

Education, Department of

Projects Summary
(\$ in Thousands)

Project Title	2010 Agency Priority Ranking	Agency Project Request for State Funds (\$ by Session)				Governor's Recommendations 2010	Governor's Planning Estimate	
		2010	2012	2014	Total		2012	2014
Red Lake Capital Loan	1	\$25,168	\$0	\$11,600	\$36,768	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cooperative Facility Grant - Construction - ISD 239	2	18,546	0	0	18,546	0	0	0
Cooperative Facility Grant - Renovation - ISD 239 Rushford-Peterson	3	1,387	0	0	1,387	0	0	0
Library Accessibility and Improvement Grants	4	1,500	0	0	1,500	0	0	0
Total Project Requests		\$46,601	\$0	\$11,600	\$58,201	\$0	\$0	\$0

Red Lake Capital Loan

2010 STATE APPROPRIATION REQUEST: \$25,168,000

AGENCY PROJECT PRIORITY: 1 of 4

PROJECT LOCATION:

Project At A Glance

- ◆ \$25.227 million to complete additions and renovations to the Red Lake Middle School/High School complex under the capital loan provisions of M.S. 126C.69.
- ◆ Renovate substandard facilities to promote student achievement.
- ◆ 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 and Red Lake Middle School including demolition of the original elementary school, construction of new district/student services, high school media center, technology labs, and replacement of locker rooms. The proposed construction will replace the small, outdated vocational facility with a new self-contained vocational center that would also be used by alternative and adult education programs. A fifth grade wing will be added to the middle school to accommodate reconfiguration of the middle school program. Old vocational spaces will be converted to a middle school hands-on learning labs including shop, technology, fitness and nutrition. The project also includes parking lots, sidewalks, water management, landscaping and an environmental studies area.

If the project is approved based on the review and comment criteria, district voters must approve the borrowing of funds through the capital loan program in an election prior to January 1, 2010.

The total project cost that qualifies for funding under the capital loan provisions is \$25.227 million. The local district contribution calculated according to M.S. 126C.69, subd. 9, is approximately \$59,377 and the capital loan request is estimated at \$25,168,098.

The district completed long-term facilities planning prior to the 2004 legislative session, developing a plan to bring all district facilities to current education standards. The plan was reviewed and modified in the fall of 2008 resulting in decreased costs. Funding was unsuccessfully sought in the 2006-2008 legislative sessions.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets (Facilities Notes)

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

The effect on the school district operating budget is expected to be minimal.

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	Begin construction of new middle school facilities and renovation of existing high school

Red Lake Capital Loan

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. 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 2008 Payable 2009 levy cycle, the Red Lake 2007 ANTC per FY 2008 adjusted pupil unit was \$7.26. Statewide, the median school district ANTC per adjusted pupil unit was \$6,478.82.

Between FY 1996 and FY 2005, the district experienced enrollment growth of approximately 16 percent. In the aftermath of the 2006 school shooting incident, enrollments decreased, particularly at the secondary level, but are rebounding and the district expects stabilization in student numbers.

Components of the long-term plan include projects at the Red Lake Elementary School and at the Ponemah School, as well the Red Lake High School/Middle School project for which funding is requested in this year. Projects at both of these sites are tentatively included in the state budget plan for 2014. The Red Lake Elementary School is currently overcrowded, but the district has chosen to reevaluate the need for additions until the effect of moving the fifth grade to the middle school can be determined and until recent increases in elementary enrollments are determined to be a trend rather than a "bubble". If it is determined that addition is not required, it is still likely that some level of reconfiguration of classroom and common spaces will be required.

The Red Lake School District management and the Red Lake community recognize the importance of a stable and healthy school environment to children in an economically and socially depressed community. The 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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Cooperative Facility Grant - Construction - ISD 239

2010 STATE APPROPRIATION REQUEST: \$18,546,000

AGENCY PROJECT PRIORITY: 2 of 4

PROJECT LOCATION:

Project At A Glance

- ◆ Cooperative Facilities Grant Program replacement of Rushford-Peterson Elementary/High School building, constructed in 1906, 1936, 1957, and 1969, and sited in a flood plain on a busy highway.

Project Description

The Department of Education requests funding through the cooperative facilities grant program authorized by M.S. 123A.44 – 123A.443 for a grant to ISD 239, Rushford-Peterson. These funds will be used by the district for the following project.

