym, use the second chair lift to go to the floor level of the corridor that leads to the elevator. Travel up the elevator to the second floor. This is true for the round trip. This is not barrier free access and as a result anytime a student needs a wheel chair permanently there is a need to move a whole grade level to the Erwin K Washburn building and a younger grade level to the Gov John Carver building. The capacity of the restrooms does not meet the needs of the student population. The only storage in both buildings is in a very small basement in the Erwin K Washburn building. At one point tractor trailer trucks were parked on the site to store paper and materials. These trailers have been removed and replaced by a rented portable storage unit. There is not enough space to provide the total education program in the two buildings. The lack of appropriate space has a negative impact on the educational program. The only way to fix the capacity and utilization issues of these two buildings is a complete renovation/addition or build a new building.

**MAINTENANCE and CAPITAL REPAIR: Please provide a detailed description of the district's current maintenance practices, its capital repair program, and the maintenance program in place at the facility that is the subject of this SOI. Please include specific examples of capital repair projects undertaken in the past, including any override or debt exclusion votes that were necessary (maximum of 5000 characters).**

The District maintains a detailed Five Year Capital Plan for all school buildings and vehicles. The District owns its buses and vans. The town funds capital improvements with short term borrowing under the levy limit. An example of this plan at work is the total replacement of the septic system that serves the two elementary buildings. The town borrowed under the levy limit to replace the septic system in 2010. The schools plan for and budget for maintenance through the daily maintenance budget and the extraordinary maintenance budget. These two budget items take care of ongoing maintenance and provide a clean and

well maintained environment. With the age of the two elementary buildings, each system is itemized for replacement in the 5 Year Capital Plan. If all systems and the roof were replaced in the two buildings, the cost would be over \$21 million dollars and the building would still be educationally deficient. It does not make sense to spend that much money on replacing systems when the building would still not serve the needs of the students. The Capital Outlay Commmittee of the town has two school department members. The Committee supports the total renovation/addition building project or new building over replacement of systems. However, as systems fail, sometimes replacement is the only option until a building project goes forward. A copy of the 5 Year Capital Plan is submitted with this document.

**Priority 1**

***Question 1: Please provide a detailed description of the perceived health and safety problem(s) below. Attach copies of orders or citations from state and/or local building and/or health officials.***

Building Needs Study by Kingscott Architecture and Engineering Inc of Kalamazoo Michigan identified the following health and safety problems in the Erwin K Washburn and Gov John Carver buildings which together serve as the Carver Elementary School.

1. Sidewalk, Curbs and Walkways: There is no barrier-free route to either building.
2. Traffic Patterns: Service vehicles must travel through the hard surface Elementary playground. There is no other way to access the loading ramps of either building.
3. Building Envelope: The aluminum framed fixed windows are an integral part of the wall system in the Erwin K Washburn open plan building. The windows cannot be opened and present ventilation problems in the building. If the power fails, the emergency generator does not have the capacity to run the air conditioning.
4. The exterior doors in both buildings are the age of the buildings and need to be replaced to provide safety and security. Most of the exterior doors in the Erwin K Washburn building are 9 feet tall and an integral part of the modular wall system.
5. Fire Protection: Neither building is sprinkled for fire protection.
6. Power: In both the Erwin K Washburn and Gov John Carver buildings the power distribution, panel boards, breakers, spare circuits, feeders; system is inadequate. Power receptacles and grounding system is inadequate. Transient Voltage Surge Suppression-no protection on main distribution or local panel boards.
7. In the open plan Erwin K Washburn building there is a lack of rated wall separation of storage, work, custodial, service, kitchen and mechanical/electrical areas. There is no separation of Library/Media Center and Cafeteria from hallways. There are only 8 classrooms with walls and doors out of 31 classrooms, coupled with the fact that the windows do not open in any of the classrooms, most teaching stations do not have exterior exits and there are no emergency window exits.
8. Toilet Rooms in both buildings do not meet barrier-free code. Only two of the 8 pre-K and Kindergarten classrooms have toilet rooms.
9. In the Gov John Carver building the fixtures: water closets, lav's, urinals, electric water coolers, and drinking fountains do not meet B.F. codes.
10. In the Gov John Carver building the hot and cold Domestic Water Piping is located above the ceiling. The piping is 62 years old and has internal corrosion.
11. In the Gov John Carver the heating plant is served by two steam boilers which were installed in 1985. The 1951 steam distribution system is installed in external piping on the masonry walls. Since 2007 there have been 3 ruptures of the distribution system. In two cases, the building was unoccupied, in the third case it was a parent conference evening and no one was in that part of the building.
12. The Emergency Lighting system in the Gov John Carver building is inadequate.
13. The existing stairs in the Gov John Carver building do not exit directly to the exterior on each floor. The stairs exit the building mid-way between the first and second floor. These stairs do not have a rated enclosure. This condition presents a security and safety concern.
14. The gymnasium in the Gov John Carver building is in the center of the building on the ground floor. The only way to go to the cafeteria or nurse's office is through the gymnasium which is below grade. There are stairs and chairlifts on either side. If power were lost in an emergency, there is no barrier free access.

