



School Infrastructure

Our nation's public schools and educational service agencies represent one of the original public investments in infrastructure. An investment in schools—the physical structures that are essential to support all other aspects of student learning, teaching, community building, and civic development—is a critical element of continued economic growth and success. In 2014, a Department of Education study estimated that it would cost \$197 billion to bring all public schools into good condition. The 2016 State of Our Schools Report determined there is an annual state and local spending gap of \$46 billion on school facilities. A 2006 Building Education Success Together report found that high-poverty and minority-serving schools are unable to adequately invest in school facilities. Schools predominantly serving white students spend nearly 50% more on capital construction than those serving minority students, and wealthy districts spend nearly triple their high-poverty counterparts on capital construction.

AESA Talking Points:

- Talk to your members of Congress about the condition of your district's facilities and the extent to which you are at capacity, able to address renovations and repairs, and how your district is impacted if/when renovations and repairs have to be delayed.
 - Ask your Representative to endorse the Rebuild America's Schools Act of 2017 (HR 2475).
 - Ask your Senator to endorse the Get the Lead out of Schools Act of 2017 (S 1401).
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