




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

Enclosure 8b  
October 6, 2011

Deborah A. Gist  
Commissioner

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**TO:** Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education

**FROM:** Deborah A. Gist, Commissioner 

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Necessity of School Construction: Bristol Warren Regional School District

The Board of Regents for 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 Regents will be asked to review and approve projects on an ongoing basis throughout the year. The FY 2012 State budget imposed a three year moratorium on Board of Regents approvals, except for projects necessitated by immediate health and safety reasons.

At this meeting, the Regents are being asked to approve several health and safety projects. A chart summarizing the Bristol Warren Regional School District's projects for your approval is provided in Attachment 1 and a more detailed description of the projects is found in Attachments 2.

**RECOMMENDATION:** THAT, the Board of Regents approve the necessity of school construction projects totaling **\$1,628,080** 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 excluding interest is expected to be **\$944,286**):

Bristol Warren:

- a. District-wide Health and Safety Repairs
  - i. Mt. Hope High School Renovations \$ 1,298,080
  - ii. Hugh Cole Elementary School \$ 300,000
  - iii. Kickemuit Middle School \$ 30,000

## SUMMARY: FY 2012 NECESSITY OF CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

| BRISTOL<br>WARREN<br>REGIONAL<br>SCHOOL<br>DISTRICT                                    | BRIEF<br>DESCRIPTION  | JUSTIFICATION  | FY 2012<br>AID<br>SHARE<br>RATIO* | ESTIMATED<br>PROJECT<br>COST | STATE<br>SHARE | STATE<br>SHARE W/<br>INTEREST** |
|--|---|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Districtwide<br/>Health and<br/>Safety Repairs</b><br><br><i>(see attachment 2)</i> | This project will provide high priority repairs to three district school facilities: Hugh Cole Elementary, Kickemuit Middle School, and Mt. Hope High School. | The repairs included in this project will address health, life safety, and code compliance issues at three district schools. The improvements will address fire safety, hazardous materials abatement, structural repairs, and other building system improvements that affect student and staff health and safety. | 58.00%                            | \$1,628,080                  | \$944,286      | \$944,286                       |

\* State share ratio is based on FY2012 calculation. Final state share ratio is assigned when the bond is issued. 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. Bristol Warren intends to pay for project out of capital reserve funds.

**Bristol Warren Regional School District  
Bristol Warren District-wide Improvements**

Project Cost: \$1,628,080

Project Description: This project will address emergency repairs at three Bristol Warren Regional School District facilities, including the Mt. Hope High School, the Hugh Cole Elementary School, and the Kickemuit Middle School. These facilities are all in need of immediate renovation to address code compliance and life safety issues. The repairs and renovations will include asbestos abatement, fire safety improvements, building envelope repairs, structural repairs, and other high priority building improvements.

Project Justification:

- This project will address health and safety issues across the district.
- Repairs will address fire and building code compliance issues at three schools.
- Hazardous materials will be remediated to prevent indoor environmental quality problems.
- System repairs will provide much needed ventilation, electrical, plumbing and mechanical improvements.

\* \* \*

This project is approved by the Regional District 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.