**Priority 1**

***Question 2: Please describe the measures the district has taken to mitigate the problem(s) described above.***

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1. The front entrances to the Gov John Carver building have been closed and all students and visitors must enter through a side door.
2. Scheduled deliveries are only allowed on the service road before and after school. A gate and cones limit access to the playground except at arrival and dismissal. Two administrators direct traffic and escort students from the car to the door of the cafeteria at arrival and dismissal. The police help with traffic control when they are available.
3. There is nothing that can be done with the wall and window system in the Erwin K Washburn without total renovation.
4. The exterior doors are on the list for capital expenditures for 2013-2014. The plan is to replace them in phases.
5. The lack of a sprinkler system in either building remains the same.
6. Two electrical panels were replaced in the Gov John Carver building and a few more circuits were added but it has not solved the electric capacity issues.
7. In the open plan Erwin K Washburn building, interior walls cannot be added due to the heating and ventilation design for an open plan. Since windows are part of the wall system, windows cannot be replaced without a total renovation.
8. Toilet rooms have not been renovated.
9. Some of the building fixtures have been replaced when failure occurs (new toilets, urinals,etc)
10. There has been no replacement of the 62 year old Domestic Water Piping system.
11. Repairs to the steam boilers and distribution piping in the Gov John Carver are an ongoing task for operational maintenance. There has been no replacement of the boilers since 1985 and only repairs to the distribution system.
12. The Emergency Lighting system has not been replaced in the Gov John Carver building.
13. The stairs can not be fixed without renovation. These entrances have been closed as the main entrance to the building. They are used as exits only.
14. The Gov John Carver gymnasium cannot be renovated without totally remodeling the building to bring the gymnasium to ground level grade. Staff supervision of all students needing to cross the gym to get to the cafeteria and nurse's office is the solution we have implemented.

**Priority 1**

***Question 3: Please provide a detailed explanation of the impact of the problem described in this priority on your district's educational program. Please include specific examples of how the problem prevents the district from delivering the educational program it is required to deliver and how students and/or teachers are directly affected by the problem identified.***

Valuable resources and staff are used to keep both buildings as safe and functional as possible. The lack of electrical capacity in the Gov John Carver severely limits the appropriate use of technology to deliver the curriculum and for students to use as a learning tool. With the state requirement of online testing in 2015, there are no immediate solutions for this challenge. In fact, we may have to bus the elementary students to the middle high school to complete the state mandated testing because the electrical capacity will not support this mandate and there are no places to put the computers even if we had the electrical capacity. This is considered the least effective testing environment for students and it will have a negative impact on both student populations.

To maintain the safest possible environment for students, the use of staff as escorts within the building and between the buildings is absolutely necessary. This reduces time on task for learning and does not completely resolve the safety issues. In the open plan Erwin K Washburn building the lack of walls for safety concerns is also a teaching and learning issue. 23 classrooms have no walls and every sound from every classroom interrupts other classes. The teachers have arranged mobile cabinets and other temporary structures to divide the spaces but it does not stop the disruptions.

Barrier-free access is a problem for students and parents who need to be in the Gov John Carver building. We mitigate this problem by moving students and whole grades between buildings so that there are as few barriers as possible. All parent meetings are held in the Erwin K Washburn building because of the access issues and because there is no meeting space in the Gov John Carver building.

**Please also provide the following:**

In the space below, please tell us about the report from an independent source that is not under the direct control of the school district or the city/town, stating that the facility is structurally unsound or jeopardizes the health and safety of the students. The entirety of this report should be submitted in hard copy along with the hard copy of the district's SOI.

Please note that the MSBA will accept an official report from a city or town department/employee, if the person preparing the report is a licensed building inspector, architect, or engineer. For example, a report from the district, city, or town maintenance or janitorial department would not meet this requirement.

