



## **PLAYGROUND MASTER PLAN**

Enclosed is the Town-Wide Playground Assessment Report for addressing needed maintenance and improvements to North Andover's deteriorating playgrounds.

### **BACKGROUND**

Last year, after receiving feedback from several stakeholders regarding the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) vote to fund one playground without any plan in place to address the other playgrounds in town, the Town Manager was asked by the Board of Selectmen and the Community Preservation Committee to develop a comprehensive long term plan for the playgrounds. The Town hired Christine Scypinski, a Registered Landscape Architect, to study the playgrounds and provide an assessment of each playground based upon criteria related to safety, ADA compliance and maintenance. Because the Sargent School is in the process of installing a new playground, partially funded by Community Preservation Act funds approved at Town Meeting in FY2015, they were not included in the study. Once all information was gathered, Ms. Scypinski ranked the playgrounds, based on objective criteria, from those needing the most attention to those needing the least attention. Kittredge School playground was found to need the most improvements, followed by Carl Thomas, Franklin School and then the Drummond playground.

Once the assessment was complete, a meeting was held with representatives from the town manager's office, school department, department of public works, school PTOs and the school committee to review the report and discuss its findings. The main goal of the meeting was for the group to come to some consensus regarding how the town should proceed as it relates to requesting funding from the CPC. Because the assessment was based on an objective analysis and not any subjective criteria, it was important to obtain feedback from various stakeholders regarding the assessment and whether everyone agreed that the town should move forward based on the rankings in the report.

## **PLAN**

The group unanimously agreed that, considering all factors both subjective and objective, the plan would be to address the playgrounds in the following order:

1. Franklin Elementary School
2. Kittredge Elementary School
3. Drummond Playground
4. Carl Thomas Playground
5. Reynolds Playground
6. Grogan Field Playground
7. Stevens Pond Beach Playground
8. Atkinson Elementary
9. Aplin Playground
10. Thomas Elementary
11. Early Childhood Center

Each year, beginning with FY2016, the town will submit a request to the CPC for playground funding in the amount of \$100,000 (except for Drummond Playground which will be a larger amount), following the above order. In addition to funds from the CPC, beginning in Fiscal Year 2017, the Town will include in the capital plan \$50,000 each year for long term improvements and \$25,000 in the budget for routine maintenance of the playgrounds.

In Fiscal Year 2018, stakeholders will be asked to reevaluate the plan to see if changes need to be made to the order based on the condition of the playgrounds after maintenance spending and investments from the capital plan.

# Town-wide Playground Assessments

Town of North Andover, Massachusetts



February 12, 2015

*by*

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# Town-wide Playground Assessments

## Town of North Andover, Massachusetts

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## Overview

This document summarizes the results of an independent town-wide assessment of playgrounds within town parks and school grounds. This general playground assessment has been conducted to provide guidance to the Town as they prioritize improvements. In the Town of North Andover, playgrounds located within parks and school grounds are continuously being maintained and improved to maintain safety and increase accessibility. As the Town looks to prioritizing limited funding for playground improvements, having a current comparison of their playgrounds is an important tool.

The assessments conducted at each of the eleven playground sites are based on overall safety, accessibility, functionality, maintenance and play value. Assessments were guided by the US Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC) *Public Playground Safety Handbook* dated November 2010, a very recent 2014 publication from the U.S. Access Board and the National Center on Accessibility titled *Surfacing the Accessible Playground – 7 Things Every Playground Owner Should Know About the Accessibility of Their Playground Surfaces*, The current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines, and the 30 plus years of playground design experience of the author.

A matrix summarizing assessment criteria and scoring was developed for ease in comparing and ranking the sites. A general description of site and play elements, aerial photo and existing condition photos are included to illustrate the location, playground components and condition of each playground.

Playgrounds were assessed using a list of 9 equally weighted criteria and providing a score of 1 – 5, with 1 being the best condition and 5 being the worst condition.

A description of criteria categories and summary of playground rankings based on the score for each playground assessment follows.

### **Play Equipment Safety.**

Is equipment outdated and no longer meets current safety guidelines? Is equipment free of protrusions and projections that may entangle children's clothing? Is equipment free of pinch, crush, and shearing points that could injure? Are head entrapment areas present? Are the bases of equipment free of tripping hazards? Do ladders, stairways, and ramps meet standard requirements? Are posts open for bee nests or standing water?

