

## INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

In July of 2013 Dore & Whittier Architects responded a request from the City of Gloucester to assess the existing condition of four of the five public elementary schools located in the district. The four schools include Beeman Memorial School, East Gloucester School, Plum Cove School and Veterans Memorial School. With the West Parish School already slated for demolition and reconstruction the City of Gloucester wishes to develop a master plan that would serve as a guide to the city for capital improvements and options for long term solutions to resolve some of the key issues facing the school department. These issues include aging facilities, appropriate size learning spaces, and the desire to provide up to date learning environments that meet the needs of today's students and the educational visions and goals of the City.

The district currently serves 1375 K-5 students in five elementary schools with the largest school, West Parish, serving 370 students and the smallest school, Veterans Memorial School, serving 208 students. In designing and developing the programing for the West Parish School the goals and educational visions of the city for the elementary school program were outlined. These visioning goals included appropriate sized elementary schools of two to four classes per grade located in neighborhoods or districts throughout the city.

This Study provides the following for each school:

1. Documentation of existing conditions and physical assessment of each building and site with recommendations to address deficiencies at each school.
2. Review of the district's enrollment and consideration of the impact on future needs.
3. Review of Educational Program needs, goals, strengths and deficiencies, including a Space Utilization Analysis.
4. A review of the potential and suggested capital improvements to extend the useful life of each facility in relationship to building systems and equipment, health, safety and welfare of building occupants, changes in educational programs, space use and technology in education.
5. Conceptual master planning solutions for long term replacement or repairs to the facilities

\*All long term building renovation recommendations developed during the course of this study support the integration of sustainable design components including, energy efficiency, recycling of materials, water conservation, renewable energy technology and environmentally friendly materials to the extent feasible.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

### Documentation

This report is based on information gathered by visual observations of the buildings and site reviewed by Dore & Whittier Architects, Inc. and its consultants, existing building drawings, documents, reports and enrollment projections provided by the City when possible, and discussions with school staff, administration, and local officials.

**Summary of Existing Building Data: Location, Date of Construction, Current Enrollment** (based on enrollment as report at the time of the start of the study)

Beeman Memorial School: 138 Cherry Street Gloucester, MA; *Constructed in*: 1955 with 7 classroom modular addition, estimated total 30,000 sf. (not including modular classrooms), 2 additional modular classrooms added in 2014; *Current Enrollment*: 297 students grades K-5, special education programs provided at this site

East Gloucester School: 8 Davis Street Extension Gloucester, MA; *Constructed in*: 1948 with 5 classroom addition added in 1989 and modular classroom and administrative space addition, estimated total 30,500 sf.(not including the modular spaces); *Current Enrollment*: 263 students grades K-5, special education programs provided at this site

Plum Cove School: 15 Hickory Street Gloucester, MA; *Constructed in*: 1965 with a 6 classroom addition added in 2005 and a modular classroom and administrative space addition, estimated total 17,700 sf.(not including the modular spaces); *Current Enrollment*: 226 students grades K-5, special education programs provided at this site

Veterans Memorial School: 11 Webster Street Gloucester, MA; *Constructed in*: 1957 with 2 classroom and library addition added in 1992 and a 2 modular classrooms added in 2005. Estimated total 32,000 sf.(not including the modular spaces); *Current Enrollment*: 208 students grades K-5, special education programs provided at this site

### Summary of Findings

The following is a summary of the mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire protection assessments, additional information is located in each building section and includes description of findings and recommendations for repairs.