

Thinking Creatively:

A Solution to Reduced Funding for Public Schools



Introduction

Many public school superintendents are dealing with inadequate school funding, as the issue has taken center stage in the education world. School boards are making significant cuts to their general funds; some are transferring money from reserves to make up for a loss of state tax dollars and a decreasing local tax digest. At the same time, growing enrollment and mandated programs continue to spur operating increases.

Inadequate funding has had many negative effects on the quality of the educational system. Buildings are physically deteriorating and some are no longer conducive to learning. The U.S. General Accounting Office estimates that one out of every five children in America attends a school with poor indoor air quality, which has been proven to increase absenteeism and reduce the performance of students and teachers. Schools are often the backbone of the community, and they play an integral role; their maintenance and upkeep is not something to overlook.

Deferring Costs

Prior to the economic downturn, some schools were constructed without thorough consideration of the cost of required maintenance or how to obtain the necessary funding in a recession period. Insufficient funds are further compounding the physical problem of aging buildings as school districts defer maintenance. Without adequate heating, ventilation, air conditioning, lighting and plumbing, students and teachers may not be able to perform to their capabilities and, in some cases, the insufficient conditions can endanger health and safety.

A New Solution to Deferred Facilities Maintenance

We know that your school district is struggling to pick priorities and looking for new ways to save. We would like to introduce an opportunity you may not have considered: centralized facilities maintenance services.

Trane Managed Services can help you:

- Better meet classroom needs
- Maintain ideal classroom sizes
- Avoid staff reductions
- Ensure a healthy, more productive physical environment for both students and teachers
- Manage facilities maintenance in a cost-effective, more concise fashion

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, 73% of public schools in the United States were built before 1970.

These buildings are in need of repair and renovation and can no longer efficiently meet today's demands.

Deferred facilities maintenance causes:

- Inefficient equipment operations
- Poor indoor air quality
- Higher utilities usage
- Increased demands for capital funding

An alternative to deferred facilities maintenance:

Centralizing and sharing facility maintenance services with other school districts.

Many superintendents are already looking into this consolidation opportunity; centralizing all facilities maintenance services and sharing requirements with other school districts leads to cost reduction and cost avoidance. These functions can include all mechanical, electrical, plumbing and structural maintenance requirements.

Trane Managed Services can provide not only the labor, but the materials, parts, supplies, transportation, tools and equipment. We have many years of experience in the delivery of not only heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration services, but all required building maintenance services for schools.

Trane Managed Services also offers central service call receipt and dispatch, planning and scheduling, supervised work execution with quality assurance and control, performance measured to key indicators and custom reporting of results. These services are provided within a value-engineered program of scheduled and unscheduled facilities maintenance performed by site-dedicated and mobile technicians; they work to help you ensure best possible operating performance for the facilities.

While shared services is not a new idea for school districts, the sharing of facilities maintenance services with other schools districts is a fairly new concept. By combining all administration, management and maintenance services in a centrally operated program, the overall performance and cost savings tend to be much greater for each district than what can be achieved by a stand-alone district.

Centralized facilities maintenance can be a practical, cost-effective option for your school district. For more information about Trane Managed Services, please visit www.trane.com/managementservices or call 1-877-251-6052.

Trane Managed Services has years of experience providing mobile-delivered facilities maintenance services, complemented by on-site services, as needed.

Off-site monitoring can highlight performance problems as well as energy conservation opportunities.

Trane resolves 40% of critical alarms within thirty minutes or less.

Trane combines exclusive, state-of-the-art technology and experienced personnel to collect, archive, mediate and report critical system alarms.

Additionally, with Trane, receive:

- Improved indoor air quality
- A focus on energy conservation
- A trusted, reliable company to manage your maintenance services

Learn more at trane.com



Trane – by Trane Technologies (NYSE: TT), a global climate innovator – creates comfortable, energy efficient indoor environments through a broad portfolio of heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems and controls, services, parts and supply. For more information, please visit trane.com or tranetechnologies.com.

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