**Play Equipment Condition.**

Are parts broken or missing? Is equipment stable when in use? Have bolts disappeared or loosened? Are bare metal components exposed due to peeled paint? Are metal and hardware free of major corrosion? Are wood components cracked, splintered or rotting? Have plastic pieces shifted or cracked? Has equipment become dated, tired or an eyesore?

**Play Equipment Universal Accessibility.**

Does the equipment meet current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines?

**Play Diversity and Separation for age groups and activities.**

Does the equipment provide ground level play activities for different ages? Is equipment for different age groups separated into different areas to avoid conflicts and injuries? Has equipment been spaced properly to prevent collisions? Are buffers such as fences or landscape treatments present to increase separation? Are swings adequately separated from other play areas?

**Access to Playgrounds (accessible route).**

Can the playground be safely reached by pedestrians or those on bicycles? Is at least one route and entrance to the playground accessible per ADA requirements – surface, slope, width?

**Play Surface Accessibility.**

Is the play surface accessible per ADA requirements? Does an accessible route to major play components exist? Are loose play surfaces comprised of well-compacted wood chips or engineered wood fiber? Have loose surfaces become rutted resulting in non-accessible slopes non-compliant surfaces?

**Play Surface Condition & Safety (extent, depth, drainage).**

Do safety surfaces within equipment use zones meet fall height requirements for depth? Are loose fill safety surfaces comprised of compacted engineered wood fiber made for safety surfaces or landscape wood chips? Have loose materials become displaced resulting in unsafe depths of shock absorbing material? Are rubber mats in place in high use areas such as swings and ends of slides to prevent ruts and uneven surfaces? Have equipment bases or concrete footings been exposed due to displaced loose fill? Is the surface properly drained or is standing water and wet material evident? Does the safety surface extend beyond use zones, for example swings require an area 2x the height of the swing suspending bar? Are play surfaces free of tree roots, utility boxes, drainage ditches, sewer covers, and other items that could cause trip and fall hazards?

**Surfacing Edge Condition & Safety.**

Has an edge been installed to contain the safety surface? Does the edge cause a tripping hazard? Is the edge damaged or are sections missing? Does the edge prevent accessibility? Are wood edges deteriorating? Are plastic edge pins protruding?

**General Playground Maintenance, Safety & Comfort**

Is the playground generally clean and well maintained? Are tree limbs free of hazards? Is graffiti present? Are vehicle parking areas physically separated from playgrounds? Is perimeter fencing provided at hazards such as adjacent roadways? Are fencing and gates in good condition? Are adjacent ball fields, courts and active running games a safe distance from playgrounds? Are trees providing shade to play areas? Are roofs or structures providing shade to play equipment? Are bare metal components in full sun? Are written or graphic informational signs concerning the use of the playground and equipment present? Are age appropriate markings provided on play equipment? Are benches or picnic tables provided, are they in good condition, are they in the shade or full sun?

*This assessment is a general assessment of the above criteria and does not include a detailed itemized review of safety and accessibility issues which is typically provided by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector during a safety audit.*

# Aplin Playground

40 Clarendon Street



# Aplin Playground

40 Clarendon Street



## Aplin Playground

\* Score of 1 - 5 with 1 being excellent condition and 5 needing attention; range of scores 9 - 45

Item	Ranking	Comments
Play Equipment Safety	1	good
Play Equipment Condition	3	fair - minor maintenance issues; extensive rust and peeling paint on swing posts; bent swing post
Play Equipment Universal Accessibility	1	good
Play Diversity and Separation for age groups and activities	3	fair for young children; separation of swings
Access to Playgrounds (accessible route)	5	no accessible path - flat grass to wood tie edge
Play Surface Accessibility	5	appears to be wood chips which is not acceptable; additional non-compliance evident in displaced wood chip areas at swings
Play Surface Condition & Safety (extent, depth, drainage)	5	wood chip surface is not as safe as wood fiber - 12"+ depth in general; deficient depth and deep ruts at swings and slides; deficient use zone around swings (need 2x ht)
Surfacing Edge Condition & Safety	1	new wood edge in good condition- could be CCA treated
General Playground Maintenance, Safety & Comfort	3	no trash or graffiti although maintenance issues noted for surface, no sun protection on south sides, no age appropriate signage, bench with small shade tree

**27**

# Atkinson Elementary School

111 Phillips Brook Road



# Atkinson Elementary School

111 Phillips Brook Road



# Atkinson Elementary School

111 Phillips Brook Road



## Atkinson Elementary School

\* Score of 1 - 5 with 1 being excellent condition and 5 needing attention; range of scores 9 - 45

