

Harriet Beecher Stowe Elementary School

Overview

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The Harriet Beecher Stowe Elementary School was opened in the fall of 2011. It is a one and two story building of approximately 94,836 sf. It sits on a relatively flat site of about 12.8± acres. The property was the site of the former high school. The school was designed for 600 students in grades 3 through 5 housed in ten classrooms per grade.

In addition to the new elementary school coming online, the town had two other operating elementary schools, the Coffin School and the Jordan Acres School, each of which accommodated grades Kindergarten through 5. With the opening of the Stowe School, each of those schools were to be converted to K-2 schools with the grade 3-5 students moving to the new school. However, just prior to its opening, the school board decided to close the Jordan Acres School due to budgetary reasons. As a consequence of this closure, the combined Second grade students from the Coffin and Jordan Acres Schools were relocated to the Stowe School while all of the remaining K-1 students were moved to the Coffin School.

This last minute change resulted in the reshuffling of some classrooms and the addition of an extra grade level of approximately 173 students on opening day. The school now accommodates approximately 653± students in four grades over 31 classrooms. A classroom originally designated for special education was converted to general education use to pick up the extra classroom.

Since the Stowe School is new, an assessment of the facility was not conducted as a part of this study. The focus of the study will consider the relocation of the Second grade to another facility in order to restore the Stowe School to the grade configuration it was designed for.