- ◆ Construction of a new PreK-5/9-12 facility of approximately 88,000 net square feet on a 49-acre site owned by the district. The facility is designed to serve 60 children in PreK programs, 300 elementary students, and 200 high school students. The elementary portion of the building provides general classrooms, specialty classrooms, spaces for special education services, and a media center. The high school provides spaces for general and specialty classrooms and laboratories, as well as a separate media center and auditorium. Kitchen, cafeteria, gymnasium and auditorium are shared by the elementary and high school. The current building, which is landlocked, located on a busy highway, and not large enough to provide appropriate spaces for special education, art, music, computer labs, and specialty classrooms, is not only in need of extensive deferred maintenance, but was also flooded in the spring of 2007. The proposed site is located in Rushford close to the current site, but is on higher ground than the current site and will allow room for parking and recreation space. Soil borings completed on the new site document appropriate support for the new facility. The total

estimated cost of the construction, furniture, fixtures, and equipment is \$24.729 million. The cooperative facilities grant amount sought is 75 percent of the total cost, or \$18.546 million.

The Rushford-Peterson Independent School district has provided review and comment information on the proposed project to the Department of Education and received a positive commissioner’s review. If the district receives a grant for the proposed projects under the cooperative facilities grant program, the district will hold an election in May, 2010, to request voter approval of general obligation bonds to fund approximately \$6.2 million of the proposed project.

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 decrease slightly overall; maintenance costs will decrease, offset by higher energy consumption with appropriate air flow.

Previous Appropriations for this Project

There have been no previous appropriations for the Rushford-Peterson Independent School District under the cooperative facilities grant program.

History of other appropriations for cooperative facilities program is provided below.

Laws 1987, Chapter 400	\$ 8.0 million
Laws 1992, Chapter 558	\$ 7.881 million
Laws 1993, Chapter 373	\$ 6.0 million
Laws 1994, Chapter 463	\$ 6.778 million

Other Considerations

The Rushford-Peterson School District is located in the southeast corner of the state. Student populations have declined over the past 10 years, as in most school districts, but are projected to remain relatively stable, with small declines over the next five years. The Rushford facility has been in need of replacement for many years, but the district has not been able to pass a

Cooperative Facility Grant - Construction - ISD 239

bond referendum. The district has sought out neighboring districts, Lanesboro, Houston, and Lewiston-Altura to pursue consolidation as a means to solving the facility issues of the district. In each case, no interest was expressed by the neighboring district. The current elementary/high school is not appropriate for current education programming.

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Cooperative Facility Grant - Renovation - ISD 239 Rushford-Peterson

2010 STATE APPROPRIATION REQUEST: \$1,387,000

AGENCY PROJECT PRIORITY: 3 of 4

PROJECT LOCATION:

Project At A Glance

- ◆ Cooperative Facilities Grant Program renovation of a 1950s Rushford-Peterson Middle School, which last underwent major remodeling in 1994.

Project Description

The Department of Education requests funding through the cooperative facilities grant program authorized by M.S. 123A.44 – 123A.443 for a second grant to ISD 239, Rushford-Peterson. The funds will be used by the district for the following project.

- ◆ Deferred maintenance and improvements are planned at the Rushford – Peterson Middle School, which is located in Peterson. The projects included are roofing, tuckpointing and masonry repairs, pavement improvements, window replacements, a fire sprinkler system, heating and ventilation replacements and improvements, as well as modifications to make bathrooms comply with Americans with Disabilities Act standards. The total cost of the planned projects is \$1.850 million. The cooperative facilities grant amount sought is 75 percent of the total cost, or \$1.387 million.

The Rushford-Peterson Independent School district has provided review and comment information on the proposed project to the Department of Education and received a positive commissioner's review. If the district receives a grant for the proposed project under the cooperative facilities grant program, the district will hold an election in May, 2010, to request voter approval of general obligation bonds to fund approximately \$463,000 of the proposed project.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets (Facilities Notes)

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

The effect of this project on school district operating costs will be minimal.

Previous Appropriations for this Project

There have been no previous appropriations for the Rushford-Peterson Independent School District under the cooperative facilities grant program.

History of other appropriations for the cooperative facilities program is provided in the previous narrative.

Other Considerations

Planned deferred maintenance projects at the middle school will extend the useful life of that facility.

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Library Accessibility and Improvement Grants

2010 STATE APPROPRIATION REQUEST: \$1,500,000

AGENCY PROJECT PRIORITY: 4 of 4

PROJECT LOCATION:

Project At A Glance

- ◆ \$1.5 million in the 2010 session to fund disabled access and library renovation/construction under M.S. 134.45.

Project Description

The Department of Education requests \$1.5 million to fund competitive library accessibility, renovation and construction for public library improvement grants under M.S. 134.45. This statute was amended in the 2005 legislative session to expand the existing grant program from accessibility grants requiring a 50 percent local match to include grants for renovation, expansion, or construction of library facilities. For purposes of this program, public libraries include regional public library systems, regional library districts, cities, and counties operating libraries.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandates that buildings newly constructed or remodeled after January 26, 1992, 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 June 2007, local needs assessments identified construction projects totaling over \$280 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
2003	\$1 million
2005	\$1 million
2006	\$1 million
2008	\$1.5 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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