Item	Ranking	Comments
Play Equipment Safety	2	minor maintenance issues; considerable bare metal on dome and swing chains in full sun; potential bolt projection hazard on slide platform
Play Equipment Condition	2	new age 5-12 and 2-5 climbers - excellent; 6 bays of belt swings, climbing dome, stand-alone slides (2), climber & tunnel are older but strong - needs paint, missing bolts, bent rungs
Play Equipment Universal Accessibility	1	good for newer equipment
Play Diversity and Separation for age groups and activities	2	challenging; great play value; separation by age but lacks buffer areas
Access to Playgrounds (accessible route)	4	no accessible path to new 5-12 climber; poor mulch/dirt path to other pieces from parking lot - flat
Play Surface Accessibility	4	appears to be engineered wood fiber surface which can be accessible when maintained correctly (raked, filled, compacted in layers); non-compliance evident in displaced fiber areas; compaction of fiber topping needed; wood chips can not be substituted
Play Surface Condition & Safety (extent, depth, drainage)	4	wood fiber surface 12"+ depth in general; deficient depth under dome climber (7" to sand) and deep ruts at swings and slides; deficient use zone around swings (need 2x ht) and slides > 6' ht
Surfacing Edge Condition & Safety	5	no edge; wood fiber surface migrating
General Playground Maintenance, Safety & Comfort	4	no trash or graffiti although maintenance issues noted for equipment and surface, no barrier between parking and age 2-5 equipment but some distance, no sun protection on south sides, missing age appropriate signage, no benches or shade

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# Carl Thomas Playground

60 Dana Street



# Carl Thomas Playground

60 Dana Street



## Carl Thomas Playground

\* Score of 1 - 5 with 1 being excellent condition and 5 needing attention; range of scores 9 - 45

Item	Ranking	Comments
Play Equipment Safety	5	poor - old climber lacking barriers and guard rails; non-compliance with safety guidelines
Play Equipment Condition	5	poor - maintenance issues; extensive rust; bare metal in full sun; graffiti on plastic pieces; missing parts - overhead rungs
Play Equipment Universal Accessibility	5	poor
Play Diversity and Separation for age groups and activities	5	poor- no ground level activities or swings (swings shown on aerial photo have been removed)
Access to Playgrounds (accessible route)	5	no accessible path - flat grass to wood tie edge
Play Surface Accessibility	5	appears to be wood chips which is not acceptable; additional non-compliance evident in displaced wood chip areas at slides
Play Surface Condition & Safety (extent, depth, drainage)	4	wood chip surface is not as safe as wood fiber - 12"+ depth in general; deficient depth and deep ruts at slides
Surfacing Edge Condition & Safety	1	new wood edge in good condition- could be CCA treated
General Playground Maintenance, Safety & Comfort	3	no trash, graffiti on play equipment, maintenance issues noted for surface, no age appropriate signage, no benches, shade canopies and small trees

**38**

# Drummond Park Playground

11 Milk Street



# Drummond Park Playground

11 Milk Street



# Drummond Park Playground

11 Milk Street



## Drummond Park Playground

\* Score of 1 - 5 with 1 being excellent condition and 5 needing attention; range of scores 9 - 45

Item	Ranking	Comments
Play Equipment Safety	5	poor-multitude of safety issues including: unstable / unbolted spring platform and slide end; finger pinch hazards; loose and missing parts; unstable/rocking slides; open and rusty S hooks and chains; frayed climbing ropes; rusty metal and peeled paint; exposed concrete footings causing trip hazards
Play Equipment Condition	5	old (1991-1993) wood equipment in poor condition with many missing and deteriorated parts and hazards; rust on metal pieces; mildew and some deterioration on wood members especially decking; many areas under repair
Play Equipment Universal Accessibility	4	non-compliance due to age of structures - appears to be in repair with accessibility being improved
Play Diversity and Separation for age groups and activities	3	challenging; good play value; separation by age and activity; multitude of ground level activities; missing tire swings and toddler swings
Access to Playgrounds (accessible route)	3	accessible route to parking eroded to dirt surface
Play Surface Accessibility	5	appears to be wood chips which is not acceptable; additional non-compliance evident in displaced wood chip areas at slides and swings
Play Surface Condition & Safety (extent, depth, drainage)	5	wood chip surface is not as safe as wood fiber - 6" and less depth in general; deficient depth and deep ruts at slides and swings; exposed concrete footing; deficient use zone at swings; grass growing
Surfacing Edge Condition & Safety	1	old wood but in good shape - may be CCA treated
General Playground Maintenance, Safety & Comfort	2	no trash or graffiti although multitude of maintenance issues noted for equipment and surfacing; playground is under repair; separation from road and parking with fence and gate - under repair; shade from mature trees and canopies on equipment; missing age appropriate signage; wood benches in poor shape and picnic tables

