# **Education, Department of**

# Projects Summary (\$ in Thousands)

Project Title	Agency Project Request for State Funds (\$ by Session)				Governor's Recommendations 2006	Gover Plan Estir	ning	
	Ranking	2006	2008	2010	Total		2008	2010
Grant School Collaborative Project	1	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
Red Lake Facility Construction	2	42,330	0	0	42,330	0	0	0
Nett Lake Facility Construction	3	9,698	0	0	9,698	0	0	0
Library Improvement Grants	4	2,000	0	0	2,000	0	0	0
Total Project Requests		\$55,528	\$0	\$0	\$55,528	\$0	\$0	\$0

### Grant School Collaborative Project

**2006 STATE APPROPRIATION REQUEST:** \$1,500,000

**AGENCY PROJECT PRIORITY:** 1 of 4

PROJECT LOCATION:

### **Project At A Glance**

- Provides \$1.5 million for building addition and remodeling
- Provides educational and community support for an established program with needs for adequate space.
- Youth and community programming with broad input and support from public and private partnerships.

#### **Project Description**

The Department of Education requests \$1.5 million for predesign, design, and construction of an addition to, and remodeling of the Grant Magnet School in Duluth Independent School District 707. This new facility would create a youth and community center, which would provide a seamless transition for students between school day and after-school enrichment programs as well as space for family resource fairs and community events.

The school facility has been well-maintained by the school district; however, the original construction and a 1992 addition did not anticipate extended day and year use. The gymnasium and cafeteria, in particular, are undersized for use in extended day and year programming for students and community residents. The current gymnasium accommodates 25 students for physical education or after school programming and does not include a stage for performance, or shower facilities. The small size is unsuitable for upper elementary and older students. The cafeteria area is small and seating is not adequate for students and parents for community meals.

This grant will fund new construction of a 7,000 square foot multipurpose room that will include a stage for youth, community and family performances as well as a 1,000 square foot storage space. It also included remodeling

the existing gym to accommodate additional cafeteria seating and extended and school day program space. These rooms will be large enough to accommodate adults, mixed family groups, or larger numbers of children for a variety of educational and recreational activities.

While youth programs are currently offered by the Grant Community School Collaborative, indoor spaces at the school are not adequate, and programming is limited both in the number of children who can be served and the scope of programs that can be offered.

The new construction and remodeling will provide the Duluth Public Schools and the Grant Community School Collaborative the opportunity to continue and expand the award-winning and research-based programming that has demonstrated positive impact on both student achievement and attendance as well as community development. Goals of the extended day and year programming are to support a facility for youth, families and residents of the neighborhood, increase school attendance and academic achievement, offer a variety of academic, social and cultural enrichment programs for youth and families, develop youth, parental, and civic engagement and leadership, and increase the developmental assets of youth. Both research and program evaluations show that this model increases school attendance, supports students with skills necessary to pass the basic state standards, and strengthens academically supportive behaviors.

### Impact on Agency Operating Budgets (Facilities Notes)

There is no impact on the agency's budgeting associated with this proposal. The school district and the Grant School Collaborative will address any additional maintenance costs.

### **Previous Appropriations for this Project**

This project was awarded a \$900,000 Youth Enrichment Grant in the 2000, however, the project was delayed and the funding was eliminated as a part of the 2003 unencumbrance process prior to execution of the contract.

The Governor recommended \$1.157 million in funding for this project in his 2005 capital budget but it was not included in the bill passed by the Legislature.

### Grant School Collaborative Project

#### Other Considerations

The Grant Magnet School is a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center. It is located in Duluth's East Hillside neighborhood, a high density, high poverty, racially mixed area of high need with few community services available. The area has a high percentage of rental housing and a mobile population. The student population is comprised of 45% minority populations, 75% of the student population qualifies for free or reduced price lunches, and 21% receive special education services. Summer food programs are provided to help parents in providing adequate nutrition for their children during months when school is not in session. A combination of very busy streets and limited access to personal and public transportation makes it difficult for residents, especially youth, to participate in programs or activities outside of the neighborhood and the school is a natural focal point for the community.

The East Hillside community includes many families with multiple stress factors whose children benefit greatly from safe, structured and supervised educational/recreational after-school and summer programs. These programs extend school day curriculum into after-school and summer programs, during the hours many parents are at work. Parents and other community members also benefit from intergenerational activities that provide a sense of belonging to and contributing to a community, as well as programs for basic life skills that strengthen families, develop civic involvement, and promote intercultural appreciation and experiences.

Programming in the renovated facility will be coordinated by the Grant Community School Collaborative, which is a 510(c)3 notprofit corporation. Membership includes the College of St. Scholastica, Duluth Public Schools, Duluth Public Schools Community Education, Duluth Headstart, East Hillside Patch Grass Roots Community Development Agency, East Hillside Community Club, the Grant Magnet School PTA, and YWCA of Duluth.

Programs offered are based on the tenet that what happens outside the classroom is as important to student success as what happens in the classroom and that a successful school reform model uses the family and community as a resource to support student success. Former President Carter awarded the Grant Community School Collaborative the inaugural

Minnesota Carter Partnership Award in 2004 for their work on connecting colleges to the Grant School Community.

