SPACIAL INVENTORY

SUMMERFIELD KANSAS SCHOOL BUILDING

By Linn Sunderland

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This is an attempt to list the spaces available in the currently vacant and unused school structure for those interested in finding uses for this space that would hopefully generate revenue for the preservation of the structure.

The structure and campus are currently owned by the city of Summerfield. The city currently has not the resources to manage or maintain the structure beyond mowing.

Measurements listed below are approximate for the purpose of giving prospective users general information only.

The structure is all built on ground level except for the furnace/control room and the performance stage at the end of the gymnasium and is handicapped accessible at all public entrances.

SPACIAL GROUPINGS:

4 – Elementary classrooms – Approx. 30 Ft. by 22 Ft.

5 – Highschool general use classrooms – Approx. 20 Ft. by 22 Ft.

1—Library Approx. 36 Ft. by 22 Ft. + Storage

1 – Home Economics Classroom and Lab – Approx. 32 Ft. by 22 Ft. + Storage

1 – Science classroom and Lab Approx. 25 Ft. by 22 Ft. + Storage

1 – Office suite – Approx. 16 Ft. by 22 Ft. + Storage

1 – Sick Room – Approx. 16 Ft. by 12 Ft.

1 – Gymnasium – Approx. 64Ft. by 80 Ft. (51 Ft. by 80 Ft. playing surface) 18 Ft. ceiling

1 – Elevated Performance Stage – Approx. 22 Ft by 38 Ft. + Storage, stage lighting, etc.

2 – Elementary restrooms (Boys and Girls) Approx. 10 Ft. by 22 Ft. each

2 – Sports Locker rooms (Men and Women) Approx. 32 Ft. by 12 Ft. with lockers, showers and restrooms

1 – Kitchen – 21 Ft. by 23 Ft. with sinks and counters – needing appliances + Storage

1 – Furnace and mechanical control room – 24 Ft. by 22 Ft. – Sunken floor level

3 – 9 Ft. wide hallways totaling Approx. 325 Ft. in length

Approximate totals by use: Classroom space 6210 Sq. Ft. Recreational space 5956 Sq. Ft.

 Support function Space 3023 Sq. Ft. Hallways 2925 Sq. Ft.

SUMMARY: This structure, completed and first occupied in 1955, served as the educational center for both Kansas and Nebraska rural students for nearly Sixty years. It sits on the highest East/West point between the Nemaha river to the East and the Blue river to the West.

This structure remains the most storm resistant structure for at least 10 miles in any direction and sits on an 11-acre campus. The facts that the campus is of high elevation; and that no natural gas service is available; point to the possibility of a test facility for alternate energy study. The land space is available for Subterranean Geothermal installations powered by modern Lithium- ion battery power charged by both solar and wind generation systems. The main furnace system has been converted to operate on diesel fuel which could also be used to study use of bio-diesel fuel for this kind of application manufactured at Beatrice, Ne. about 45 miles North West.

“R.S. Means Construction Cost Data” internet site puts the replacement cost of this structure somewhere in excess of 3 million dollars. It is very doubtful that the structure could ever be replaced if allowed to fall into ruin.

Summerfield High School Alumni and current area residents would very much like to see the structure and grounds used as an Event, Research, Educational, Recreational, and Historical center with perhaps some for profit leasing of parts of the structure to cover maintenance costs.

In conclusion – It is time to act. The structure has set empty for about 2 years and endured 2 Kansas/Nebraska winters unheated (fortunately not sever winters).

Respectively submitted

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