



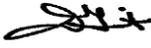
Deborah A. Gist
Commissioner

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

Enclosure 7e5
September 8, 2014

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TO: Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

FROM: Deborah A. Gist, Commissioner 

SUBJECT: Approval of Necessity of School Construction Projects: Smithfield

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 Council will be asked to review and approve projects on an ongoing basis throughout the year. The FY 2015 State budget extended the moratorium on Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approvals until May 1, 2015, except for projects necessitated by immediate health and safety reasons.

At the September 8th meeting, the Council is being asked to approve several health and safety projects. A chart summarizing Smithfield Public School'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 totaling \$5,438,328 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 \$1,903,415):

Smithfield:

- a. Districtwide Health and Safety Repairs
 - i. Smithfield High School \$ 2,506,254
 - ii. Gallagher Middle School \$ 1,406,484
 - iii. LaPerche Elementary School \$ 485,300
 - iv. McCabe Elementary School \$ 553,265
 - v. Old County Elementary School \$ 36,800
 - vi. Winsor Elementary School \$ 450,225

SUMMARY: FY 2015 NECESSITY OF CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

SMITHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	JUSTIFICATION	FY 2015 AID SHARE RATIO*	ESTIMATED PROJECT COST	STATE SHARE	STATE SHARE W/ INTEREST**
Districtwide Health and Safety Repairs (see attachment 2)	This project will address immediate health and safety repairs at all six Smithfield Public School's facilities, including: LaPerche Elementary School, McCabe Elementary School, Old County Elementary School, Winsor Elementary School, Gallagher Middle School, and Smithfield High School. The proposed work includes emergency renovations to address life safety issues, including fire code issues, hazardous materials abatement, and other critical building systems repairs.	The repairs will address high priority repairs such as fire code upgrades, building envelope repair and replacement, hazardous materials abatement, and other building system improvements that affect student and staff health and safety.	35%	\$5,438,328	\$1,903,415	\$2,902,706

* 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. Smithfield intends to fund this project with bond proceeds.

**Smithfield Public Schools
Districtwide Health and Safety Improvements**

Project Cost: \$5,438,328

Project Description: This project will address immediate health and safety repairs at all six Smithfield Public School's facilities, including: LaPerche Elementary School, McCabe Elementary School, Old County Elementary School, Winsor Elementary School, Gallagher Middle School, and Smithfield High School. The proposed work includes emergency renovations to address life safety issues, including fire code issues, hazardous materials abatement, and other critical building systems repairs.

Project Justification:

- Abatement of hazardous materials to maintain safe and health indoor environmental quality
- Code required fire safety repairs
- Building envelope repairs, including roof replacements to address leaks that have caused water infiltration and damage to interiors
- Districtwide code required heating and ventilation improvements to maintain indoor air quality

* * *

This project is approved by the School Committee and Town 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.