

BUILDING & GROUNDS/TECHNOLOGY

Provide upgraded, sustainable buildings, grounds and technical infrastructure.

SPECIFIC RESULT #1: Ensure that the district's technology infrastructure and tools are current and sustainable to realize a 21st century learning environment and meet State of New Jersey technology requirements through the development of an actionable, long-term, funded technology plan.

#	Action Step	Assigned to:	Starting Date:	Due Date:	Date Completed:
1.	Allocate funding to implement the technology critical needs plan to bring the infrastructure up to date with current educational technology needs.				
2.	Establish a district-wide Technology Committee comprised of staff, parents, students, and community members that will articulate a vision for 21 st Century technology in the Verona Public Schools.				
3.	Determine mechanisms for ongoing monitoring and assessment of technology infrastructure and tools, outreach, and funding.				
4.	Implement ongoing purchase plan or lease that will regularly replace outdated equipment and support the vision.				
5.	Provide sufficient staffing levels to support the infrastructure and tools that make up the learning environment.				

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SPECIFIC RESULT #2: Improve energy efficiency and reduce utility costs.

#	Action Step	Assigned to:	Starting Date:	Due Date:	Date Completed:
1.	Implement appropriate recommendations from ESIP audit to decrease solar gain and increase passive cooling.				
2.	Continue to monitor BPU programs and suggestions for actionable assisted funding items.				
3.	Identify and address suboptimal learning environments due to excessive temperatures.				
4.	Develop a multi-year program to continue electrical and HVAC upgrades for rooms in need.				
5.	Explore renewable energy opportunities.				
6.	Leverage market dynamics to reduce overall energy costs.				

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SPECIFIC RESULT #3: Enhance the safety and security of school facilities.

#	Action Step	Assigned to:	Starting Date:	Due Date:	Date Completed:
1.	Conduct an audit of all facilities to assess current security status/level.				
2.	Review current security policies and procedures and update based on findings.				
3.	Identify strategies to secure facilities after school hours (i.e. during public events, sports events, performances, etc.).				
4.	Continue periodic meetings with local authorities to inform/monitor security enhancement efforts and to stay current on best practices in school security.				
5.	Establish a district-wide Safety and Security Committee comprised of staff, experts in school security, local authorities, district IT staff and parent representatives. The committee will determine a mechanism for ongoing monitoring and assessment of security infrastructure, policies and related staff training.				
6.	Implement recommendations for security infrastructure upgrades and enhanced procedures/controls where necessary.				
7.	Communicate upgrades, procedures, etc. to staff, students, and parents.				

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SPECIFIC RESULT #4: Increase district O&M spending in line with the state median to ensure long term sustainability and enable cyclical replacements and upgrades.

#	Action Step	Assigned to:	Starting Date:	Due Date:	Date Completed:
1.	Educate the community at BOE meetings and public forums on the current situation related to the O&M budget shortfall and the impact of the state mandated budget cap.				
2.	Perform a benchmarking exercise to compare/contrast facility condition vs. O&M budget for Verona schools vs. comparable schools (i.e. Caldwell/West Caldwell).				
3.	Develop a list of benefits for restoring O&M spending to sustainable levels.				
4.	Consider a demonstration project which can be publicized as a good example of the type of facility improvements which can be expected with the proposed increase in funding.				
5.	Develop a strategy to increase the O&M budget (i.e. a 4% increase at one time, or smaller incremental increases over multiple years).				
6.	Develop a “grass roots” support for this initiative.				

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SPECIFIC RESULT #5: Fund ongoing capital improvements.

#	Action Step	Assigned to:	Starting Date:	Due Date:	Date Completed:
1.	Create broader community awareness of capital needs through the media and public forums.				
2.	Develop a strategy to increase the capital budget to include reasonable capital improvement projects which can be handled outside of a referendum.				
3.	Develop a detailed plan for referendum (how much, for what, one large funding amount or multiple smaller funding requests).				
4.	Pursue other methods to fund capital improvements (i.e. grants, special programs).				