



## MILLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS - MASTER PLAN AND BUILDING FACILITIES STUDY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY FEBRUARY 2014

### FACILITIES EVALUATION

Tetra Tech performed a facilities assessment of the Clyde Brown Elementary School and the Millis Middle/High School. A team of architects and engineers met with District staff, toured each school, and developed an interactive master planning spreadsheet that identifies future maintenance and capital improvement work.

The Millis schools are receiving regular maintenance and, as a result, both Clyde Brown and the Middle/High School are in good condition. Priority Facilities Evaluation items include:

- Roof replacement at the Clyde Brown Elementary School
- Security enhancements at both schools
- Educational technology enhancements at both schools
- Athletic field improvements (in conjunction with Town master planning efforts)
- Address overcrowding at both schools

### ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

The enrollment projections provided in this report indicate that the student enrollment in the Millis schools will decline slightly over the next decade. This decline will start in the Elementary grades, and then migrate up through the Middle School/High School levels. The projected student enrollment decrease will ease some of the current space utilization issues; however it will not be enough to relieve the overcrowding that exists in the schools.

### LONG RANGE MASTER PLANNING

The Middle/High School is undersized and overcrowded. The Clyde Brown Elementary School is also undersized and lacks appropriate spaces for required special education services. The space shortages in both schools result in significant scheduling issues and increased class sizes. In order to successfully maximize educational programming for Millis students, additional space needs to be constructed at the Middle/High School to relieve overcrowding. Adding space at Clyde Brown, and/or reconfiguring existing spaces is also needed to better serve the elementary school population, especially for students receiving special education services.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

Tetra Tech recommends maintaining the 5th grade at the Middle School. The staff and administration have taken many steps to ensure the 5th grade transition to the Middle School is orderly and effective. Based upon interviews with staff and responses to the online survey, there is a general satisfaction with the current Middle School grade configuration. The 5th graders are benefitting from additional academic opportunities, including technology and unified arts, that are available to them at the Middle School.

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Tetra Tech recommends submitting a Statement of Interest (SOI) to the Massachusetts School Building Authority's Core Program. This program could provide capital project financial assistance to expand the Millis Middle/High School. Select renovations and possible athletic field upgrade funding should also be included in the SOI for the MSBA's Core Program. SOI's are due on April 11, 2014.

Tetra Tech also recommends submitting an SOI for the Accelerated Repair program (2015 cycle) for funding to perform necessary roofing repair and window work at Clyde Brown Elementary School. We believe that the roofing and window work are excellent candidates for inclusion in the MSBA's Accelerated Repair program.

The overall proposed master plan for the Clyde Brown Elementary School and the Millis Middle/High School includes:

- Additional classroom space at the Middle/High School
- Secure entry improvements at all main offices
- Special Education space improvement at the Elementary and Middle/High Schools
- Additional gymnasium space
- Athletic field improvements