

**DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE BILL NO.

K-12 school facilities appropriations.

Sponsored by: Select Committee on School Facilities

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to school building and facility projects;
2 providing appropriations for the biennial period July 1,
3 2026 through June 30, 2028; specifying conditions for
4 expenditures; requiring reports; and providing for an
5 effective date.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

8

9 *****
10 *****

11 **STAFF COMMENT**
12 **This draft legislation appropriates \$395,472,358 for K-12**
13 **school facilities based upon the School Facilities**
14 **Commission's (Commission) recommended budget for the State**
15 **FY 2027-2028 biennium, approved at the Commission's July**
16 **23-24, 2025 meeting.**

1 Please note, the draft legislation does not include the FY
2 2027-2028 funding for: 1) the operation of the State
3 Construction Department (Department) and Commission; 2)
4 engineering and technical costs; and 3) major maintenance.
5 These amounts are traditionally appropriated in the general
6 government appropriations bill through agency 027 - State
7 Construction Department. The Commission recommends
8 \$235,054,719 for major maintenance costs. Standard budget
9 amounts for the operating costs of the Department and
10 Commission and for engineering and technical costs were not
11 identified in the recommended budget, but are forthcoming.
12 The Commission's recommended budget includes \$758,685 of
13 exception requests for operation of the Department:
14

- 15 • Computers and software: \$29,361;
 - 16 • Funding for one full-time employee (FTE) position
17 for a senior policy and planning advisor:
18 \$373,459;
 - 19 • Funding for one FTE position for a finance and
20 analytics manager: \$276,944;
 - 21 • Travel: \$78,921.
- 22

23 Wyoming Statute 21-15-117(a) and 21-15-119(a) requires the
24 Commission submit prioritized lists of specific projects
25 based on condition and capacity. With the exception of
26 component projects, the Commission's recommended budget
27 does not include prioritized schedules and does not
28 identify whether a project qualifies for a remedy based on
29 condition or capacity. As such, prioritized designations
30 are not included in this bill draft, but placeholders
31 remain. The Commission will provide this information prior
32 to the Committee meeting and upon Committee approval, the
33 designations will be added in subsequent drafts.
34

35 Wyoming Statute 21-15-119(c) requires the Commission's
36 budget submission to specify design and construction
37 amounts for each project. The Commission identified amounts
38 by project for design, construction, demolition, and
39 component projects in an alternative document submitted to
40 the LSO. The budget submission does not specify amounts for
41 charter school and modular leases by project and school
42 district.
43

1 The Department requested specific amounts for each project
2 not be included in this bill draft. As a result, this
3 version of the draft bill does not include specific amounts
4 for any project, but the placeholders remain. This is
5 policy decision for the Committee and the Legislature. The
6 evolution of the K-12 school facilities budget is relevant
7 to this discussion as it provides contextual background.

8
9 *****
10 *****
11

12 Section 1.

13
14 (a) This section shall consist of funds appropriated
15 for K-12 school building and facility needs.

16
17 (b) As used in subsection (j) of this section, a
18 "priority" identified by an Arabic numeral means the
19 project ranking as submitted by the school facilities
20 commission within its budget recommendations provided under
21 W.S. 21-15-119.

22
23 (c) The amounts appropriated from the public school
24 foundation program account under paragraphs (j)(i), (iii)
25 and (viii) of this section are for the period commencing on
26 the effective date of the appropriation and ending June 30,
27 2028, and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from

1 any of these appropriations shall revert to the public
2 school foundation program account on June 30, 2028.

3
4 (d) Each amount appropriated from the public school
5 foundation program account for a school facility project
6 under paragraphs (j)(ii), (iv) through (vii) and (ix) of
7 this section shall remain in effect from the effective date
8 of the appropriation until that project is completed,
9 unless otherwise provided by law. Upon completion of a
10 project under this subsection, any unexpended, unobligated
11 funds remaining from the appropriation for the project
12 shall revert to the public school foundation program
13 account.

