FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

State Facilities Leaders Call for PK–12 Public Schools in Federal Infrastructure Initiative


As the new administration begins to plan for a large infrastructure initiative, it should be noted that our nation’s PK–12 school infrastructure—with a 2014 replacement value of $2 trillion—ranks second only to highways for state and local capital spending (see chart).

From 1995 to 2014, and without federal assistance, school districts spent an average of $49 billion per year on school construction capital outlay. To meet modern standards for responsible stewardship of their existing PK–12 facilities inventory, the nation’s school districts should spend $77 billion per year. 1

Any federal public infrastructure bill should help close this gap. Not only will doing so improve the health, safety and education of children in public schools, but it will support as many as 1.3 million good American jobs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jobs</th>
<th># of Jobs Per $ Billion Spent on Capital Construction</th>
<th># of Jobs with Capital Spending at 4% CRV Standard ($77 billion/year)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct construction jobs</td>
<td>6,664</td>
<td>513,128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect and induced jobs</td>
<td>11,121</td>
<td>856,317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total jobs</td>
<td>17,785</td>
<td>1,369,445</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The National Council on School Facilities represents the states’ perspectives and experience regarding effective policy, planning, practice, regulation, finance, and management of PK–12 public school facilities. The 21st Century School Fund provides research, staff support, and technical assistance to the National Council.

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2 Bivens, Josh and Hunter Blair (2016). *A Public Investment Agenda that delivers the goods for American workers needs to be long-lived, broad, and subject to democratic oversight*. Washington, DC.: Economic Policy Institute.

3 Indirect construction jobs are jobs created from purchases of supplies, materials, or other items related to the delivery of the project or service. An induced job is a job that is created by workers spending their money.
Membership Resolution 2016-04  
School-Facilities Governance & Decision Making

The National Council on School Facilities is the nonprofit membership association of state-level facilities officials of U.S. states, territories, and federal agencies. The mission of the Council is to educate, serve, and advocate on behalf of states in their responsibilities for the nation’s public school buildings and grounds.

Whereas: Sufficient infrastructure is critical to the health, safety, and economic productivity of our nation;

Whereas: Public school buildings and grounds are a major component of our nation’s public infrastructure, with a current replacement value of $2 trillion; and

Whereas: $380 billion nationally over ten years1 is required to close the gap between historic spending and accepted industry standards for the capital requirements of our nation’s PK–12 public school facilities;

Therefore be it resolved that:

The National Council on School Facilities advocates that PK–12 public school buildings and grounds be included in federal programs to address infrastructure needs.

Approved by unanimous vote of the members of the National Council present on December 6, 2016.

Mike Rowland, 2016 President

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