*****Massachusetts Department of***

***Elementary and Secondary Education***

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| Jeff Wulfson*Acting Commissioner* |  |

# MEMORANDUM

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| **To:** | Members of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education |
| **From:**  | Jeff Wulfson, Acting Commissioner |
| **Date:**  | December 8, 2017 |
| **Subject:** | Grant Packages for the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education |

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| **Pursuant to the authority given to me by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education at its** **October 21, 2008 meeting, I approved the following competitive grants.** |
| **FUND** **CODE** | **GRANT PROGRAM** | **NUMBER OF****PROPOSALS** **APPROVED** | **AMOUNT** |
| 110 | Resource Reallocation to District Priorities | 9 | $529,100 |
| 320 | Supplementary Support to School Districts with High Concentrations of At-Risk Students: MassGrad Promising Practices Grant  | 18 | 897,070  |
| 335 | Safe and Supportive Schools Grant | 17 | 231,900 |
| **TOTAL**  | 44 | **$1,658,070** |

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| NAME OF GRANT PROGRAM: | Resource Reallocation to District Priorities | **FUND CODE:** 110 |
| **FUNDS ALLOCATED:** | $600,000 (Federal) |
| **FUNDS REQUESTED:** | $529,100 |
| **PURPOSE:** The goal of this competitive two-year grant program is to support school districts interested in making substantial changes in resource allocation and directing more resources toward evidence-based improvement strategies. Due to increasing health insurance, retirement, and labor costs and decreasing state revenue, the near-term forecast suggests that many districts are unlikely to experience revenue increases similar to those of the past. The Department has established this grant program to encourage districts to explore new ways to make the most of the resources available to them, and has dedicated up to $600,000 for grants over a two-year period. |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS RECEIVED:** | 33 |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS RECOMMENDED:** | 9 |
| NUMBER OF PROPOSALS NOT RECOMMENDED: | 24 |
| **RESULT OF FUNDING:** * Examine and question **resource allocation** in more depth, using data available in districts along with tools provided by ESE, particularly Resource Allocation and District Action Reports (RADAR)
* Make meaningful changes in resource allocation to support **best practices** and district improvement strategies
* Measure the **impact** of resource shifts on the desired outcomes. Districts awarded grants will be paired with an action research consultant who will help gather data, measure impact and report results.
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| **RECIPIENTS** | **AMOUNTS** |
| Andover | $49,300 |
| Berkshire Hills | 50,000 |
| Dighton-Rehoboth | 50,000 |
| Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical | 50,000 |
| Marblehead | 30,000 |
| Maynard | 50,000 |
| North Adams for Adams-Cheshire, North Adams and North Berkshire School Union | 100,000 |
| SEEM Collaborative for Woburn, Wilmington, North Reading, Melrose, Wakefield, Stoneham, Reading | 99,800 |
| Waltham | 50,000 |
| TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDS | **$529,100** |

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| NAME OF GRANT PROGRAM:  | **Supplementary Support to School Districts with High Concentrations of At-Risk Students: MassGrad Promising Practices Grant**  | **FUND CODE:** 320  |
| **FUNDS ALLOCATED:**  | $ 897,070 (Federal)  |
| **FUNDS REQUESTED:** | $ 949,070 |
| **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this federally-funded competitive grant opportunity is to provide supplementary support to school districts with high concentrations of students at-risk for not graduating from high school. These students may have risk factors such as: expectant or parenting teen, having drug or alcohol addiction, previous contact with the courts or juvenile justice system, being at least one year behind expected grade level for the age of the individual, having limited English proficiency; being a gang member, being a former dropout, and/or having high absenteeism or chronic truancy. The priority of this grant is to provide at-risk students in grades 7–12 research-based supports that allow students to improve academic achievement and reduce the number of students dropping out of school.  |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS RECEIVED:** | 19 |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS RECOMMENDED:** | 18 |
| NUMBER OF PROPOSALS NOT RECOMMENDED: |  1 |
| **RESULT OF FUNDING:** This competitive grant process will allow 17 districts/schools the opportunity to implement 1-3 research-based strategies along with targeted social emotional supports for at-risk youth to improve the dropout rates of these districts.  |

