



Colleen Burns Jermain, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

15 Wickham Road • Newport, Rhode Island 02840-3898
Telephone 401.847.2100 Ext. 5376 • Fax 401.849.0170 • ColleenJermain@npsri.net

January 12, 2022

Mayor Jeanne-Marie Napolitano and
Members of the City Council
Newport City Hall
43 Broadway
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

Re: Request for Capital Improvement Funds of \$137,000 to address health and safety needs for the Thompson Middle School playground and sidewalk project

Dear Mayor Napolitano and Members of the Council:

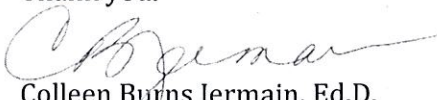
The Newport School Department is addressing an emergency health and safety need for the Thompson Middle School playground and sidewalk. The total project has been estimated at \$300,000. As discussed at our "Revenue Fundamentals" meeting on 12/15/21, Newport Public Schools will use funds from the NPS fund balance to put toward our Capital Improvement Plan, and will also seek emergency funding through the RIDE Stage 1 and Stage 2 application process, expected to be approved in April 2022, to receive 35% reimbursement for the cost of this project.

This request is to address the sidewalk and playground conditions. The Thompson Middle School playground area, located in the back of the school, needs repair. In a recent safety assessment conducted by Director Robert Young from NPS and the City Engineer, William Boardman, the following were noted as items needing immediate attention at the cost of \$300,000:

1. Repair the back lot, pavement area, sidewalk area and curb area as first items needing immediate attention.
2. There are also broken concrete sidewalk panels on the ramp impeding safe travel to/from Broadway and around the school. The sidewalks must not only meet safety requirements but also be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Presently they do not.

Since the project costs exceed the \$25,000 NPS is requesting the \$137,000 from the City Council to repair these conditions in order to provide a safe environment for our students and citizens that use these areas.

Thank you.


Colleen Burns Jermain, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

cc: Newport School Committee