

INFRASTRUCTURE FACT SHEET

LAVELLE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND



Last week, students, parents and advocates representing the 4201 Schools Association from across the state traveled to the Capitol to ask for your support for its **Par 3 – Advocacy Agenda.**



As legislators begin working on their One-House Budgets we ask for your continued advocacy for Funding Parity tied to continuing:

- **OPERATIONAL SUPPORT;**
- **ANNUAL EDUCATION INCREASES** and
- **INVESTMENTS IN DEFERRED MAINTENANCE**

After six years of frozen funding and deferred maintenance, an investment in the health and safety of our facilities is critical. The 4201 Schools Association recommends that the 2016-17 State Budget include an investment of **\$11 million** to support deferred maintenance for projects that **enhance safety, improve efficiency and reduce operational costs.**

HERE ARE A FEW SPECIFIC FACTS THAT SPEAK TO OUR INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS:

- Lavelle School for the Blind was founded in 1904, today much of its physical plant dates to 1933.
- During 2014-15, Lavelle's Energy Costs were \$272,591.
- Our Fire Alarm System is now 15 years old and parts to maintain it are no longer being manufactured. Nor does it support the new Carbon Monoxide detection devices that are now required in all New York State School facilities. In order to be in compliance with the new Fire Prevention and Building Codes, a new system will have to be installed. A quote was recently secured estimating the cost of installation and equipment to exceed \$35,000.
- Lavelle's heating system supports three buildings and was installed in 1960 and carries an efficiency rating of no more than 80 percent. The system now exceeds its life expectancy by 16 years – and in 2014-15 required nearly \$50,000 in repairs.

Replacing it with natural gas unit will increase its efficiency to 95percent, while reducing our carbon footprint.