**33**

# Early Childhood Center

113 Phillips Brook Road



# Early Childhood Center

113 Phillips Brook Road



## Early Childhood Center

\* Score of 1 - 5 with 1 being excellent condition and 5 needing attention; range of scores 9 - 45

Item	Ranking	Comments
Play Equipment Safety	1	fairly new equipment in great shape (5 years old)
Play Equipment Condition	1	excellent: fairly new equipment; small areas of peeled paint/rust; bolt missing
Play Equipment Universal Accessibility	1	excellent
Play Diversity and separation for age groups and activities	1	challenging; great play value; separation by activity
Access to Playgrounds (accessible route)	2	fully accessible from buildings and parking to playground; > 1/2" gap at interface of bituminous path and rubber surface is non-compliant
Play Surface Accessibility	1	fully accessible between equipment
Play Surface Condition & Safety (extent, depth, drainage)	1	appears to be sufficient for equipment and age; a few areas where surface has separated from equipment forming 1/4" - 1/2" gaps
Surfacing Edge Condition & Safety	5	> 1/2" gap at interface of bituminous path and rubber surface; bituminous edge deteriorating
General Playground Maintenance, Safety & Comfort	2	well maintained, sun protection on equipment and small shade trees, picnic table, perimeter fence and secure gates, no conflicts with adjacent uses, missing age appropriate signage

**15**

# Franklin Elementary School

2 Cypress Terrace



# Franklin Elementary School

2 Cypress Terrace



# Franklin Elementary School

2 Cypress Terrace



# Franklin Elementary School

2 Cypress Terrace



## Franklin Elementary School

\* Score of 1 - 5 with 1 being excellent condition and 5 needing attention; range of scores 9 - 45

Item	Ranking	Comments
Play Equipment Safety	5	poor-multitude of safety issues including: bare metal in full sun; potential bolt projection/ laceration hazards; finger pinch hazards, loose and missing parts, bee holes, standing water, metal exposed in net cables, exposed concrete footings causing trip hazards
Play Equipment Condition	5	<u>wood playground</u> : poor and dated with many missing and deteriorated parts and hazards; <u>new age 5-12 equipment (Kompan Galaxy and Big Toys arched climber)</u> : excellent condition except for one sharp connection; <u>swings</u> : poor with rust and cracked coating on chains, missing seats, bent posts; <u>age 2-5 playground</u> : poor and dated with many missing and deteriorated parts and hazards
Play Equipment Universal Accessibility	5	non-compliance with 3 out of 4 areas due to age of structures
Play Diversity and Separation for age groups and activities	1	challenging; good play value; separation by age; underutilized age 2-5 area
Access to Playgrounds (accessible route)	4	safe accessible route to one of 4 play areas; no access between play areas
Play Surface Accessibility	4	appears to be engineered wood fiber surface which can be accessible when maintained correctly (raked, filled, compacted in layers); non-compliance evident in displaced fiber areas; compaction of fiber topping needed; wood chips can not be substituted
Play Surface Condition & Safety (extent, depth, drainage)	4	wood fiber surface varies from none to 12"+ depth; deficient depth and deep ruts at high use areas and throughout age 2-5 area; poor drainage in areas; deficient use zone around swings (need 2x ht) and slides > 6' ht; trip hazards with exposed footings; grass growing in many fiber areas
Surfacing Edge Condition & Safety	5	old wood - may be CCA treated, missing and deteriorated ties, wood fiber migrating out of areas; no edge at swings; drop from bituminous perimeter walk to play surface at age 2-5 area
General Playground Maintenance, Safety & Comfort	4	no trash or graffiti although multitude of maintenance issues noted for equipment and surfacing; close to access drive without barriers on 3 of 4 areas; broken gate and fencing on age 2-5 area; wood equipment appears to be in ball outfield; very few shade trees or canopies on equipment; missing age appropriate signage; no benches or tables

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# Grogan Field Playground

67 Baldwin Street



# Grogan Field Playground

67 Baldwin Street



# Grogan Field Playground

67 Baldwin Street



# Grogan Field Playground

67 Baldwin Street



## Grogan Field Playground

\* Score of 1 - 5 with 1 being excellent condition and 5 needing attention; range of scores 9 - 45