14
15 (e) As authorized under W.S. 21-15-119(a)(iii), the
16 school facilities commission may submit a supplemental
17 budget request for the period beginning July 1, 2027 and
18 ending June 30, 2028, for any emergency or unanticipated
19 need, or for any refinement or modification of a project
20 funded under this section, subject to any constraints or
21 other requirements imposed by the governor under W.S.
22 9-2-1013.

1 (f) An estimated schedule for deploying projects
2 funded by amounts appropriated under subsection (j) of this
3 section, as adopted by the school facilities commission and
4 as contained within the 2027-2028 biennial budget submitted
5 by the commission under W.S. 21-15-119, shall be used by
6 the state construction department to the extent practicable
7 to guide expenditure of appropriated funds. The estimated
8 schedule shall be based upon information, processes, events
9 and expenditures and shall not be binding upon the state
10 construction department or the school facilities
11 commission.

```

12 *****
13 *****
14 STAFF COMMENT
15 The Commission's budget request submitted to the LSO did
16 not include an estimated schedule for deploying projects
17 for purposes of this bill draft.
18
19 *****
20 *****
21

```

(g) Amounts appropriated under subsection (j) of this section shall not be construed to be an entitlement or guaranteed amount and shall be expended by the school facilities commission to ensure adequate, efficient and cost effective school buildings and facilities in accordance with W.S. 21-15-114(a)(vii).

1

2 (h) In addition to accounting and reporting
3 requirements imposed under W.S. 28-11-301(c)(iv), the state
4 construction department shall report at least one (1) time
5 each year on the deployment of amounts to fund projects
6 under this section in accordance with the deployment
7 schedule, information on project progression and, if
8 applicable, the rationale for any deviation from the
9 estimated schedule. The reports, as approved by the
10 commission, shall be submitted by the department to the
11 select committee on school facilities, the joint
12 appropriations committee and the governor.

13

14 (j) For K-12 school facility projects, the following
15 amounts are appropriated from the public school foundation
16 program account to the school facilities commission for the
17 following purposes:

18

19 (i) For charter school leases, six million three
20 hundred thirty-two thousand nine hundred twenty-eight
21 dollars (\$6,332,928.00). The funds appropriated under this
22 paragraph shall be distributed for charter school lease
23 expenses for school year 2026-2027 and school year 2027-

1 2028, are subject to W.S. 21-3-110(a)(x) and the following
2 prescribed maximum amounts:

3				
4		School		Maximum
5	Priority	District	Project	Amount
6				
7	XX-XX	XXX	XXX	\$ XXX
8	XX-XX	XXX	XXX	\$ XXX
9	XX-XX	XXX	XXX	<u>\$ XXX</u>
10	Total			\$ 6,332,928.00

11 *****
12 *****
13 STAFF COMMENT
14 Wyoming Statute 21-15-119(c) requires the budget submitted
15 by the Commission to the Select Committee "shall be
16 attached to specified projects for the applicable budget
17 period and shall separately identify amounts for design
18 phase projects and construction phase projects[.]" This
19 information was not contained in the Commission's budget
20 request. Placeholders remain.

21 *****
22 *****
23 *****
24

25 (ii) Subject to the requirements of W.S. 21-3-
26 110(a)(x), for future charter school leasing obligations,
27 one million seven hundred ninety-two thousand nine hundred
28 seventy-six dollars (\$1,792,976.00). The funds appropriated
29 under this paragraph shall only be expended for leasing

1 expenses for charter schools approved for operation
 2 pursuant to W.S. 21-3-301 et seq. after the effective date
 3 of this act;

4

5 (iii) For modular buildings and leases, fifty-
 6 two thousand one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$52,125.00),
 7 subject to the following prescribed maximum amounts:

8

9	School	Maximum
10	Priority District Project	Amount
11		
12	XX-XX XXX XXX	XXX
13	XX-XX XXX XXX	XXX
14	XX-XX XXX XXX	<u>\$XXX</u>
15	Total	\$52,125.00

