

## Massachusetts School Building Authority

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### Next Steps to Finalize Submission of your FY 2021 Statement of Interest

Thank you for submitting your FY 2021 Statement of Interest (SOI) to the MSBA electronically. **Please note, the District's submission is not yet complete.** The District is required to mail all required supporting documentation, which is described below.

**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.

**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 SOI will not be considered complete unless and until a summary of the accreditation report focused on the deficiency as stated in this SOI is provided.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** In addition to the information required above, 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 the MSBA at 617-720-4466 or [SOI@massschoolbuildings.org](mailto:SOI@massschoolbuildings.org).

## Massachusetts School Building Authority

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School District Stoughton

District Contact Joyce Husseini TEL: (781) 344-4000

Name of School Richard L. Wilkins Elementary

Submission Date 6/24/2021


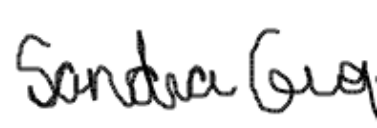
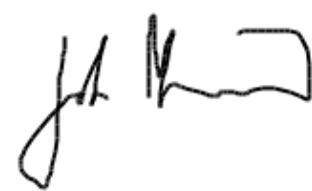
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### SOI CERTIFICATION

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 mail hard copies 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 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 in a format acceptable to the MSBA. If Priority 1 is selected, your SOI will not be considered complete unless and until you provide the required engineering (or other) report, a professional opinion regarding the problem, and photographs of the problematic area or system. If Priority 3 is selected, your SOI will not be considered complete unless and until you provide a summary of the accreditation report focused on the deficiency as stated in this SOI.

**LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT/SCHOOL COMMITTEE CHAIR  
(E.g., Mayor, Town Manager, Board of Selectmen)**

Chief Executive Officer *	School Committee Chair	Superintendent of Schools
Robin Grimm	Sandra Groppi	John Marcus
Town Manager		
		
(signature)	(signature)	(signature)
Date	Date	Date
6/24/2021 12:11:49 PM	6/24/2021 8:49:49 AM	6/24/2021 8:32:00 AM

\* 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. Please note, in districts where the Superintendent is also the Local Chief Executive Officer, it is required for the same person to sign the Statement of Interest Certifications twice.

# Massachusetts School Building Authority

School District Stoughton

District Contact Joyce Husseini TEL: (781) 344-4000

Name of School Richard L. Wilkins Elementary

Submission Date 6/24/2021

## 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.

**SOI Program:** Core **Potential Project Scope:** Renovation/ Addition  
**Is this a Potential Consolidation?** YES

### If 'YES', Please describe Potential Consolidation that is anticipated at the school.

The Wilkins School is being considered for consolidation with a proposed South Elementary based both upon the physical condition of the building from the findings of the Facility Master Plan, and also on the limitations of the spaces in the building being able to support the educational programming of a typical elementary school.

**Is this SOI the District Priority SOI?** NO

**School name of the District Priority SOI:** 2021 South Elementary

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

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

**Facilities Plan Date:** 5/2/2016

**Planning Firm:** Drummey Rosane Anderson (DRA)

**Please provide a brief summary of the plan including its goals and how the school facility that is the subject of this SOI fits into that plan:**

An update to the 2010 Facilities Master Plan was funded in May 2016 and completed in 2017 outlining the required repairs and upgrades to the town facilities in order to bring them back to their "original" condition. Although the Wilkins Elementary School had taken advantage of MSBA accelerated repair projects for both a new roof and for window and door replacements, there are still major expenditures in the areas of the replacement of the steam boilers and the updating of the antiquated ventilation system, and also much needed updates to fire alarm systems and electrical infrastructure. The Facility Master Plan Report presented to the School Committee in January 2021 by the Stoughton Schools Facility Master Plan Committee highlighted the limitations of the building in meeting the needs of the elementary population in the areas of classrooms size, gym, cafeteria, art, and learning commons size and condition, and the condition of the flooring throughout. The report also stated concerns regarding the mix of public and school use on the public playground, and the security concerns with the change in use of the adjacent courthouse.

