# Deerfield School



Built in 1953, the Deerfield School was originally designed to be a bomb shelter. In 1995, a modular addition augmented the masonry and steel building, bringing its total square footage to a little over 35,000. The school sits on 8.54 acres of land.

Deerfield has 12 general education classrooms, two special education classrooms, and one special education pull-out space. Even with the 1995 modular addition, there are not enough spaces to accommodate general classrooms, specialists, art, music, and performance space. The psychologist and technology offices were originally closets. The library and gym are too small for today's needs.

Aside from not being completely handicap-accessible, the school has aged and failing systems:

• All piping and electrical wiring are original to the building, although some of the electrical panels have been updated.

• All of the windows, except for the modular, are original to the building.

• All classrooms have original univent heaters , while we try our best to continue to maintain them many of the parts are now no longer made.

• Deerfield was originally built with one boiler, which was replaced in 2012. A second boiler was added in 2004. The boilers were switched from oil burning to gas burning about five years ago for higher efficiency.

The Deerfield School was closed for a period of time and leased out by the town until it reopened as a school about 20 years ago.

## GENERAL TAKEAWAYS

1. The structure of the building is sound, but many of the building systems (such as electrical, plumbing, and windows) have far exceeded their useful life and will need to be replaced.

2. These classrooms do not meet the needs of the modern educational system and, by state standards, are too small.

3. The building, although no longer ideal for our students, could still be a resource for the Town and useful as another town building.



## STAY INFORMED

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