**Name of Firm that performed the Study/Report (maximum of 50 characters):.**

Kingscott Architects & Engineers, Kalamazoo Michig

**Date of Study/Report:** 6/1/2006**Synopsis of Study/Report (maximum of 1500 characters):.**

Within this SOI, all reports on the conditions of the Gov John Carver building and the Erwin K Washburn building come directly from this report on the Carver Elementary School. The Kingscott study stated their estimation of both buildings should be rated a 4 (Equals poor condition with multiple building systems needing repair or replacement). This report also gave detailed conditions of all school buildings in the district and the Carver Elementary School buildings were given the highest priority for action.

**Is the perceived Health and Safety problem related to asbestos?:** NO

**If "YES", please describe the location in the facility, if it is currently friable, and the mitigation efforts that the district has undertaken to date (maximum of 2000 characters):.**

Although there is asbestos in both buildings it is considered stable if left alone (non-friable).

**Is the perceived Health and Safety problem related to an electrical condition?:** NO

**If "YES", please describe the electrical condition, any imminent threat, and the mitigation efforts that the district has undertaken to date (maximum of 2000 characters):**

The electrical condition has a negative impact on teaching and learning but does not threaten the health and safety of the inhabitants of the building at this time.

**Is the perceived Health and Safety problem related to a structural condition?: YES****If "YES", please describe the structural condition, any imminent threat, and the mitigation efforts that the district has undertaken to date (maximum of 2000 characters):**

The open plan Erwin K Washburn building presents health and safety issues due to the modular exterior wall system that integrates the windows with the walls. No emergency exit available through the windows. The age and condition of the doors in relationship to the foundation present security issues and make replacements expensive because the doors are part of the modular system and most are 9 feet tall. The open plan of the common areas such as the cafeteria and library media center gives very little security or fire protection. The 25 year old portable classroom has exceeded its useful life. The classroom on the stage is walled off from the cafeteria and in a hallway with narrow access. The Gov John Carver building has structural problems with the doors and stairs that present security and safety issues. The below grade central gymnasium which also serves as a hallway presents safety and barrier-free concerns.

**Is the perceived Health and Safety problem related to the building envelope?: YES****If "YES", please describe the building envelope condition, any imminent threat, and the mitigation efforts that the district has undertaken to date (maximum of 2000 characters):**

The main issue with the envelope is the exterior doors which are difficult to replace in the modular system building (Erwin K Washburn building) due to the integrated wall system. The windows in the Erwin K Washburn building are integrated with the walls and need replacement. The open plan of the building combined with integrated wall/window system does not allow the windows to be used as an emergency exit. The foundation in this building is separating from the modular wall, door, and window system.

**Is the perceived Health and Safety problem related to the roof?: NO****If "YES", please describe the roof condition, any imminent threat, and the mitigation efforts that the district has undertaken to date (maximum of 2000 characters):**

The warranties for the roofs in both the Erwin K Washburn Building and the Gov John Carver building expired in 2009.

**Is the perceived Health and Safety problem related to accessibility?: YES****If "YES", please describe the areas that lack accessibility and the mitigation efforts that the district has undertaken to date. In addition, please submit to the MSBA copies of any federally-required ADA Self-Evaluation Plan and Transition Plan (maximum of 2000 characters):**

The primary lack of barrier free accessibility is in the Gov John Carver building. The two main entrances require the student or visitor to travel up six concrete stairs to the door. Once inside the door, the student or visitor must either go down a set of stairs to the first floor or up a set of stairs to the second floor. The entrance is a mid-level in the building. This cannot be mitigated without total renovation. The only accessible entrance to the building requires the student or visitor to cross the gymnasium floor via stairs or a chair lift (installed in mid 1990s) to get to an elevator that was installed in 1992. The gymnasium serves as a hallway to the cafeteria, nurse's office and the elevator to the second floor. This is not something that students can do independently. The bathrooms in the building are only partially accessible.

**Priority 2**

***Question 1: Please describe the existing conditions that constitute severe overcrowding.***

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Carver Elementary School

Gov John Carver Building

- 1a. 18 Classrooms for students in grades 3-5 provide enough teaching stations for the current 408 students with an average of 23 students per class but there are no classrooms for art, music, reading, special education, occupational therapy, physical therapy or speech and language services.
- 2a. Gym is sized for one teaching station, and also serves as a hallway to the cafeteria and nurse's office
- 3a. There is no space for a Library/Media Center in building
- 4a. There are no conference or meeting rooms in the building.
- 5a. There is no space and no electrical service for a computer lab in this building.