**Please provide the current student to teacher ratios at the school facility that is the subject of this SOI: 18 students per teacher**

**Please provide the originally planned student to teacher ratios at the school facility that is the subject of this SOI: 16 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.**

1. Facility Master Plan: 2010 and updated in 2016 - Drummey Rosane Anderson, Inc. (DRA) 2. Student Data: DESE, School and District Profiles 3. Stoughton Public Schools Annual Operating Budget FY2021: John M. Marcus, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools, as voted by the School Committee 12/17/2019 4. Annual Stoughton School Facilities Utilization Plan: In Progress - Facilities Master Plan Committee (FMPC) 5. Master Educational Plan: Triennial Improvement

**Is there overcrowding at the school facility?** NO

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

**Has the district had any recent teacher layoffs or reductions?** NO

**If "YES", how many teaching positions were affected?** 0

**At which schools in the district?**

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

**Has the district had any recent staff layoffs or reductions?** NO

**If "YES", how many staff positions were affected?** 0

**At which schools in the district?**

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

**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.**

Does Not Apply

**Please provide a description of the local budget approval process for a potential capital project with the MSBA. Include schedule information (i.e. Town Meeting dates, city council/town council meetings dates, regional school committee meeting dates). Provide, if applicable, the District's most recent budget approval process that resulted in a budget reduction and the impact of the reduction to the school district (staff reductions, discontinued programs, consolidation of facilities).**

Capital projects are brought before the Annual Town Meeting beginning the first Monday in May after a process of vetting by various boards and committees. The complete School District budget, including capital articles, must be submitted for inclusion in the Town Meeting warrant by December 31st. In February, the school district budget and capital articles are reviewed by the Educational Sub-committee of the Finance Committee. In March, the budget/articles are reviewed by the full Finance Committee, after which the Finance Committee votes to recommend approval or disapproval of the budget and articles. The budget and capital articles then go to Annual Town Meeting in May for approval. Special Fall Town Meetings are held on an as-needed basis, and have occurred each of the last three years. Fall and Spring Town Meetings allow the Stoughton Schools to meet all MSBA timelines. The FY21 school department budget was initially proposed to the School Committee in December of 2019. Due to the pandemic, State aid was reduced and the implementation of the Student Opportunity Act was delayed. Therefore, the school budget was initially reduced by \$471,500. Negotiations continued with the Finance Committee and Town Manager to close the Townwide revenue gap. The School Budget was reduced by another \$100,000. The final FY2021 school budget settled with a 3.15% increase over FY2020

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## 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 original Wilkins (West) Elementary School was designed by Collens, Willis and Beckonert Architects and was completed in 1951 as first-class construction. A two story, seven classroom, four restroom addition was added in 1954, and a two story, four classroom, three office addition was added in 1962 for a total of 47,662 square feet. Most recently the Wilkins completed an MSBA accelerated repair roof replacement in 2016 and an MSBA accelerated repair windows and doors replacement in 2019. Town Meeting also funded total replacement of all eight student restrooms in 2020.

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

47662

**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 Wilkins Elementary School is part of an 11.6 acre parcel that is shared with Town recreation fields. The limits of the land used by the school is approximately 4.4 acres. It is directly adjacent to the Stoughton District Court, which has in recent years changed to hearing criminal cases creating additional security concerns for the school. The playground is shared with the public. In order to get traffic off the busy street, it is routed behind the school and eliminates the space for children to play outside before and after school.

**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)

1322 Central Street, Stoughton, MA. Central Street is a major arterial roadway

**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).

Construction is steel framed structure with brick masonry exterior and concrete masonry back-up walls.

