

PORTSMOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

GENERAL BUILDING DATA

Existing STATUS/CONDITION:

- Name: **Portsmouth Middle School**
- Use/Occupancy: Middle School
- Approximate Facility Size:

Original Building 1930	51,540 square feet
Addition circa 1937	7,095 square feet
Additions 1976	<u>40,230 square feet</u>
TOTAL SCHOOL FACILITY	98,865 square feet
- Approximate Site Size: 1.5 Acres +/-

The following Executive Summary recaps the **present use** of the school facility as of the date of this report. The space use, as with most schools, may change due to the demands made by the educational program and the number of pupils in the facility.

The Portsmouth Middle School is delivering existing educational programs by using every square foot of the facility such as using elevator foyers, corridors, and toilet rooms as educational program space.

Portsmouth Middle School is a good example of an original 1935 design which required minimal or no space for special programs, had no technology needs, and limited specialized classrooms. The facility has had minimal renovations to keep up with the current changes in education, since additions were last added in 1976. Today's school facility is being asked to house much more in educational program offerings than in the past, which is evident in this report.

Portsmouth Middle School has limited expandability due to the non conforming lot size. The site is further restricted by limited parking and parent/bus drop off on a public street. If the School Department wishes to pursue additions and renovations, we recommend the School Department initiates the following:

- * Review present and future educational programs.
- * Review any Life Safety and Building Code issues with State and local authorities having jurisdiction over these areas.

PORTSMOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

GENERAL CLASSROOMS OVERVIEW:

This year's enrollment is 549 pupils, is below the net capacity (85% utilization) of 557 pupils. The Pupil Stations (Classrooms and Resource Rooms only) capacity has not been exceeded by pupils. The Classrooms and special services classroom are at capacity. Please note the following:

The capacities account for General Classroom & Special Services Classroom Pupil Stations only with no adjustments made for other space deficiencies.

<u>Portsmouth Middle School</u>	GROSS CAPACITY @ 100%	NET CAPACITY @ 85%
Total classrooms	514 pupils	447 pupils
Total specialized classrooms	64 pupils	56 pupils
Total special services classrooms	<u>62 pupils</u>	<u>54 pupils</u>
TOTALS	640 pupils	557 pupils

Applying the Department of Education Guidelines, the present educational program cannot physically fit within the footprint of the existing building.

New construction in the State Guidelines requires a general classroom to be 900 square feet minimum for grade six (6). Presently, there are no 6th grade classrooms that conform to 900 square feet. State Guidelines require a classroom to be 800 square feet minimum for grades seven (7) and eight (8). Presently, there are 9 out of 14 (7th and 8th grade) classrooms less than 800 square feet.

Most school districts in New Hampshire are recycling smaller classrooms into other spaces such as special education resource rooms, teachers' work room, dividing into office space, storage, and conference areas.

SPECIALIZED CLASSROOMS OVERVIEW:

Science areas were carved out of the original building on the second floor during the 1976 addition. Science Lab/Classroom #214 is the only lab close to meeting state standards. Science Lab/Classroom #214 equals 1,045 square feet with the State guidelines requiring 1,440 square feet minimum for 24 pupils. The remaining Science areas can not truly be used as Lab/Classrooms as they range from 510 to 830 square feet.

Music, Industrial Arts and Art are undersized and lack storage. Music has no acoustical provisions for the space.

Photography areas are located in converted Girl's and Boy's Toilet Rooms.

PORTSMOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

Physical Education is primarily taught in Gymnasium #151. The Gymnasium clear height is 18 feet +/- and should be between 22 and 24 feet clear height to accommodate basketball and volleyball.

SPECIAL SERVICES CLASSROOMS OVERVIEW:

Special Education (SSC) spaces are typically very small and half the size needed for the present number of pupils instructed in these spaces. The lack of facilities is very evident and the following are some of the major deficiencies we observed:

OMS #216, Sped Off #303, and Sped Coord #304 has claimed the elevator lobby area. These rooms block windows and a toilet room.

Changing Room #137 was created by adding partitions which reduced the room size in DD #136. Changing Room #137 lacks water and a toilet facility.

Emotionally Handicap #317 has three office areas with student work tables in a 925 square foot space. This is a very crowded space at times and lacks privacy.

Intervention #229 was originally a toilet room.

Peer Mediation #219 was originally a storage room.

CORE AREAS OVERVIEW:

Boy's #153 and Girl's #239 Locker/Shower/Toilet areas are in a state of disrepair. Many lockers are damaged or missing. Painted floors are peeling and ceilings are damaged.

Media Center (Library) #201 is a fairly large area and meets state standards: however, as an open area it lacks quiet reading/resource areas and periodical storage.

Gymnasium #151 is the primary place of assembly for large school gatherings. It lacks proper acoustical treatment and has no stage area or storage for chairs.

Kitchen Storage #102 is across the corridor which requires it to be locked at all times. This area should be directly accessible from Kitchen #104.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT AREAS OVERVIEW:

The Administration areas #116, 117, 118, 119 and 120 lack sufficient conference space, waiting area, file storage space, book and supply closets, staff toilets, and a work room with preparation area.

PORTSMOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Guidance Offices and Secretary areas #121, 122, 123, and 125 are very small and lacks privacy.

The Nurse's areas #126, 127 and 128 lacks an isolation area for sick pupils, office/conference area privacy, handicap accessible toilet/shower area and secured medical/equipment storage.

P. E. Offices #154, 155 and 240 are very small. Toilet/Shower Rooms off of P. E. Offices #154, and 240 are not handicap accessible. These rooms have become storage spaces due to the lack thereof storage space. P. E. Office #155 was originally a storage closet.

Data #230 is 30 square feet which gets very hot and has openings through the ceiling and walls.

FACILITIES SUPPORT AREAS OVERVIEW:

Facilities support areas for general storage are lacking throughout the facility. This is evident by the use of such spaces as #135, 141, 155 and 228 for educational programs.

There is no maintenance area or shipping receiving room.

Custodial closets are small. Minimal storage is available.

Students and staff toilets are minimal throughout the facility. The second floor has no student toilets. Increases in pupil capacity will only place added pressure on their use.