Erwin K Washburn Building(open plan building)

- 1b. There are 31 classrooms for students in grades preK-2. This includes a "classroom" on the stage for music and a 25 year old portable classroom. Two classrooms are for art but lack basic conditions for teaching art (sinks, supply cupboards, etc). 2 classrooms are for severe special needs and 2 classrooms are for reading. These special service classrooms are shared with the 408 students in the Gov John Carver building. The remaining 25 classrooms are used for 428 students in the Erwin K Washburn building. There is no classroom for speech and language. Those students receive services in converted closets (150sf and 90sf) There are no classrooms for OT/PT services. Those students receive services in a converted office (309 sf-this space does not accommodate the basic equipment for these programs) Often the therapists use the hallways for some use of therapeutic equipment. These services are shared by 828 students from both buildings.
- 2b. The kitchen in this building does not accommodate the equipment to prepare meals, only to warm and serve meals. All cooking is done in the Gov John Carver building and transported by cart to the Erwin K Washburn building.
- 3b. There is one conference/meeting space in this building, in the principal's office. With 141 sf it does not accommodate meetings of more than 6 people. This is the only meeting space in both buildings. Many special education team meetings involve 12 or more people and they must be crammed into the 141 sf room.
- 4b. The gymnasium is of adequate size to serve the 420 students in the building but it also has to serve half of the 408 students in the Gov John Carver building. It has no airconditioning and no windows. It is unbearably hot in the late spring and early fall.

**Priority 2**

***Question 2: Please describe the measures the School District has taken to mitigate the problem(s) described above.***

**Gov John Carver Building**

1a. The District has tried many grade level configurations in each building but there is still not enough classrooms to support all of the educational programs. In our Coordinated Program Review from the Department of Education, we were cited for inadequate space and overcrowding for special education students. Closets do not make appropriate learning environments.

2a. Gym is taught outside as often as weather permits and students have gym in the Erwin K Washburn building.

3a. The one Library/Media center has tightly scheduled use and students have less than adequate time to use this space that serves all 828 students. The travel outside between buildings results in loss of instructional time.

4a. When this building was built in 1951, computers were not yet invented, much less used in education. A Computer Lab was placed in the Library/Media center of the Erwin K Washburn Building. Students travel between the buildings to access these services. Both the library/media center and computer lab are used all day for technology classes and scheduled library time. Students are unable to have adequate access to these library services because this small open space serves 828 students.

**Erwin K Washburn Building**

1b. Every available space in the building is used for teaching. There are math intervention groups that meet in the cafeteria. When teachers have a prep period, their classrooms are often used for special services for students. The special services such as music, art, physical education, computer lab, library/media, OT, PT, speech and language, reading and special education share space with the students in the Gov John Carver Building. There is nearly a 100% use of all spaces at all times, including some small groups using hallways, offices, and closets.

2b. The kitchen is built for warming and serving and not for full scale meal preparation. As stated above, the lunches are prepared in the Gov John Carver building and rolled on carts across the parking lot to the Erwin K Washburn building in good weather, driving rain, snow, etc.

3b. There is one meeting and conference space in this building, in the principal's office. Almost all meetings for parents and students in both buildings are scheduled in this very small space. Often a meeting has to be scheduled in the central office meeting rooms which are almost a mile away. Teachers have to leave the building and substitutes need to be in the classrooms longer due to the lack of meeting spaces.

4b. The gymnasium schedule works for both buildings. However the environment is not adequate in the warmer months of the year. With only one double door to the outside and no windows or air conditioning the lack of ventilation makes this a difficult teaching space. We mitigate this by taking classes outside whenever possible.

**Priority 2**

***Question 3: Please provide a detailed explanation of the impact of the problem described in this priority on your district's educational program. Please include specific examples of how the problem prevents the district from delivering the educational program it is required to deliver and how students and/or teachers are directly affected by the problem identified.***

The severe lack of space for specialized instruction prevents the district from providing the optimum learning environment for students. The open plan building, Erwin K Washburn prevents isolation of teaching spaces and this is a constant distraction for students. When one classroom is listening to music, all classrooms around it are listening to music.

It is never appropriate to teach students in closets, hallways, or on the stage. These spaces are not designed for instruction. The adaptation of the library/media center to serve as a computer lab limits access to the library to one class at a time. With 39 classrooms from both buildings, it is very hard to schedule all of the students in the library in a week.

Lack of electrical capacity in the Gov John Carver prevents the consistent use of technology as teaching tool or a tool for learning. We do have a mobile computer lab to take to classrooms but the computers must be used on battery power only and can only be recharged at night when the circuits are not as busy. Only one class a day can use the mobile lab before the batteries must be charged.