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

**Year of Last Major Repair or Replacement:(YYYY)** 1962

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

1962 building addition

**Roof Section** A

**Is the District seeking replacement of the Roof Section?** NO

**Area of Section (square feet)** 47662

**Type of ROOF (e.g., PVC, EPDM, Shingle, Slate, Tar & Gravel, Other (please describe))**  
PVC

**Age of Section (number of years since the Roof was installed or replaced)** 5

**Description of repairs, if applicable, in the last three years. Include year of repair:**

regular maintenance

**Window Section A****Is the District seeking replacement of the Windows Section?** NO**Windows in Section (count)** 245**Type of WINDOWS (e.g., Single Pane, Double Pane, Other (please describe))**

double pane

**Age of Section (number of years since the Windows were installed or replaced)** 2**Description of repairs, if applicable, in the last three years. Include year of repair:**

2019 MSBA Accelerated Repair Window Replacement

**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).**

Heating is provided by two (2) 2.8 MBH H.B. Smith steam boilers (1951 original to building) feeding individual univents in classrooms and offices or fan coils in larger spaces such as the gym and cafeteria. Controls are pneumatic. Air conditioning is limited to less than 5% of the total square footage and accomplished through the wall or window units.

Domestic hot water is provided by a standalone gas fired heater.

Electrical service is provided from a utility owned in building transformer.

The service is 600 Amp, 3 phase and is original to the building. All satellite panelboards and branch circuit wiring are original to the building.

Water service is provided by a 2" copper main and the water distribution system is soldered copper.

**Boiler Section 1****Is the District seeking replacement of the Boiler?** NO**Is there more than one boiler room in the School?** NO**What percentage of the School is heated by the Boiler?** 100**Type of heating fuel (e.g., Heating Oil, Natural Gas, Propane, Other)**

natural gas

**Age of Boiler (number of years since the Boiler was installed or replaced)** 70**Description of repairs, if applicable, in the last three years. Include year of repair:**

replacement of steam valves - 2021, regular maintenance

**Has there been a Major Repair or Replacement of the HVAC SYSTEM?** NO**Year of Last Major Repair or Replacement:(YYYY)** 1962**Description of Last Major Repair or Replacement:**

1962 addition

**Has there been a Major Repair or Replacement of the ELECTRICAL SERVICES AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM?** NO**Year of Last Major Repair or Replacement:(YYYY)** 1962**Description of Last Major Repair or Replacement:**

1962 addition

**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).**

Flooring is a mix of Vinyl Composite Tile (VCT) and Vinyl Asbestos Tile (VAT). Administrative offices and Learning Commons are carpeted.

Walls are a combination of painted Concrete Masonry Units (CMU) and plaster.



Corridor and classroom ceilings are 2' x 4' acoustical dropped ceiling tiles

Corridors have metal lockers.

Lighting is LED retrofits with drivers. Corridors have 2' X 4' 3 lamp wraparound fixtures with motion sensors.

Classrooms have a combination of the 2' X 4' 3 lamp and 2' X 4' 2 lamp wraparound surface mounted fixtures controlled by dual technology sensors. Restricted areas and storerooms are surface mounted wraparound with conventional switching.

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**PROGRAMS and OPERATIONS: Please provide a detailed description of the current grade structure and 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 Wilkins Elementary School is a Kindergarten through Grade 5 school with three classes at each grade level. Students receive both direct and small group instruction in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Technology and Social Science. Students also participate in a Social Emotional curriculum that is woven throughout the disciplines. Due to the facility constraints, the activities and programming that students have access to, or may participate in, are limited.

The Learning Commons area is just over 1000 SF, however it consists of three smaller spaces with limited line of sight and uneven floors. Because of the odd layout of this space, students are unable to meet as a class for a read aloud, demonstration activity, or any shared experience. Additionally, the portion of this space that houses the Maker Space materials is so small that only one group of no more than four students may utilize these resources at one time.

The Art room is a large (960 SF) space that is in a windowless basement area. It has a large dehumidifier running at all times to mitigate the problem of excess moisture. This is loud and distracting for both the teachers and the students.

The cafeteria measures at nearly 2000 SF, but it has a low ceiling and closely spaced columns making table layout difficult. The kitchen has had to take over a large area for dry good storage due to a severely undersized kitchen and limited space onsite to expand.

The gym is undersized and can only be used as a single basketball court due to the location of the stage. Due to its limited size, the entire school community is unable to assemble together for any kind of extracurricular or academic programming.