16

17 *****
 18 *****
 19 STAFF COMMENT
 20 Specific projects, with amounts, were not contained in the
 21 Commission's budget request. Placeholders remain.
 22 *****
 23 *****
 24 *****
 25

26 (iv) For design and construction of school
 27 building and facility projects, ninety-five million five

1 hundred twenty-one thousand eight hundred twenty-one
 2 dollars (\$95,521,821.00), subject to the following
 3 prescribed maximum amounts:

4		School		Maximum
6	Priority	District	Project	Amount
8	XX-XX	Laramie #1	Elementary School Design	\$XXX
9	XX-XX	Laramie #1	High School Design	\$XXX
10	XX-XX	Fremont #25	Elementary School Design	\$XXX
11	XX-XX	Crook #1	Secondary School Design	\$XXX
12	XX-XX	Laramie #1	Elementary School	
13			Construction	\$XXX
14	XX-XX	Fremont #25	Elementary School	
15			Construction	\$XXX
16	XX-XX	Crook #1	Secondary School	
17			Construction	<u>\$XXX</u>
18	Total			\$95,521,821.00

19 *****
 20 *****
 21 STAFF COMMENT
 22 The funds requested by the Commission for construction,
 23 \$115,335,961, inclusive of component level major
 24 maintenance projects, and design, \$13,341,182, are
 25 combined, less amounts for component level major
 26 maintenance project funding, \$31,661,322, and for Laramie

#1, Arp off-site infrastructure, \$1,494,000, for a total of \$95,521,821 for construction and design.

The Laramie #1 elementary school off-site infrastructure project received prior appropriations and is contained in paragraph (j)(vi) of this section. Component level major maintenance projects are separately identified in paragraph (j)(iv) of this section.

(v) For the following component level major maintenance projects, thirty-one million six hundred sixty-one thousand three hundred twenty-two dollars (\$31,661,322.00), subject to the following prescribed maximum amounts:

	School	Maximum
Priority District	Project	Amount
XX-01	Big Horn #3 High School	\$XXX
XX-02	Johnson #1 High School	\$XXX
XX-03	Sheridan #2 Junior High School	\$XXX
XX-04	Laramie #2 Administration Building	\$XXX
XX-05	Fremont #14 Middle School	\$XXX
XX-06	Hot Springs #1 Elementary School	\$XXX
XX-07	Converse #2 Junior High/High School	\$XXX

1	XX-08	Big Horn #1	Elementary School	\$XXX
2	XX-09	Crook #1	K-12 School	\$XXX
3	XX-10	Carbon #1	Middle School	\$XXX
4	XX-11	Sublette #1	High School	\$XXX
5	XX-12	Weston #7	High School	\$XXX
6	XX-13	Washakie #1	Middle School	\$XXX
7	XX-14	Lincoln #1	Elementary School	\$XXX
8	XX-15	Weston #1	High School	\$XXX
9	XX-16	Big Horn #2	High School	\$XXX
10	XX-17	Carbon #2	Junior High/High School	\$XXX
11	XX-18	Fremont #6	Middle School	\$XXX
12	XX-19	Park #16	K-12 School	\$XXX
13	XX-20	Big Horn #3	Elementary School	\$XXX
14	XX-21	Johnson #1	K-12 School	\$XXX
15	XX-22	Fremont #14	Middle School	<u>\$XXX</u>
16	Total			\$31,661,322.00

17

18 (vi) For demolition projects, two million nine
 19 hundred forty-one thousand eight hundred eighty dollars
 20 (\$2,941,880.00), subject to the following prescribed
 21 maximum amounts:

22

23	School	Maximum
----	--------	---------

1	Priority	District	Project	Amount
2				
3	XX-XX	Albany #1	Elementary School	\$XXX
4	XX-XX	Laramie #1	Elementary School	\$XXX
5	XX-XX	Fremont #25	Elementary School	\$ <u>XXX</u>
6	Total			\$2,941,880.00

7 *****
8 *****
9 STAFF COMMENT
10 The Commission's request for \$4,228,390 for demolition was
11 reduced by the amount request for Laramie #1, Arp
12 demolition, \$1,287,510 by LSO. This project is contained in
13 paragraph (j)(vi) of this section because the project
14 received prior appropriations. Historically, those projects
15 have been contained in a separate provision for
16 transparency and accounting purposes.