In 2015 the state of Massachusetts is requiring most of the state mandated testing to be completed online. Even if we use the one lab in the Erwin K Washburn that provides only 30 work stations, we will not be able to schedule the tests within the time frames given for each subject and each grade. We have not found a solution for this problem.

The lack of meeting spaces in both buildings prevents the district from scheduling mandated team meetings efficiently. With only one small meeting room for 828 students, some meetings must be scheduled in the central office which is off site.

Barrier-free access is a very big challenge for physically handicapped students, parents, and visitors. The Gov John Carver does not provide consistent barrier -free access. If a student needs a wheel chair permanently, we must move the entire grade level to the Erwin K Washburn building. If a student needs a wheel chair temporarily, we bring services to the student in the Gov John Building which means, lunch in the classroom, instead of the cafeteria, reading in the hallway, etc. This is an ongoing challenge to meet the needs of all students who need barrier - free access in order to access the educational programs.

Through the Department of Education's Coordinated Program Review, we were issued a letter of non-compliance for inadequate spaces for delivering the educational program for students with special needs. This review is scheduled every 7 years and we have been unable to correct this for the next program review in the fall of 2013.

The Gov John Carver building opened in 1951, Harry Truman was president, and most households did not own a television. We have been unable to make this outdated building design work for the total education program today. The security issues in both buildings are notable. The Erwin K Washburn building opened in 1975, Gerald Ford was president and computers were not in everyday use in school buildings. Open plan buildings were built during that period but most were totally remodeled in a short period of time because of the educational program challenges they present.

In order to deliver the educational programs required for today and in the future, these two buildings need a total renovation new construction addition or a totally new building provide relief for the overcrowding.

**Please also provide the following:**

**Cafeteria Seating Capacity:** 168

**Number of lunch seatings per day:** 5

**Are modular units currently present on-site and being used for classroom space?:** YES

**If "YES", indicate the number of years that the modular units have been in use:** 25

**Number of Modular Units:** 1

**Classroom count in Modular Units:** 1

**Seating Capacity of Modular classrooms:** 25

**What was the original anticipated useful life in years of the modular units when they were installed?:** 5

**Have non-traditional classroom spaces been converted to be used for classroom space?:** YES

**If "YES", indicate the number of non-traditional classroom spaces in use:** 5

**Please provide a description of each non-traditional classroom space, its originally-intended use and how it is currently used (maximum of 1000 characters):**

The stage in the Erwin K Washburn building is used as the music room. It is in the cafeteria. An office space of 309sf is used to store and provide OT/PT equipment and services. Two closets are used for Speech and Language classrooms (152sf and 90 sf). The Library/Media center also serves as the computer lab. All of these spaces serve 828 students from both buildings that comprise the Carver Elementary School. It should be noted that there is a cafeteria in each building. Since there is only one box for cafeteria fire rated capacity I put the largest, seating for 168. The smaller cafeteria in the Gov John Carver building has a seating capacity of 156.

**Please explain any recent changes to the district's educational program, school assignment polices, grade configurations, class size policy, school closures, changes in administrative space, or any other changes that impact the district's enrollment capacity (maximum of 5000 characters):**

In 2007, each building at the elementary schools site operated as a separate school but shared staff and spaces in the same way that they do today. In the spring of 2009, the two schools combined into one school with one principal and two buildings. Nothing really changed except the loss of one principal. The schools were already operating as a single unit with the same number of staff. The enrollment capacity in the district has not changed. We have three school buildings and two schools. The Carver Elementary is the only elementary school to serve the preK-grade 5 students. The Carver Middle High School has always shared a building. In 2010 it became a Middle High School under one principal instead of a single middle school and a single high school. This school serves all of the students in grades 6-12.

**What are the district's current class size policies (maximum of 500 characters)?:**

The School Committee has a policy that recommends class size not exceed 25 students. There are currently classes that exceed 25 in the Carver Elementary School in grades 3-5.

