

**Franklin Public Schools
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038**

Action Required

Subject: Capital Requests

Date: March 9, 2021

Dept: School Committee

Reason: Required Vote

Enclosure: yes

Recommendation:

Approval of FY 21 Capital Requests

I recommend approval of the FY21 Capital requests as discussed.

Action Requested of the School Committee:

Majority vote of the School Committee is required.

<u>Vote Tabulator</u>	
A Bergen:	Y / N T Keenan: Y / N
J D'Angelo:	Y / N M J Scofield: Y / N
J Pond-Pfeffer:	Y / N D Spencer: Y / N
E Stokes:	Y / N Action: _____



Franklin Public Schools

*Office of the Superintendent
355 East Central Street; Suite 3
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038
Phone: 508-553-4819*

To: Franklin School Committee
From: Lucas Giguere, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Re: FPS FY 21 Capital Requests
Date: March 4, 2021

The capital requests for FY 21 were deferred from the fall to the spring as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. At this time, the Franklin Public School Department is putting forth a small list of capital requests, as the Town Council is considering a spring round of capital. At this time, the District's capital needs are in special education and facilities.

We are proposing two new specialized transportation vans for our special education department. We have an aging fleet of vans with six vans dating between 2009 and 2011, with a mean mileage of 129,043. We anticipate building the regular replacement of the remaining vans into the capital cycle in the next several years. These vans are approximately \$60,000 each, which includes camera technology, for a total request of \$120,000.

A summary of the facilities requests that directly impact schools are as follows:

- \$25,000 divider in the gymnasium at Horace Mann Middle School. The current wall system and motor are antiquated, and the replacement parts are no longer available. This proposed solution is consistent with the other middle school gymnasiums.
- \$50,000 to replace the rubberized playground surface at ECDC continues to erode throughout the year, causing slippery conditions due to the formation of water, ice, and loose material.
- \$35,000 for access controls for the doors at JF Kennedy Elementary School to enhance security in the main entrance foyer.

While we normally have several technology requests for instructional hardware, the Coronavirus relief funding has permitted purchasing hardware that is often funded through fall capital. We are, however, engaging in long-term planning with the Town Administrator to plan for the replacement of technology as different hardware will need to be replaced within predictable time spans in the coming years. We are requesting an upgrade of the existing firewall located at Franklin High School which supported 1GB Internet access for the entire school district and was 7 years old. To support remote learning for Franklin Schools a 10GB Internet line was installed and funded by the Franklin School District. This line, with the 10GB Internet bandwidth, necessitated a far more robust firewall as a replacement. The cost for this is \$65,517.

There are no curriculum requests at this time. We anticipate a need for elementary math materials as a request in FY 22. We also anticipate a need for elementary social studies materials to align with the new frameworks in the future.

I recommend that the School Committee approve the Franklin Public Schools Capital Requests totaling \$295,517 for presentation to the Finance Committee on Wednesday, March 10, 2021, at 6:30 PM.