Finally, students have access to an outdoor playground that is located immediately behind the school, but the playground is a Town playground. Consequently, students often have to share this outdoor space with members of the community. This has the potential of being a safety risk. Additionally, this playground is separated from the building by a two lane blacktop area that is used during drop off and pick up times. This makes it impossible for the students to access the playground during before and after school hours.

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**EDUCATIONAL SPACES: Please provide a detailed description of the 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, a description of the cafeteria, gym and/or auditorium and a description of the media center/library (maximum of 5000 characters).**

The Wilkins Elementary School is a Kindergarten through Grade 5 school. It has 27 classrooms with an average classroom size of 860 square feet. The Learning Commons area is just over 1000 SF, however it consists of three smaller spaces with limited line of sight and uneven floors. The Art room is a large (960 SF) space that is in a windowless basement area. The cafeteria measures at nearly 2000 SF, but it has a low ceiling and closely spaced columns making table layout difficult. The kitchen has had to take over a large area for dry good storage due to a severely undersized kitchen and limited space onsite to expand.. The gym is undersized and can only be used as a single basketball court due to the location of the stage. The school does not have any science rooms or labs, and there have not been any notable updates to any educational spaces in the recent past.

**CAPACITY and UTILIZATION:** Please provide the original design capacity and 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).

The Wilkins has moved the centralized EL program back to the students' home schools, reducing the crowding at the school. The current population is 284, down from 373 in 2018. Because of the transient nature of housing in the neighborhood, the school population can vary significantly from year to year.

**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 Stoughton Public Schools strive to maintain its physical plant, grounds and facilities at a level that will ensure the health and safety of its students, staff and visitors, and that will maximize the useful life and efficiencies of its fixed assets in a cost effective manner.

Presently, the District uses a manual system to provide preventive/predictive (PM) maintenance services and uses a combination of in-house staff (maintenance and custodial) and contractors to complete the tasks. Contractors are utilized for tasks requiring specialized licenses such as elevator, fire alarm, boiler and fire extinguisher maintenance. There is an electronic work request system in place which provides tracking of repair and upgrade requests, as well as PM tasks.

Capital projects/requests are developed from various sources including studies, plans, administrative requests, PM expenditures and emergency repairs. Prioritized requests are then submitted as articles to Town Meeting for funding. list of projects TM votes

**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.***

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The entire school is unable to meet for an assembly in any of the common areas due to their limited space.

The Art room is in the basement with one tiny window and limited storage space. The small gym only allows for a single class at a time and does not allow for more expansive games or athletic activities.

The school's ability to offer outdoor learning spaces is limited to the front yard of the school which is immediately adjacent to Central Street, a major road in town. There really is no safe space for students to have outdoor learning classrooms.

The Learning Commons lacks the space for a class of students to congregate for a shared activity. It's Maker Space section is limited to a very small area and has the capacity for only one group of no more than 4 students to use it with ease at one time. Current standards call for a Learning Commons three times as large and with the ability to provide both quiet reading spaces and group collaboration spaces, along with an array of books, digital media, and creation tools, none of which can occur in the current building.

Wilkins currently does not house a district special education program for high needs students. This leaves the building without the advantages of integrating some of our neediest

There is inconsistent heat in the building. In the winter, at times some rooms average temperatures that exceed 90 degrees F while others register in the high 40s. Because of the enrollment in the building, it is impossible to move groups to other classrooms, leaving some classes to deal with heat issues much more than others.

**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 entire school is unable to meet for an assembly in any of the common areas due to their limited space. In an effort to provide programming to our entire population, we have multiple assembly times on the day of an event to accommodate our total enrollment.

The school's ability to offer outdoor learning spaces is limited to the front yard of the school which is immediately adjacent to Central Street, a major road in town. While this is not an ideal location for outdoor learning, our teachers and staff take advantage of this limited green space. Additionally, the district has tried to find funding to allow for two semi-permanent tent structures in this front yard area.

