

Cranston Public Schools

Building Cranston's Future One Child at a Time

February 16, 2022

Cranston Public Schools is in support of the school construction plan legislation (H7125). We have had enormous success with our initial construction project at Eden Park Elementary School where we renovated both the inside and outside of the west wing of the school, which houses grades three to five, as well as the entryway of the building which greets all of our educators, our learners and their families, and any other visitors. Our educators are now teaching in an educational environment designed to meet the needs of today's learners. The space and the furniture within are flexible and inspiring, the space is safe and secure, while letting in a great deal of natural light. Our students are engaged in their learning and they come to school eager and ready to learn. Because our students are so engaged in their learning, and because the space accommodates the needs of all types of learners, we have seen a decrease in behavioral issues.

Additionally, our entryway at Eden Park is now better suited to the security needs of the 21st century, with security features that are present and designed to keep our staff, students and families safe, but yet with those features we did not need to sacrifice having a warm, welcoming entry for our families and other visitors. The space is bright, engaging and welcoming, and it is very safe. Our educational space also meets the health and wellness standards that are necessary for this century and beyond. As we have navigated through the past many months of this global pandemic, we have seen how necessary it is to have high-quality environmental features in our buildings like HVAC systems and working windows. Although features like HVAC, windows and security are not necessarily features one might see upon first glance, they are just as important as those you do.

Our district has benefitted from the state's generous reimbursement plan for our projects and we will continue to do so as we move forward with our projects at Garden City Elementary School, Gladstone Elementary School, Park View Middle School, Cranston High School West, and as we finish the rest of Eden Park Elementary School. We could not make as much progress in improving our schools for so many of our students and our educators as we have, without these reimbursement incentives. They have allowed us to be purposeful and thoughtful about our school construction projects while also being fiscally responsible.

Jeannine Nota-Masse
Superintendent, Cranston Public Schools