**Priority 5**

***Question 1: Please provide a detailed description of the issues surrounding the school facility systems (e.g., roof, windows, boilers, HVAC system, and/or electrical service and distribution system) that you are indicating require repair or replacement. Please describe all deficiencies to all systems in sufficient detail to explain the problem.***

Carver Elementary School

Gov John Carver Building

- 1a. 1951 HVAC system (1957 for addition) does not provide consistent service, it is in need of replacement.
- 2a. Building roof replaced in 1994, warranty expired in 2009, needs replacement and additional insulation for efficiency standards.
- 3a. 1951 original water heater, insufficient capacity
- 4a. Steam boiler(1985) and original heating piping at end of its useful life, history of ruptures, is not efficient. Heat piping is exterior to the interior walls in the hallways and presents a safety issue for students and staff in these hallways.
- 5a. Original 1951 unit ventilators have recent failure and repair history, beyond useful life
- 6a. Pneumatic temperature controls do not consistently control temperatures, although there have been some replacements and repairs, these controls are mostly original to the 1951 system.
- 7a. Many plumbing fixtures are original and do not meet barrier free requirement
- 8a. Electrical fixtures and lighting system do not meet state standards.
- 9a. Electric Service capacity is only 400 Amps and does not meet the daily needs.
- 10a. Power distribution, panel boards, breakers, spare circuits, feeders; system is inadequate. Power receptacles and grounding system is inadequate. Transient Voltage Surge Suppression-No protection on main distribution or local panel boards.
- 11a. Emergency generator is well past its useful life and it serves both buildings.
- 12a. Interior structural design does not meet barrier - free code.
- 13a. There is no fire sprinkling system in the building.

Erwin K Washburn Building (open plan)

- 1b. Roof Top Heating and Cooling Units (8), 3 units are original and in need of constant repair. 5 units are of varying age and have multiple repair needs, even the newer units present ongoing maintenance issues and do not provide consistent heating and cooling for the building.
- 2b. The roof was replaced in 1994 and the warranty expired in 2009. A new roof with insulation is needed.
- 3b. The exterior wall is a modular unit. The aluminum framed fixed windows are an integral part of the wall system. All windows are original (1975) are in need of replacement, many have lost their seals and are extremely energy inefficient.
- 4b. Plumbing fixtures-none are barrier-free accessible, nearly all are original (1975).
- 5b. Heating Plant-the building is served by one hot water boiler. Boiler was installed in 1975, boiler is repairable but the efficiency is low-65%. The boiler capacity is 420,000BTU.
- 6b. Power distribution, panel boards, breakers, spare circuits, feeders; system is inadequate. Power receptacles and grounding system is inadequate. Transient Voltage Surge Suppression-No protection on main distribution or local panel boards.
- 7b. Emergency generator is well past its useful life and it serves both buildings.
- 8b. There is no fire sprinkling system in the building.

**Priority 5**

***Question 2: Please describe the measures the district has already taken to mitigate the problem/issues described in Question 1 above.***

Carver Elementary School  
Gov John Carver Building

- 1a. Can not be mitigated.
- 2a. Seams are patched, roof cleaned and monitored by maintenance staff. Replacement is needed.
- 3a. Maintenance provided as needed, staff do without and/or wait for water to be heated. Can not be mitigated.
- 4a. Maintenance provided as needed, exterior heat piping presents a constant safety risk. Thermal wraps on exposed pipes are only a partial solution. Can not be mitigated.
- 5a. Unit ventilators receive maintenance as needed. Can not be mitigated.
- 6a. Mitigated with repairs and replacements.
- 7a. Barrier free access can not be mitigated without complete renovation, fixtures replaced as needed.
- 8a. Electrical fixtures and lighting are replaced as necessary, electrical service capacity does not allow further mitigation.
- 9a. Electrical Service capacity was mitigated by replacing a few panels and adding a few circuits but brown outs and failures continue. Further mitigation is not possible with only a 400 Amp service.
- 10a. Mitigation described in 9a is all that can be done without replacing the entire service.
- 11a. Emergency generator provides extremely limited power to the building. Can not be mitigated without replacement.
- 12a. Interior design deficits prevent barrier free access in this building. Cannot be mitigated without renovation.
- 13b. Fire sprinkling system has not been installed.

Erwin K Washburn Building (open plan)

- 1b. Repairs and replacements of Roof Top Units are ongoing. #1 Unit is original and requires replacement. numbers 2-5 were replaced. #2-2001; #3-2004; #4-1999; #5-2000. #6 is an original unit and requires replacement. #8 is a portable classroom heat pump and is original (1988). Even the newer units require constant maintenance. Often parts have to be manufactured to repair the unit. Mitigation is not possible.
- 2b. Seams are patched. The roof is kept clean. Further mitigation is not possible. The roof needs to be replaced.
- 3b. Window replacement is not possible due to the modular construction that makes the window units a structural part of the wall.
- 4b. Plumbing fixtures are replaced as necessary
- 5b. Hot water boiler is monitored for needed maintenance but is near the end of its useful live and has a low efficiency rating.
- 6b. Power distribution is inadequate. Could be mitigated with replacement of panel boards, breakers, spare circuits, feeders and transient voltage surge protection. The electrical service is adequate to support replacements described.
- 7b. The Emergency generator needs to be replaced.
- 8b. Fire Sprinkling system has not been installed.

