

... to \$27 per gross square foot, with an average of approximately ... per foot, or about \$1,850 per full-time student. These costs include site development, architects' fees, construction, and fixed equipment, but exclude land and movable equipment. In much of this construction, trends follow recent trends in industry toward the adoption of modular patterns and the elimination of interior bearing walls, to allow maximum flexibility for adaptation to changing technological requirements.

Reliable data on costs of operation and maintenance of vocational education facilities are not available.

Area vocational schools, as public institutions with a broad education mission, do not, in general, charge users for their services. Adult courses are conducted on a fee basis, but such fees cover, at most, a very small proportion of the cost of maintenance and operation. With very minor exceptions, current expenses of these schools, like those of other public schools, are met from tax revenues.³

C. TRENDS OF CAPITAL OUTLAYS

Until passage of the Vocational Education Act of 1963, all funds for construction of vocational school facilities were obtained from local or State sources. However, historical information regarding capital outlays is not available.

In fiscal year 1965, Federal matching funds for construction of area vocational schools became available for the first time; and in that year, a total of nearly \$86 million (approximately one-half Federal) was expended or allocated for those 208 area school construction projects which have been discussed in an earlier section.

D. NEEDS AND PROSPECTIVE CAPITAL OUTLAYS: 1966-75

(a) *Capital Requirements*

Preceding sections of this chapter have presented—as far as possible, based on State reports—a separate accounting of facilities for area vocational schools, because these schools exemplify an emerging concept of special interest. It has been made clear, however, that these facilities cannot be clearly separated from facilities covered in chapters on public elementary and secondary schools and on institutions for higher education. In part, this is because many facilities are shared by different types of educational programs, in part because present accounting procedures do not make the necessary distinctions.

Arrangements are now underway to collect more comprehensive statistical information about vocational programs. At present, however, it is not possible to project future needs for area vocational schools, as such, nor to distinguish between vocational needs and needs projected in other chapters of this report. Specific problems are the following:

(1) The extent to which the increase in vocational students will be accommodated in area schools is unknown. This will depend largely on State policies with respect to the designation of such schools and may vary greatly among States.

(2) The precise distribution of area school students between secondary and postsecondary schools or colleges is unknown and the future

³ Federal, State, and local expenditures for vocational education, excluding programs funded under the Manpower Development and Training Act, are shown in app. A. Area vocational schools, of course, constitute only a small part of the total activities covered by these funds.