17 *****
18 *****
19 *****
20 *****
21 *****

22 (vii) For construction and demolition for an
23 elementary school project in Laramie #1, in addition to
24 previously appropriated amounts for this project, an amount
25 not to exceed, two million seven hundred eighty thousand
26 five hundred ten dollars (\$2,780,510.00);

27
28 (viii) For facility safety and security projects,
29 in addition to previously appropriated amounts for safety
30 and security, ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00), subject

1 to the following prescribed maximum amounts:

2

3 (A) Two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00)

4 for security vestibules and vehicle barricade projects, to

5 be allocated to school district based upon an application

6 to the state construction department, approved by the

7 school facilities commission;

8

9 *****

10 *****

11 STAFF COMMENT

12 LSO recommends the Committee consider a provision to govern
13 the allocation of funds in subparagraph (j)(viii)(A) of
14 this section if the funds are insufficient to pay the total
15 amount requested by school districts through the
16 application process. The options include award on a first
17 come, first served basis, or pro rata reduction with a date
18 specific for application.

19

20 LSO also recommends the Committee consider requiring the
21 Commission to adopt rules to govern the application
22 requirements, award process, and notification of school
23 districts. The following language is an example of language
24 for the Committee's consideration:

25

26 *Application for a grant under this subparagraph*
27 *shall be on a form and in a manner specified by*
28 *rule of the school facilities commission.*
29 *Applications shall be filed with the state*
30 *construction department on or before August 1,*
31 *2026, and August 1, 2027, for the immediately*
32 *succeeding school year. Not later than August 15,*
33 *2026, for school year 2026-2027, and August 15,*
34 *2027, for school year 2027-2028, the department*
35 *shall notify school districts in writing of the*
36 *commission's decision to award or not award*
37 *funds. If an application is denied, the*

department shall include an explanation identifying the basis for denial. Any project funded pursuant to this subparagraph shall be included in the school district facility plan as approved by the commission and required pursuant to W.S. 21-15-116. The application shall at a minimum include: [identify minimum requirement for application].

(B) Eight million dollars, (\$8,000,000.00) for security projects, to be distributed to each school district on a per average daily membership (ADM) basis based upon the school district's previous year's ADM. The amount distributed in school year 2026-2027 and school year 2027-2028 shall not exceed four million dollars (\$4,000,000.00) for each school year.

STAFF COMMENT

For information purposes, based on the statewide enrollment for school year 2024-2025, 89,228 students, the per ADM amount would be \$44.83.

(ix) For unanticipated costs associated with the projects funded under paragraphs (j)(iv) through (viii) of this section, eight million five hundred seventy-four thousand three hundred ninety-two dollars (\$8,574,392.00),

1 subject to the following prescribed maximum amounts:

2

3 (A) For design projects contained in
4 paragraph (j)(iv) of this section, eight hundred thousand
5 five hundred thirty-one dollars (\$800,531.00);

6 *****

7 *****

8 STAFF COMMENT

9 The Commission's budget request specified \$800,531 for
10 unanticipated costs for "planning and design." No funds
11 were requested for planning; thus, it was omitted.

12

13 *****

14 *****

15

16 (B) For construction projects contained in
17 paragraph (j)(iv) of this section, six million nine-hundred
18 twenty thousand one hundred fifty-eight dollars
19 (\$6,920,158.00);

20

21 (C) For demolition projects contained in
22 paragraph (j)(vi) of this section, two hundred fifty-three
23 thousand seven hundred three dollars (\$253,703.00);

24

25 (D) For safety and security projects contained
26 in paragraph (j)(viii) of this section, six hundred
27 thousand dollars (\$600,000.00).

1

2 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2026.

3 *****

4 *****

5 STAFF COMMENT

6 Note: The Commission did not request any funds effective
7 immediately.

8

9 *****

10 *****

11 (END)