**Priority 5**

***Question 3: Please provide a detailed explanation of the impact of the problem/issues described in Question 1 above on your district's educational program. Please include specific examples of how the problem prevents the district from delivering the educational program it is required to deliver and how students and/or teachers are directly affected by the problem identified.***

The educational impact of the deficiencies in the major building systems is significant. The use of technology as a tool for teaching and learning is very limited in the Gov John Carver building. The lack of electrical service does not provide consistent student access to any type of electrical device. If the mobile computer lab on a cart (24 lap tops) is charged overnight when students are not in the building, most computer batteries will provide 2-4 hours of use the next day. This is not sufficient to provide 408 students with consistent access to technology. This provides the possibility of students using a computer every 16 or 17 days.

In 2015 all students in grades 3-5 will have to take more than 50% of the state mandated tests online on computers or tablets. We do not have the electrical capacity to support this requirement. The district mitigates this problem by having the students use the one computer lab in the Erwin K Washburn building. 828 students use this lab.

Barrier - free access is a significant problem. Recently a student had foot surgery and her physician recommended she be home tutored due to the accessibility problems in this building. There is no way to mitigate this problem without a major renovation.

The age and condition of the exposed steam heating pipes is definitely a safety concern. In the past 6 years there have been three ruptures in the piping systems. These ruptures happened when no students were in the building. It continues to be a significant safety concern that cannot be mitigated without replacement of the system.

Because the building does not have space for all educational programs, students are required to walk outside to the Erwin K Washburn building for required programs such as reading, special education, OT/PT, speech and language and music and art. The travel between buildings diminishes the time on task in the educational programs.

**Priority 5**

***Question 4: Please describe how addressing the school facility systems you identified in Question 1 above will extend the useful life of the facility that is the subject of this SOI and how it will improve your district's educational program.***

The age and condition of the school buildings' facility systems requires either complete renovation coupled with the new construction/addition to provide needed space and to connect the two buildings or complete replacement with a new building. A possible solution is to rennovate and add new construction to the existing buildings or build a whole new building on another site.

When the district undertook a MSBA Feasibility Study and Schematic Design process between 2008 and 2010, the district considered 22 conceptual solutions to address the needs of the buildings. Three conceptual solutions were selected to go forward to cost estimating. Two solutions were renovation/addition and one solution was a new building on a new site. In 2009, the renovation/addition solution, "B3", was more than \$7 million less expensive than a totally new building on a new site. This cost estimate did not address the cost of land should land have to be purchased for a new building. (See Cost Estimates attached)

Replacement of failing systems would not address the educational needs of the students. Without additional space,including the connection of the two buildings with new construction, the educational program cannot effectively be delivered.

**Please also provide the following:**

**Have the systems identified above been examined by an engineer or other trained building professional?:** YES

**If "YES", please provide the name of the individual and his/her professional affiliation (maximum of 250 characters)::**

Kingscott Architecture and Engineering Firm of Kalamazoo, Michigan did the initial study. The engineers and architects who were in charge of the 2006 study were Brooks Godfrey and Robert McGraw and their associates in Kingscott.

**The date of the inspection::** 2/2/2006

**A summary of the findings (maximum of 5000 characters)::**

Between 2005 and June 2006, the study addressed all school buildings in the district. The statements about the condition of the facilities and the facility systems in the SOI are taken from the Kingscott evaluation. In summary, the study recommended the District use this information to complete a MSBA SOI in 2007 for either a renovation/addition project or a new building to address the facility and education needs of the two buildings which comprise the Carver Elementary School. (see attached Kingscott Feasibility Study and Opinion letter)

**Priority 7**

***Question 1: Please provide a detailed description of the programs not currently available due to facility constraints, the state or local requirement for such programs, and the facility limitations precluding the programs from being offered.***

Carver Elementary School

Gov John Carver Elementary School

1a. Art, music, special education, OT/PT, and reading programs cannot be offered in this building. Students must walk outside to share these spaces with students in the Erwin K Washburn building.

2a. There is no Library/Media center in this building. Students must walk outside to share these spaces with students in the Erwin K Washburn building.

3a. There is no Computer/Technology lab in this building and no electrical capacity to support a technology lab. Students must walk outside to share these spaces with students in the Erwin K Washburn building.

4a. Technology as a teaching and learning tool is not consistently available in this building due to the lack of the capacity of the 400 Amp electrical service to support the classroom use of technology on a regular basis.

