



Deborah A. Gist
Commissioner

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Enclosure 6b2
June 9, 2015

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TO: Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

FROM: David V. Abbott, Acting Commissioner

SUBJECT: Approval of Necessity of School Construction: Providence

The Council on Elementary and Secondary Education has as one of its responsibilities reviewing and certifying the need for school construction projects to be reimbursed through the school housing aid program. Most large projects are supported by bonds and are comprehensive projects with major renovation and/or new construction components. The School Construction Regulations instituted a rolling application process that allows districts to submit their applications when they are complete. Because of this, the Board will be asked to review and approve projects on an ongoing basis throughout the year. The FY 2015 State budget extended the moratorium on Board of Education approvals until May 1, 2015, except for projects necessitated by immediate health and safety reasons. On May 1, 2015, the Budget Office on behalf of the Governor requested that the Department hold off on advancing requests for new construction projects to the Council of Elementary and Secondary Education, with the exception of immediate health and safety projects, until the anticipated passage by the General Assembly of Article 9 – Relating to School Building Authority Capital Fund in the FY2016 Appropriations Act. Delaying new approvals will allow a clear demarcation for communities and prevent duplicate applications, as the State begins to implement a new system of funding construction and renovation of school facilities.

At this meeting, the Council is being asked to approve several health and safety projects. A chart summarizing Providence Public School District’s projects is provided in Attachment 1 and a more detailed description of the projects is found in Attachment 2.

RECOMMENDATION: THAT, the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approves the necessity of school construction projects for the Providence School Department totaling \$41,714,235 pursuant to 16-7-41.1 as follows (please note that when the applicable reimbursement share ratios are applied to the estimated total project costs noted below, the state share is expected to be \$33,788,534):

Providence:

- a. Districtwide Health and Safety Repairs
 - i. Fogarty Elementary School \$ 1,122,829
 - ii. Vartan Gregorian Elementary School \$ 2,839,767
 - iii. Hope High School \$ 5,855,281

iv.	M.L. King Elementary School	\$ 2,784,552
v.	Juanita Sanchez Complex	\$ 128,353
vi.	Frank Spaziano Elementary School	\$ 1,322,938
vii.	Frank Spaziano Annex	\$ 210,725
viii.	Gilbert Stuart Middle School	\$ 4,562,441
ix.	Veazie Street Elementary School	\$ 1,512,926
x.	Roger Williams Middle School	\$ 4,352,891
xi.	Feinstein ES at Broad Street	\$ 925,871
xii.	Harry Kizirian Elementary School	\$ 523,244
xiii.	Carl Lauro Elementary School	\$ 1,525,354
xiv.	Lima/Fortes Elementary School	\$ 1,374,828
xv.	Pleasant View Elementary School	\$ 233,353
xvi.	Central High School	\$ 788,611
xvii.	Esek Hopkins Middle School	\$ 995,904
xviii.	Mt Pleasant High School	\$ 6,645,950
xix.	D'Abate Elementary School	\$ 516,017
xx.	Nathanael Greene Middle School	\$ 1,406,964
xxi.	Sacket Street Elementary School	\$ 276,763
xxii.	Webster Avenue Elementary School	\$ 308,673
xxiii.	Districtwide Emergency Repairs	\$ 1,500,000

SUMMARY: FY 2015 NECESSITY OF CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

PROVIDENCE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	JUSTIFICATION	FY 2015 AID SHARE RATIO*	ESTIMATED PROJECT COST	STATE SHARE	STATE SHARE W/ INTEREST**
Districtwide Health and Safety Repairs <i>(see attachment 2)</i>	This project will address immediate emergency repairs at 22 district facilities. The proposed repairs include high priority renovations to address code compliance and life safety issues - including fire marshal deficiencies, ADA improvements, structural repairs, hazardous materials abatement, and high priority HVAC repairs.	This project will address high priority health, life safety, and code compliance issues at all district schools. The repairs will address fire code upgrades, ADA improvements, building envelope repair and replacement, and other building system improvements that affect student and staff health and safety.	81%	\$41,714,235	\$33,788,534	\$51,527,511

* State share ratio is based on FY2015 calculation. District may be eligible for additional reimbursement through bonuses awarded for energy and water efficiency, ADA improvements, and asbestos abatement.

** Only bonds financed through RIHEBC are eligible for reimbursement on interest.

**Providence School District
Districtwide Health and Safety Improvements**

Project Cost: \$41,714,235

Project Description: This project will address immediate emergency repairs at 22 district facilities, including Fogarty Elementary, Vartan Gregorian ES, Hope HS, MLK ES, Juanita Sanchez Complex, Spaziano ES and Annex, Stuart MS, Veazie Street ES, Roger Williams MS, Feinstein ES, Kizirian ES, Lauro ES, Lima/Fortes ES, Pleasant View ES, Central HS, Esek Hopkins MS, Mt. Pleasant HS, D'Abate ES, Greene MS, Sacket Street ES, and Webster Avenue ES.. The proposed repairs include high priority renovations to address code compliance and life safety issues - including fire marshal deficiencies, ADA improvements, structural repairs, hazardous materials abatement, and high priority HVAC repairs.

Project Justification:

- Hazardous materials abatement will be conducted to prevent indoor environmental quality issues.
- High priority districtwide mechanical system repairs will provide code required heating and ventilation and resolve indoor air quality deficiencies.
- Districtwide building envelope repairs, including roof replacements, to prevent water infiltration.

* * *

This project is approved by the School Committee and City officials.

Special Contingency: All other things being equal, the services of qualified and capable vendors with offices in Rhode Island, or those who propose a joint venture with a Rhode Island firm, should be utilized.