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| **RECIPIENTS** | **AMOUNTS** |
| Attleboro Public Schools  | 42,000 |
| Boston Public Schools (Boston Adult Technical Academy, Charlestown High School)  | 104,000 |
| Boston Day and Evening Academy | 52,000 |
| Brockton Public Schools | 52,000 |
| Chelsea Public Schools | 43,072 |
| Chicopee Public Schools | 52,000 |
| Fall River Public Schools | 52,000 |
| Gardner Public Schools | 32,000 |
| New Bedford Public Schools | 52,000 |
| Pittsfield Public Schools  | 52,000 |
| Ralph C Mahar Public Schools | 52,000 |
| Somerville Public Schools  | 52,000 |
| Southbridge Public Schools  | 51,998 |
| Springfield Public Schools | 52,000 |
| Wareham Public Schools  | 52,000 |
| Westfield Public Schools | 52,000 |
| Worcester Public Schools  | 52,000 |
| TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDS | **$897,070**  |

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| **NAME OF GRANT PROGRAM:** | Safe and Supportive Schools Grant | **FUND CODE:** 335 |
| **FUNDS ALLOCATED:** | $231,900 (State) |
| **FUNDS REQUESTED:** | $438,440 |
| **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this competitive grant program is to provide funding to districts (and their selected schools) to develop and implement action plans that organize, integrate, and sustain school and district-wide efforts to create safe and supportive school environments and coordinate and align student support initiatives. This work is intended to help schools create safe, positive, healthy and inclusive whole-school learning environments and make effective use of a system for integrating services and aligning initiatives that promote students' behavioral health (e.g., social and emotional learning, bullying prevention, trauma sensitivity, dropout prevention, truancy reduction, children's mental health, foster care and homeless youth education, inclusion of students with disabilities, substance use prevention, positive behavioral approaches that reduce suspensions and expulsions, and other similar initiatives).The main priorities for this grant will support:* **Category A**: Schools and districts to convene a school team to respond to all questions in the [Behavioral Health and Public School (BHPS) Self-Assessment Tool](http://bhps321.org/). Teams will then create action plans to identify priority areas as they relate to the six areas in the BHPS Tool which include: Leadership; Professional Development; Access to Resources and Services; Academic and Non-Academic Activities; School Policies, Procedures and Protocols; and Collaboration with Families.
* **Category B:** Schools to implement action plans. School and district teams previously completed the BHPS Tool and developed these action plans to identify priority areas as they relate to their analysis of the Tool results.
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| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS RECEIVED: 29** |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS RECOMMENDED: 17** |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS NOT RECOMMENDED: 12** |

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| **RECIPIENTS** | **AMOUNTS** |
| Arlington Public Schools | $19,900 |
| Berkshire Arts and Technology Charter Public School (Adams) | 10,000 |
| Berkshire Hills Regional School District (Stockbridge) | 10,000 |
| Boston Public Schools | 10,000 |
| Carver Public Schools | 10,000 |
| Chelsea Public Schools | 19,800 |
| Clinton Public Schools | 15,000 |
| Easthampton Public Schools | 13,500 |
| Milton Public Schools | 20,000 |
| Monomoy Regional School District (Chatham) | 5,000 |
| North Adams Public Schools | 20,000 |
| Pioneer Valley Regional School District (Northfield) | 5,200 |
| Quaboag Regional School District (Warren) | 20,000 |
| Sandwich Public Schools | 10,000 |
| Southbridge Public Schools | 20,000 |
| Stoneham Public Schools | 10,000 |
| West Springfield Public Schools | 13,500 |
| **TOTAL STATE FUNDS**  | **$231,900** |