Because research indicates that students who live in poverty tend to lag behind others in social, academic and communications skills, programs focus on using the arts to teach reading, science, and life skills. The Getty Education Institute notes that arts participation makes a significant difference to students from low-income families in developing communication skills and can be correlated to success in math and reading, all skills necessary for success in school as well as in life.

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### Red Lake Facility Construction

2006 STATE APPROPRIATION REQUEST: \$42,330,000

**AGENCY PROJECT PRIORITY: 2 of 4** 

PROJECT LOCATION:

### **Project At A Glance**

- \$42.330 million to fund additions and renovations to district K-12 facilities.
- Renovate substandard facilities to promote student achievement.
- Provide additional education space due to projected enrollment growth.
- Provide program specific space for special education, vocational and other specialty programming.
- Request is based on short-term and long-term planning to bring all district facilities to current education standards.

### **Project Description**

The Department of Education requests funding through the education capital loan program to support the Red Lake Independent School District in bringing district facilities up to current education standards. These funds will be used by the district for the following projects.

- ⇒ Continued renovation of and addition to the Red Lake High School including renovation for specialty curriculum for Technology Education, Vocational Education, Physical Education, and an addition for cafeteria/commons, kitchen, community education spaces, and administrative offices.
- ⇒ Addition of elementary classrooms to accommodate increased enrollment and addition of a building segment that will link the Red Lake Elementary School and the Early Childhood Learning Center.

⇒ Addition of a Media Center and a Head Start Center at the Ponemah Elementary School, along with site improvements that will add parking, improve bus drop-off, and expand playground facilities.

The Red Lake Independent School District is required to provide review and comment information on the proposed projects to the Department of Education by June 30. The Department of Education will evaluate the projects, and will approve or disapprove the projects based on the review and comment criteria.

Of the total project cost of \$42.397 million, the local district contribution calculated according to M.S. section 126C.69, subd. 9, is approximately \$67,000 and the capital loan request is \$42.330 million.

In addition, the district plan includes a \$0.666 million expansion and renovation of the school bus center. The capital loan program does not allow use of state funds for this purpose, and the district will fund this from another source. This amount is not included in the capital loan request.

The Red Lake Independent School District recognized the need for a facility plan as they experienced increasing enrollments in crowded and deteriorated facilities. The district completed long-term facilities planning prior to the 2004 legislative session with the goal of determining and prioritizing district facility needs and outlining a plan to bring all district facilities to current education standards.

The Red Lake High School was constructed in 1987 with additions in 1996 and 2003. The school is undersized for the population served, lacks room for specialty classrooms, has inadequate cafeteria and kitchen facilities, and requires generalized modernization. A portion of the addition will house administrative offices currently located in a portable building.

The classroom additions at the Red Lake Elementary School will accommodate increased enrollments. The additions linking the Early Childhood Center to the Red Lake Elementary School will allow sharing of services and make both facilities more useful.

# Red Lake Facility Construction

### Impact on Agency Operating Budgets (Facilities Notes)

There is no effect on the Department of Education operating budget resulting from this request.

District operating costs will increase slightly primarily due to increases in staffing. There will be small increases in maintenance costs due to increased square footage. District revenue projections show revenues sufficient to absorb the additional costs.

#### **Previous Appropriations for this Project**

1992	\$10 million	Construction of Red Lake Elementary School and addition to Red Lake Middle School
2000	\$11.166 million	Construction of Red Lake Early Childhood Center and Additions to Ponemah Elementary and Middle School
2002	\$12.4 million	Additions and Renovations – Red Lake High School, Early Childhood Center, Red Lake and Ponemah Elementary Schools
2005	\$18 million	Construction of new middle school and renovation of existing high school

#### Other Considerations

While funding for school facilities is viewed as primarily a local responsibility, the Red Lake Independent School District has extremely low property values and very little private ownership of land as most of the land is owned in common by Red Lake Tribal members. Even with state assistance through the debt service equalization program, the district cannot fund capital projects through local levies. A measure commonly used to compare school district ability to raise funds through property taxes is the adjusted net tax capacity (ANTC) per pupil unit. In the 2004 Payable 2005 levy cycle, the Red Lake 2003 ANTC FY 2006 pupil unit was \$6.15. For all districts, the median value ANTC per pupil unit was \$4,166.

Population growth of school age children is expected to increase by 56% between FY 1998 and FY 2010. The district is experiencing population growth as many members of the Red Lake Tribe are moving back to the Red Lake area. New housing development is occurring and desirable housing is available for returning tribal members. The housing development has waiting lists in spite of continued construction. Student enrollment growth assumes that new and renovated facilities allowing expanded educational programming will draw many of the approximately 11.5% of resident students who currently open enroll to other public school districts back to the Red Lake Schools.

The Red Lake School District management and community recognize the importance of a stable and healthy school environment to children in an economically and socially depressed community. Current crowded and deficient facilities do not provide a safe and healthy environment that is conducive to learning and supportive to children.