Item	Ranking	Comments
Play Equipment Safety	3	fair - missing and broken handholds on age 5-12 climber with sharp edges and protruding bolt hazards; missing top piece to cover bolts on 4-seat springer - base also exposed
Play Equipment Condition	2	new age 5-12 and 2-5 climbers (2004-2005) - excellent except for missing handhold hazards; 3 bays of swings with belt and toddler seats - excellent; 3 spring pieces in good condition - missing top piece on 4-seat springer
Play Equipment Universal Accessibility	1	good
Play Diversity and Separation for age groups and activities	2	challenging; great play value; ground level activities; separation by age and activity but lacks buffer areas
Access to Playgrounds (accessible route)	5	no accessible path between areas or from parking lot and street sidewalk - flat lawn
Play Surface Accessibility	5	appears to be wood chips which is not acceptable; additional non-compliance evident in displaced wood chip areas at swings and slides
Play Surface Condition & Safety (extent, depth, drainage)	5	wood chip surface is not as safe as wood fiber - 6" and less depth in general; deficient depth and deep ruts at slides and swings; deficient depth at 2-5 age equipment; deficient use zone around swings (need 2x ht), at age 2-5 equipment, at exercise bars, and at slides > 6' ht
Surfacing Edge Condition & Safety	5	no edge; loose wood surface migrating
General Playground Maintenance, Safety & Comfort	2	no trash or graffiti although maintenance issues noted for equipment and surfacing; age 2-5 equipment is too close to basketball court - also no barrier; shade from mature trees and small shade trees planted; canopies on equipment; 2-5 and 5-12 age signage; benches and picnic tables in shade

**30**

# Kittredge Elementary School

601 Main Street



# Kittredge Elementary School

601 Main Street



# Kittredge Elementary School

601 Main Street



# Kittredge Elementary School

601 Main Street



## Kittredge Elementary School

\* Score of 1 - 5 with 1 being excellent condition and 5 needing attention; range of scores 9 - 45

Item	Ranking	Comments
Play Equipment Safety	5	poor-multitude of safety issues including: cracked and broken see-saw; potential entanglement hazard at stand-alone slide and open 'S' hooks on rusty track slide and swing chains; bare metal in full sun; loose and missing parts
Play Equipment Condition	5	poor and dated (1997 ) with many cracked, missing and deteriorated parts and hazards; rust and worn coatings on platforms and handrails; bent posts; broken see-saw; missing tetherball;
Play Equipment Universal Accessibility	5	non-compliance due to age of structures
Play Diversity and Separation for age groups and activities	3	separation good; diversity poor with outdated climber, un-useable see-saw and slide track, limited options
Access to Playgrounds (accessible route)	5	no access - sloped lawn
Play Surface Accessibility	5	appears to be engineered wood fiber surface which can be accessible when maintained correctly (raked, filled, compacted in layers); non-compliance evident in displaced fiber areas; compaction of fiber topping needed; wood chips can not be substituted; level terraces are not connected with accessible route
Play Surface Condition & Safety (extent, depth, drainage)	4	wood fiber surface varies from none to 12"+ depth; deficient depth and deep ruts at high use areas and under climbers and slides; rubber mats have moved from swing areas; tree roots at lower swings; grass growing in areas; wet areas; deficient use zone around climbing wall; catch basin cover at ball throw is not safe
Surfacing Edge Condition & Safety	4	old wood - may be CCA treated, missing and deteriorated ties; plastic edge is broken and damaged throughout - some bolts are hazards; plastic edge between levels causes a trip hazard; no edge at upper swings and climbing wall - loose wood fiber is migrating
General Playground Maintenance, Safety & Comfort	4	no trash or graffiti although multitude of maintenance issues noted for equipment and surfacing; close to access drive without barriers for age 2-5 area; very few shade trees or canopies on equipment; missing age appropriate signage; no benches or tables

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# Reynolds Park Playground

225 Rea Street



# Reynolds Park Playground

225 Rea Street



## Reynolds Park Playground

\* Score of 1 - 5 with 1 being excellent condition and 5 needing attention; range of scores 9 - 45