The Learning Commons lacks the space for a class of students to congregate for a shared activity. It's Maker Space section is limited to a very small area and has the capacity for only one group of no more than 4 students to use it with ease at one time. As a way to mitigate this problem, students rotate through center activities during their Learning Common time. One center allows students to explore the Maker Space, another center allows students to listen to a read aloud, and a third center allows students time to explore and use the other resources in the Learning Common area.

There is inconsistent heat in the building. In the winter, at times some rooms average temperatures that exceed 90 degrees F. Mitigating measures include opening windows when outside temperatures are near freezing. Other rooms are so cold that staff and students need to wear their coats and gloves in order to stay warm.

**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 structural limitations of the building result in an inequitable experience for the students at the Wilkins Elementary School when compared to their grade level peers in most of the other elementary schools in the district. In order to make the educational experience for the Wilkins students as equitable as possible, the staff often has to compensate for its shortcomings including the teaching in small spaces, squeezing students into an undersized cafeteria, and running limited programs in terms of student capacity and content.

The content area that is most impacted is Science and Technology. Contemporary methodologies such as hands-on, collaborative, technology-rich lessons are limited at Wilkins due to the space limitations, the age of the structure, and electrical restrictions. In other curricular domains, the students lack the basic opportunities for collaboration and exploration in a number of spaces such as the Learning Commons, outdoor spaces, and specialist rooms.

While the staff does their best to provide comparable experiences for the students, they are not the same as their peers across the district. The fourth element, or goal, of the district's Triennial Plan focuses on the implementation and use of a Learning Commons model. While Wilkins has certainly done its best to transition the existing library space to that of a Learning Commons, it lacks the functionality of other Learning Commons spaces within the district, impacting student learning in both the Humanities and STEM components of our program.

The basement Art room with limited outside light and storage also leaves Wilkins students with a more constricted arts experience compared to their peers.

The undersized cafeteria and gym prevent full-school assemblies or meetings which limits the ability for Wilkins students to experience the full range of educational opportunities that our other schools can provide. Building a sense of community is vital to an elementary school, and Wilkins has not been able to have those experiences for a long time.

## REQUIRED FORM OF VOTE TO SUBMIT AN SOI

### REQUIRED VOTES

If the SOI is being submitted by a City or Town, a vote in the following form is required from both the City Council/Board of Aldermen **OR** the Board of Selectmen/equivalent governing body **AND** the School Committee.

If the SOI is being submitted by a regional school district, a vote in the following form is required from the Regional School Committee only. FORM OF VOTE Please use the text below to prepare your City's, Town's or District's required vote(s).

### FORM OF VOTE

Please use the text below to prepare your City's, Town's or District's required vote(s).

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on \_\_\_\_\_, prior to the closing date, the \_\_\_\_\_ *[City Council/Board of Aldermen, Board of Selectmen/Equivalent Governing Body/School Committee]* of \_\_\_\_\_ *[City/Town]*, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest dated \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_ *[Name of School]* located at \_\_\_\_\_ *[Address]* which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future

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\_\_\_\_\_ ; *[Insert a description of the priority(s) checked off on the Statement of Interest Form and a brief description of the deficiency described therein for each priority];* and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City/Town/Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

**CERTIFICATIONS**

The undersigned hereby certifies that, to the best of his/her knowledge, information and belief, the statements and information contained in this statement of Interest and attached hereto are true and accurate and that this Statement of Interest has been prepared under the direction of the district school committee and the undersigned is duly authorized to submit this Statement of Interest to the Massachusetts School Building Authority. The undersigned also hereby acknowledges and agrees to provide the Massachusetts School Building Authority, upon request by the Authority, any additional information relating to this Statement of Interest that may be required by the Authority.

<b>Chief Executive Officer *</b>	<b>School Committee Chair</b>	<b>Superintendent of Schools</b>
Robin Grimm	Sandra Groppi	John Marcus
Town Manager		
		
(signature)	(signature)	(signature)
Date	Date	Date
6/24/2021 12:11:49 PM	6/24/2021 8:49:49 AM	6/24/2021 8:32:00 AM

\* 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. Please note, in districts where the Superintendent is also the Local Chief Executive Officer, it is required for the same person to sign the Statement of Interest Certifications twice.