

Application for Potential PlanCon Reimbursement

The Central Valley School District has been working with the architectural firm of Crabtree, Rohrbaugh, & Associates to perform a feasibility study on all of the District facilities. Information from the study has been posted on the website as it has become available for the public to review. The study to this point has been consistent in that Todd Lane, CVMS, and CVHS are in need of renovations. The reports have shown that while the building structures are sound the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems are well beyond their life expectancy. The District is approaching a time when yearly maintenance and upkeep will no longer be efficient to keep those systems running before they fail. If and when they fail the District will have no choice but to address the need to upgrade those systems.

The District is working with the architect to review possible options should it decide to move forward with any potential renovation project(s). The District has made no decision about a building project, option, timeline, cost, funding, etc.... If a decision is made to pursue a project the school community will have opportunity to hear options, costs, and most importantly how the District would finance any potential project(s).

When a school district undertakes a major school construction project and seeks reimbursement from the Commonwealth, a process known as PlanCon is initiated. PlanCon, an acronym for Planning and Construction Workbook, is a set of forms and procedures used to apply for Commonwealth reimbursement. The forms are designed to: (1) document a local school district's planning process; (2) provide justification for a project to the public; (3) ascertain compliance with state laws, regulations and standards; and (4) establish the level of state participation in the cost of the project.

The Division of School Facilities in the Department of Education reviews proposed school building projects including their plans and specifications, enrollments, building utilization and building condition. The Division also calculates state reimbursement for qualified school construction projects, and reviews and approves the financing for reimbursable projects.

Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) is currently accepting PlanCon applications for new projects; however, a moratorium is planned to begin on May 15, 2016. Based on the impending moratorium, a Board of School Directors could submit applications for potential projects before May 15th. During this short window of opportunity, the effort to meet the deadline is great and it has required Districts to act quickly.

The Central Valley School District will vote on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 to submit an application for potential PlanCon consideration. The application will identify the renovation of Todd Lane, CVMS, and CVHS as potential projects in the future. By Central Valley making this submission it would secure a place in the application queue

for potential PlanCon funding. This action does not require the School District to move forward with the proposed project as the application can be withdrawn at any time. Once again, the District has made no decision about a building project, option, timeline, cost, funding, etc.... If a decision is made to pursue a project the school community will have opportunity to hear options, costs, and most importantly how the District would finance any potential project(s). This PlanCon submission is being taken so that if a project(s) does occur the District does not lose out on possible reimbursement.