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# Nett Lake Facility Construction

**2006 STATE APPROPRIATION REQUEST:** \$9,698,000

**AGENCY PROJECT PRIORITY: 3 of 4** 

**PROJECT LOCATION:** 

#### **Project At A Glance**

- ♦ \$10 million in the 2006 session to fund additions and renovations to district facilities.
- Provide additional Head Start/Daycare/Elementary spaces and renovate existing space to accommodate enrollment growth
- Provide collocation of medical services for students and community members.

### **Project Description**

The Department of Education requests funding through the education capital loan program to support the Nett Lake Independent School District in providing additions and renovations to the district facility that currently includes collocated space for the Head Start program, daycare services, out-of-school youth services, and medical services. These additions and renovations will result in increased quality of services to children and the community. The Nett Lake Independent School District is required to provide review and comment information on the proposed projects to the Department of Education by June 30. The Department of Education will evaluate the projects, and will approve or disapprove the projects based on the review and comment criteria.

This project builds upon the success of a 1993 collaborative effort that included collocation of the Head Start program, daycare services, youth center, human services and tribal education services. The collaborative services concept has been extremely successful in the community. Both this success and population growth has lead to full facility use so that currently, lack of space is a deterrent to program maintenance and expansion.

Building additions/renovations are planned for the Head Start, daycare, youth programs, and K-6 education spaces. Building security will be addressed through evaluation of current building access and creation of controlled entry to education and early childhood spaces. The human services program will be relocated to another site and the area the program currently uses will be renovated and expanded to house a community medical clinic. The clinic will join with the school district in working to address the high incidence of diabetes in the student and community population an education program emphasizing regular physical activity and healthy diet.

Of the total estimated project cost of \$10 million, the local district contribution calculated according to M.S. section 126C.69, subd. 9, is approximately \$.302 million and the capital loan request is \$9.698 million.

### Impact on Agency Operating Budgets (Facilities Notes

There is no effect on the Department of Education operating budget resulting from this request.

District operating costs will increase due to increases in staffing and maintenance costs will increase due to expansion of square footage. District revenue projections show revenues sufficient to absorb the additional costs.

### **Previous Appropriations for this Project**

The 1993 Legislature approved a capital loan of \$7.967 million to construct the current Nett Lake facility. Of this amount, \$5 million was provided in the 1993 session, and the remainder in the 1994 session.

#### Other Considerations

While funding for school facilities is viewed as primarily a local responsibility, the Nett Lake Independent School District has very low property values. Even with state assistance through the debt service equalization program, the district cannot fund capital projects through local levies. A measure commonly used to compare school district ability to raise funds through property taxes is the adjusted net tax capacity (ANTC) per pupil unit. In the 2004 Payable 2005 levy cycle, the Nett Lake 2003 ANTC FY 2006 pupil unit was \$245.18. For all districts, the median value per pupil unit was \$4,166.

# Nett Lake Facility Construction

The Nett Lake Independent School District serves E-6 students at the current facility. Students in grades 7-12 are served in the St. Louis County School District under an agreement for secondary education (M.S. section 123A.30).

Student populations in the grades K-6 served at the Nett Lake facility have increased by approximately 90% in the last 10 years. The population of the community is also increasing as tribal members move back to the community.

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### Library Improvement Grants

**2006 STATE APPROPRIATION REQUEST: \$2,000,000** 

**AGENCY PROJECT PRIORITY:** 4 of 4

PROJECT LOCATION:

### **Project At A Glance**

\$2 million in the 2006 session to fund disabled access and library renovation/construction under M.S. section 134.45.

### **Project Description**

The Department of Education requests \$2 million to fund competitive library accessibility, renovation and construction for public library improvement grants under M.S. section 134.45. This statute was amended in the 2005 legislative session to expand the grant program from accessibility grants requiring a 50% local match to include grants for renovation, expansion, or construction of library facilities. For purposes of this program public libraries includes regional public library systems, regional library districts, cities, and counties operating libraries.

The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandates that buildings newly constructed or remodeled after 1-26-92, must be accessible to all citizens. Grants provide funding to enable public libraries to remove architectural barriers either as a unique project or as a part of remodeling or renovation.

Renovation, expansion and construction grants will allow local libraries to renew or replace deteriorated and deficient facilities with the goal of providing improved services to the public. As of January 2005, local needs assessments identified construction projects totaling over \$100 million.

### Impact on Agency Operating Budgets (Facilities Notes)

This request will have no impact on the Department of Education operating budget. Current staff is involved in the grant evaluation and approval process, and in traveling to grantee sites when necessary.

### **Previous Appropriations for this Project**

Since the inception of the Library Accessibility Grant Program in 1994, the following amounts have been provided by the legislature.

1994	\$1 million
1996	\$1 million
1998	\$1.5 million
2000	\$1 million
2002	\$1 million
2005	\$1 million

#### Other Considerations

Many libraries throughout the state need to address issues of accessibility and renovation or replacement. The competitive grant process assures equitable distribution of funds based on objective criteria. Application of criteria by state review committee ensures the facility will meet current and future need based on national standards and coordination with regional and statewide needs. If requests for funding exceed the amount of money available, those libraries with the most critical needs are given higher priority through a rating process.

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