

**Education**

**Projects Summary**

(\$ in thousands)

Project Title	Priority Ranking	Funding Source	Project Requests for State Funds		
			2016	2018	2020
ISD 38 (Red Lake) Facility Projects	1	GO	\$ 8,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
Library Construction Grants	2	GO	\$ 2,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>Total Project Requests</b>			\$ 10,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>General Obligation Bonds (GO) Total</b>			\$ 10,000	\$ 0	\$ 0

**ISD 38 (Red Lake) Facility Projects****AT A GLANCE**

<b>2016 Request Amount:</b>	\$8,000
<b>Priority Ranking:</b>	1
<b>Project Summary:</b>	\$8 million in state funds is requested to fund various facility projects in the Red Lake School District (ISD 38).

**Project Description**

The proposed project includes:

- 1) Connection of the Early Childhood Center and the Elementary School by adding six classrooms between the 2 existing buildings.
- 2) Renovate existing Music and Art rooms that were repurposed to classrooms
- 3) Renovate computer labs and student support areas
- 4) Relocate special education spaces to reduce unsupervised movement and provide greater collaboration between specialists and classroom teachers
- 5) Update existing mechanical systems to improve efficiencies
- 6) Relocate main entrance and administrative offices to allow the public easier access to the complex.

**Project Rationale**

The Red Lake Elementary school building is over capacity in all program areas. Special purpose classrooms designed for Art/Science and Music instruction are now being used as general education classrooms. Students are receiving math and reading tutoring in spaces intended as storage. In 2014-15 the Red Lake School District (ISD 38) added one section of 1st grade by repurposing supplemental education rooms. In 2015-16 the District will add one section of 1st grade and one section of 2nd grade by combining special education classrooms.

The Early Childhood Center building reached its capacity at the beginning of the 2013-14 school year when one section of kindergarten was added. In 2014-15, the District added an additional section of kindergarten.

The District expanded its early childhood education program to 4 days a week for 4 year-olds and added additional sections to the 3 year-old program. The additional programs necessitated the repurposing of a special education sensory classroom to a regular classroom, repurposing the only computer lab into a classroom and providing math and reading tutoring in spaces intended for storage.

**Other Considerations**

While funding for school facilities is viewed as primarily a local responsibility, the Red Lake Independent School District has extremely low taxable property values and very little private

ownership of land as most of the land is owned in common by the Red Lake tribal members. Tribal property is tax-exempt.

Between FY 2004 and FY 2015 the district experienced enrollment growth of approximately 10% in kindergarten to grade 5. Grades 6 to 12 enrollments dropped in the aftermath of a 2005 school shooting incident, but are slowly recovering.

The Red Lake School district management and the Red Lake community recognize the importance of a stable and healthy school environment to children in a low-income community.

### **Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

This request has minimal impact on the Department of Education's operating budget. The project will be monitored, payments made and reports submitted by an existing staff member.

### **Description of Previous Appropriations**

2014 \$5.491 million-Remodel kitchen and cafeteria in middle and high schools

2005 \$18 million-Begin construction of new middle school and renovation of existing high school

2002 \$12.4 million-Additions and renovations-high school, early childhood center, elementary schools

2000 \$11.166 million-Construction of early childhood center and additions to middle school and Ponemah Elementary school

1992 \$10 million-Construction of elementary school and addition to middle school

### **Project Contact Person**

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## Library Construction Grants

**AT A GLANCE****2016 Request Amount:** \$2,000**Priority Ranking:** 2

**Project Summary:** \$2 million in state funds is requested for the Library Construction Grant program which provides one-to-one matching funds to public libraries for building renovation and accessibility projects, and for the construction of new library buildings under M.S. 134.45. Grant funds help to ensure that public libraries are energy efficient and accessible to all residents, particularly those with disabilities. Library buildings in sixty-one counties have benefited from the program since its inception in 1994.

**Project Description**

Library Construction Grants leverage state bond funds with local dollars for renovation, construction and improvement projects that result in more accessible public library buildings. In addition to ensuring that public library buildings meet Americans with Disabilities Act guidelines, library construction grants result in more sustainable and energy efficient public library facilities and improve library services. Grants are awarded in consultation with the Minnesota State Council on Disabilities. Projects may: 1) remove architectural barriers from a library building or site, 2) remediate conditions hazardous to health and safety, 3) renovate or expand an existing building for use as a library, or 4) construct a new library.

Eligible applicants are regional public library systems, regional library districts, cities and counties operating public libraries that meet the statutory definition of a public library in M.S. 134.001

**Project Rationale**

Demand for Library Construction Grants is persistent: with \$3 million available between 2012 and 2015, State Library Services received grant requests totaling \$3.747 million. Informal conversations with cities, counties and libraries across the state have identified approximately 20 library improvement projects with a total cost of well over \$60 million that could benefit from Library Construction Grants. The Library Construction Grant program is a valuable resource for cities and counties seeking to improve the capacity of public libraries to meet the needs of residents with disabilities, support energy-efficient building projects that address diverse community goals and ensure that library buildings are well-equipped for the high degree of technology required to deliver quality services in public libraries.

Through 2013, cities and counties have matched each dollar invested by the state with a local contribution of \$6.83 million.

**Other Considerations**

Public libraries remain a stalwart community resource, offering equitable access to the internet, books and other resources that support success in school and lifelong learning. In many

communities across the state, older library buildings are nearing the end of their lifespan and in need of improvements that address energy efficiency and sustainability in addition to accessibility.

### **Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

This request has minimal impact on the Department of Education's operating budget. The project is supported by .1 FTE of an existing staff member who administers the grant application, award and reporting processes.

### **Description of Previous Appropriations**

2014 \$2.0 million (\$877,000 earmarked for specific projects; \$1,123,000 available for competitive grants)

2012 \$1.0 million

2008 \$1.5 million

2006 \$1.0 million

2005 \$1.0 million

2003 \$1.0 million

2000 \$1.0 million

1998 \$1.5 million

1996 \$1.0 million

1994 \$1.0 million

### **Project Contact Person**

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