5b. There is no meeting space for parents and teachers in this building.

6b. The lack of barrier - free access to all programs is significant.

7b. The Library/Media space was partitioned to include a computer lab in the space. Both of these spaces are inadequate to provide consistent access to these programs for the 828 students in both buildings.

Erwin K Washburn Building

1b. Art classes are in an open plan building with inadequate water and supply storage for the teaching of the program. 828 students share the two art classrooms.

2b. Music classes are housed in a converted space, the stage in the cafeteria and the 25 year old mobile classroom. The open plan of the building means that music is a disruption to other classroom spaces. These spaces serve the population of both buildings.

3b. OT/PT, and speech and language services are delivered in converted closets or the hallways. This space is inadequate for the population of the two buildings.

4b. Reading instruction is delivered to students in partitioned spaces in the open plan building. The ambient noise of other classrooms is a disruption to the teaching of reading to students who most need to have a quiet space for learning. This space serves the population of both buildings.

5b. There is only one meeting space for conferences with parents and teachers. This space serves the needs of both buildings and it is too small to accommodate the range of participants in required for most meetings.

5c. This building has no facilities or space for cooking lunches. Meals are delivered from the Gov John Carver building.

**Priority 7**

***Question 2: Please describe the measures the district has taken or is planning to take in the immediate future to mitigate the problem(s) described above.***

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The District has reassigned classroom spaces every year since 2007 in order to mitigate impact on instruction as the needs of students change. The reality is that no configuration of grades and special services can meet all of the educational needs of the children due to lack of adequate space for all programs.

The challenges of the open plan Erwin K Washburn building can not be mitigated without major renovations. The lack of electrical services in the Gov John Carver building prevent the district from providing adequate access to technology for students in that building.

Stages, offices, and closets are not appropriate teaching stations but must be used because there are no other choices. Loss of instructional time due to the necessary movement of students between the buildings cannot be mitigated under the current conditions.

Barrier - free access in the Gov John Carver building can only be mitigated by moving entire grade levels to the other building if there are student(s) in that grade level who are challenged by access issues. Parent/teacher meetings are scheduled for the central office meeting rooms when the one meeting room will not accommodate the participants or the meeting room is already booked.

**Priority 7**

***Question 3: Please provide a detailed explanation of the impact of the problem described in this priority on your district's educational program. Please include specific examples of how the problem prevents the district from delivering the educational program it is required to deliver and how students and/or teachers are directly affected by the problem identified.***

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The educational program is significantly impacted by the lack of adequate space for teaching and learning in specialized programs of art, music, special education, reading, OT/PT, speech and language services. The spaces used are inadequate to serve the needs of the students (closets, offices, hallways, the stage, etc). The lack of space for library and computer lab services impacts the access of students to these educational programs.

The lack of electrical service in the Gov John Carver building seriously impacts the effective use of technology as a tool for teaching and learning. Time spent walking between buildings to access educational programs is time away from learning.

The district has used hallways and even stairwells to provide spaces for educational programs. The Gov John Carver gymnasium is used for reading assessments three times per year. This space is not appropriate for testing but it works slightly better than using a space in the open plan Erwin K Washburn building due to the constant ambient noise from other classrooms. During this testing students are re-routed to the upstairs to access the cafeteria from the back stairs rather than walk across the gymnasium during testing. The gymnasium also serves as a hallway to the cafeteria and the nurse's office.

All students and all teachers are negatively impacted by these challenges presented by the buildings that comprise the Carver Elementary School.

In order to determine how the community of Carver wants to address these significant issues in the Carver Elementary School, the District contracted with a company (K12 Insight) to develop a survey to gauge the interest and opinions of the citizens regarding the Elementary Building Project. The survey was available online and in hard copy. Nearly 1000 (about 995) surveys were completed over an 8 week period in the spring of 2012. The results and analysis of the survey was tabulated by K12 Insight. The results were presented to the School Committee and on Cable TV. The results and analysis were posted on the school district website and the Carver Reporter website. During the first week of school, 2012, two citizen forums were hosted by K12 Insight to address further interests and concerns of the Carver citizens regarding the Elementary School. A summary of the information gathered during the forums was prepared by K12 Insight and published on the school website and the website of the Carver Reporter. Both reports are submitted with this SOI application.

## Vote

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Vote of Municipal Governing Body YES: NO: Date: 10/26/2006

Vote of School Committee YES: 3 NO: 0 Date: 10/24/2006

Vote of Regional School Committee YES: NO: Date:



