The state has appropriated $9.1 million in capital improvements funding to Northwest Missouri State University over the last decade, and $333,333, or approximately 4%, has been vetoed.
Northwest Missouri State University is a moderately selective public university located in Maryville. Its primary focus is on undergraduate education, but it also offers a limited number of graduate and completion degrees at its Kansas City campus. Approximately 6,300 students are enrolled at Northwest; 86% are undergraduates.

Capital Improvement & Facilities History

Throughout the past decade, just over $9 million in capital improvements funding has been appropriated to Northwest. The vast majority of these projects have been to address building and infrastructure safety concerns. Fiscal year 2019 is the only year in which funding was reduced through a veto; $333,333 of a $1 million appropriation. These funds were part of a $2.5 million project to repair a steam plant and tunnel. The project was unexpected and repairs were necessary for the safety of students and faculty. The university funded the project through existing funds and subsequently requested state assistance.

Projects previously funded include a 2015 agriculture learning center, various repair and renovations through 2016 Board of Public Buildings bond funds, and 2017 life-safety repairs to the university’s administration building.

Facility Challenges

Northwest Missouri State University’s campus consists of 76 Education & General Buildings and 17 Auxiliary Buildings with 2,424,919 gross square feet (GSF). Currently, the campus has over $55 million in deferred maintenance.

Northwest’s capital priorities are set in accordance with the University’s 2016 Campus Master Plan. This campus plan covers facility use, renovation, and construction, and was developed based on data about current and projected needs, and on research about student success. The plan also reflects the university’s commitment to principles like environmental sustainability and student-centered learning, and is explicitly linked to the institution’s strategic plan.
Northwest Missouri State University has identified the following as the university’s top three capital priorities for the future. The total state request for these projects is about $74 million.

1. Health Sciences

A remodeled Martindale Hall will be home to the School of Health Science and Wellness. This school will train future health care practitioners who serve and build individual and community capacity and individuals who help others increase their health and wellness self-sufficiency. Faculty will partner with industry professionals and employers to develop a highly integrative curriculum that prepares students to seek further education or to excel as professionals with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to work in one of the many growing careers in preventative health and wellness.

The school will take advantage of well-established academic programs at Northwest, including 11 pre-professional programs, three wellness-based bachelor’s degree programs, four graduate programs, and eight academic majors. The school will house 34 faculty who develop close to 800 students. Renovated space will include additional office space for faculty, a large teaching theatre, a student lounge, and labs for food and dietetics and sports psychology programs.

2. Agricultural Sciences

Northwest’s School of Agricultural Sciences is requesting funding to support several key efforts that are vital to the expanding agricultural programs both on campus and at the R.T. Wright Farm. The agriculture program has been moving to consolidate its facilities to improve efficiency and collaboration for faculty and students. Further consolidation will address space deficiencies and the general quality of existing lab and greenhouse spaces across campus. This effort will relocate agriculture mechanics space and horticulture labs and greenhouses to the recently renovated Hubbard Center for Innovation building. The farm operations will be enhanced by reorganization of farm facilities into six farm operation zones. The existing poorly placed, undersized, and antiquated facilities for swine, grain, and equipment zones will be replaced to fulfill the long-term operational mission of the farm. The proposed Agricultural Learning Center (ALC) will provide a point of vital connection between the Agricultural Science Program, various stakeholders in Northwest Missouri, and evolving Hardesty Agricultural project developing in Kansas City, housing state-of-the-art classrooms, laboratories, and exposition space to merge the farm/campus experience.
3. School of Education & Lab School

The Horace Mann Laboratory School has served for over a century as an amenity for both the community and its students as well as Northwest’s School of Education by providing a real-time laboratory environment for aspiring students. While the Horace Mann Laboratory School has continued to serve as a successful laboratory school, its location within Everett Brown Hall creates logistical problems. As a daily laboratory school for kindergarten through sixth grade students, daily pedestrian and vehicle traffic conflicts create a safety hazard with no available space for modifications due to its proximity to the campus core.

The proposed School of Education and Horace Mann Laboratory School improvements include construction of an additional 30,000 square foot laboratory school facility and renovation of 55,000 square foot of existing education space for use as an innovation center and mass communications space. The laboratory school space will be added to the northeast perimeter of campus in accordance to the campus master plan. The innovation center within the existing renovated Brown Hall buildings will house communications studies and form the nucleus of a creative synergy near the core of campus.

Click [here](#) for campus map.
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