Item	Ranking	Comments
Play Equipment Safety	3	fair - exposed concrete footing at end of slide; open S hooks on swings; cracked swing seats
Play Equipment Condition	3	poor for swings - missing 2 seats and others are in poor condition with cracks, rust and open S hooks; climber and age 2-5 equipment are in good shape
Play Equipment Universal Accessibility	1	good
Play Diversity and Separation for age groups and activities	3	good play value; ground level activities; separation by age and activity but lacks buffer areas
Access to Playgrounds (accessible route)	5	no accessible path between areas or from parking lot - steep sloping lawn
Play Surface Accessibility	5	appears to be wood chips which is not acceptable; additional non-compliance evident in displaced wood chip areas at swings and slides
Play Surface Condition & Safety (extent, depth, drainage)	5	wood chip surface is not as safe as wood fiber - 10" and less depth in general; deficient depth and deep ruts at slides and swings; exposed concrete footings at end of 2 slides are hazards; deficient use zone around swings (need 2x ht); wet areas; grass growing
Surfacing Edge Condition & Safety	4	wood edge is old with some areas of deterioration
General Playground Maintenance, Safety & Comfort	3	no trash or graffiti although multitude of maintenance issues noted for equipment and surfacing; separation from road and parking with slope and guard rail; no shade; missing age appropriate signage; benches without shade

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# Stevens Pond Beach Playground

522 Pleasant Street



# Stevens Pond Beach Playground

522 Pleasant Street



## Stevens Pond Beach Playground

\* Score of 1 - 5 with 1 being excellent condition and 5 needing attention; range of scores 9 - 45

Item	Ranking	Comments
Play Equipment Safety	1	good
Play Equipment Condition	1	good - some mildew at Plexiglas panels
Play Equipment Universal Accessibility	1	good
Play Diversity and Separation for age groups and activities	4	fair to poor - small climber for age 5-12; ground level activities; no swings
Access to Playgrounds (accessible route)	5	wood chip surface from parking is not accessible due to material and slope
Play Surface Accessibility	5	appears to be wood chips which is not acceptable; additional non-compliance evident in displaced wood chip area at slide
Play Surface Condition & Safety (extent, depth, drainage)	5	wood chip surface is not as safe as wood fiber - 6" and less depth in general; deficient depth and deep ruts at slide; deficient use zone at slide - also sloped; grass growing
Surfacing Edge Condition & Safety	5	no edge - wood chips migrating
General Playground Maintenance, Safety & Comfort	2	no trash or graffiti although maintenance issues noted for surfacing; separation from road with fence but close to parking without barrier; very short use zone at slide exit and steep slope; shade from trees and canopies; 5-12 age signage; no benches

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# Thomson Elementary School

266 Waverly Road



# Thomson Elementary School

266 Waverly Road



## Thomson Elementary School

\* Score of 1 - 5 with 1 being excellent condition and 5 needing attention; range of scores 9 - 45

Item	Ranking	Comments
Play Equipment Safety	2	minor maintenance issues; bare metal on balance beams in full sun; rubber steps on pieces worn to metal; belt swing missing; some rust starting and coating on steps peeling
Play Equipment Condition	2	good - minor maintenance issues
Play Equipment Universal Accessibility	1	good
Play Diversity and Separation for age groups and activities	1	challenging; good play value; separation of swings
Access to Playgrounds (accessible route)	2	accessible path from school but in poor shape with spill over of mulch on bituminous walk
Play Surface Accessibility	4	appears to be engineered wood fiber surface which can be accessible when maintained correctly (raked, filled, compacted in layers); non-compliance evident in displaced fiber areas; compaction of fiber topping needed; wood chips can not be substituted
Play Surface Condition & Safety (extent, depth, drainage)	4	wood fiber surface 12"+ depth in general; deficient depth and deep ruts at swings and slides; poor drainage in areas with ground water just below the surface; grass in areas
Surfacing Edge Condition & Safety	4	plastic edge with damaged and missing sections; protruding bolts causing hazards
General Playground Maintenance, Safety & Comfort	2	no trash or graffiti although maintenance issues noted for surface, no sun protection on south sides or equipment, age 5-12 signage, benches but in poor shape and without shade

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## **Playground Ranking Summary - from most need to least need**

*\* Score of 1 - 5 with 1 being excellent condition and 5 needing attention; range of scores 9 - 45*

Kittredge Elementary	<b>40</b>
Carl Thomas Playground	<b>38</b>
Franklin Elementary	<b>37</b>
Drummond Park Playground	<b>33</b>
Reynolds Park Playground	<b>32</b>
Grogan Field Playground	<b>30</b>
Stevens Pond Beach Playground	<b>29</b>
Atkinson Elementary	<b>28</b>
Aplin Playground	<b>27</b>
Thomson Elementary	<b>22</b>
Early Childhood Center	<b>15</b>