*****Massachusetts Department of***

***Elementary and Secondary Education***

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| Jeffrey C. Riley*Commissioner* |  |

**MEMORANDUM**

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| **To:** | Members of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education |
| **From:**  | Jeffrey C. Riley, Commissioner |
| **Date:**  | December 7, 2021 |
| **Subject:** | Grant Packages for the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (December) |

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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** |
| 106 | Career Vocational Technical Equitable Access Grant | 12 | $992,991 |
| 191 | School District Regionalization | 6 | $500,000 |
| 335 | Safe and Supportive Schools Competitive | 9 | $84,320 |
| 452 | Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) Competitive Grant | 2 | $92,275 |
| **TOTAL**  |  | **29** | **$1,669,586** |

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| **NAME OF GRANT PROGRAM:**  | Career Vocational Technical Equitable Access Grant | **FUND CODE:** 106 |
| **FUNDS ALLOCATED:**  | $2,400,000 (Federal) |
| **FUNDS REQUESTED:** | $992,991 |
| **PURPOSE:** The goal of this federally funded competitive grant program is to provide supplementary support to build school and district capacity to address issues around equity and access in Career Vocational Technical Education (CVTE) programs through three priorities; Analyzing Data, Enhancing English Learner Recruitment and Success, and/or Building Equitable Structures |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS RECEIVED:**  | 12 |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS RECOMMENDED:** | 12 |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS NOT RECOMMENDED:**  | 0 |
| **RESULT OF FUNDING:** Districts will make progress in increasing equity and access for underrepresented students in chapter 74 CVTE programming. |

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| **RECIPIENTS** | **AMOUNTS** |
| Bristol Agricultural High School | $30,000 |
| Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District | $40,000 |
| Everett Public Schools | $68,950 |
| Greater Lawrence Technical School  | $130,000 |
| Greater New Bedford Regional | $160,000 |
| Haverhill Public Schools | $67,500 |
| Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical  | $88,641 |
| New Bedford Public Schools | $120,000 |
| Southern Worcester Regional Technical Vocational High School  | $93,600 |
| Tri-County Regional | $30,000 |
| Whittier Regional  | $34,300 |
| Worcester Public Schools | $130,000 |
| **TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDS** | **$992,991** |

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| **NAME OF GRANT PROGRAM:**  | School District Regionalization | **FUND CODE:** 191 |
| **FUNDS ALLOCATED:**  | $500,000 (State) |
| **FUNDS REQUESTED:** | $670,850 |
| **PURPOSE: “**For school district regionalization grants to regional school districts and school districts considering forming a regional school district or regionalizing services; provided, that funds may be expended on study and planning grants to allow for the creation of new regional school districts or the expansion of existing regions, on implementation and start-up grants to cover first year costs associated with the transition to a new or expanded regional school district, or for grants to study, plan, and implement innovative shared services plans in areas where regionalization is not appropriate, but where regionalized services could provide significant savings; provided further, that preference may be given in awarding these grants to districts and municipalities with significant enrollment decline, under-utilization of existing school space, or where the regionalization proposal will produce significant expansion of available academic resources and supports as a result of cost savings; and provided further, that funds appropriated for this purpose in fiscal year 2021 may be expended for this purpose until December 31, 2021.”[*Line Item 7061-9809*](https://budget.digital.mass.gov/summary/fy22/enacted/education/education-k-12/70619809)This grant program provides funds to school districts and agencies to study and plan the creation of new regional school districts or expansion of existing regions, or for implementation of shared services plans in areas where regionalization is not appropriate but where regionalized services could provide significant savings. These state grants will help the six grantees and their partners secure the resources and expert help needed to navigate the various laws, regulations and best practices associated with investigating shared services or regionalization. |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS RECEIVED:** | 6 |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS RECOMMENDED:** | 6 |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS NOT RECOMMENDED:** | 0 |
| **RESULT OF FUNDING:** Five school districts and the Berkshire County Education Task Force will receive funds to study and plan the creation of new regional school districts, expand existing region, and/or implement shared services. These state grants will help the six grantees and their partners secure the resources and expert help needed to navigate the various laws, regulations and best practices associated with investigating shared services, regional school district expansion and/or regionalization. |

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| **RECIPIENTS** | **AMOUNTS** |
| Berkshire County Education Task Force (*Berkshire County Community College as fiscal agent)* | $130,000 |
| Gill-Montague Regional School District (working with the Six Town Regional Planning Board, formed by the six member towns of Gill-Montague Regional School District and Pioneer Valley Regional School District (Gill, Montague, Bernardston, Leyden, Northfield and Warwick) | $38,350 |
| Narragansett Regional School District | $30,000 |
| Quaboag Regional School District (working on expanding the district to include the town of North Brookfield) | $142,500 |
| Southern Berkshire Regional School District (working with the Regional School District Planning Board, formed by the eight member towns of the Berkshire Hills Regional School District and the Southern Berkshire Regional School District (Alford, Egremont, Great Barrington, Monterey, New Marlborough, Sheffield, Stockbridge, and West Stockbridge)  | $130,000 |
| Tri-town School Union (*Boxford Public Schools as fiscal agent*, exploring PK-6 regionalization of towns in the union, Boxford, Middleton and Topsfield) | $29,150 |
| **TOTAL STATE FUNDS** | **$500,000** |

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| **NAME OF GRANT PROGRAM:**  | Safe and Supportive Schools Competitive  | **FUND CODE:** 335 |
| **FUNDS ALLOCATED:**  | $84,320 (State) |
| **FUNDS REQUESTED:** | $126,820 |
| **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this state funded competitive grant program is to provide funding to school districts (and their selected schools) to organize, integrate, and sustain school and district-wide efforts to create safe and supportive school environments. Additionally, this grant is designed to coordinate and align student support initiatives based on their findings from completing the Safe and Supportive Schools (SaSS) Framework and Self-Reflection Tool.Each applicant was eligible to apply for one of following options:* **Option 1 (Action Planning)**: Schools and districts convene a school team to respond to all questions in the Safe and Supportive Schools Self-Reflection Tool. Teams then create action plans to identify priority areas as they relate to the six areas in the Tool which include: *Leadership, Infrastructure, and Culture; Professional Learning Opportunities; Access to Resources and Services; Teaching and Learning that Fosters Safe and Supportive Environments; School Policies, Procedures, and Protocols; and Family Engagement.*
* **Option 2 (Implementation and Mentorship/Support):** Schools implement action plans and provide support to others. School and district teams previously completed the Tool and developed these action plans to identify priority areas as they relate to their analysis of the Tool results. Grantees will also provide support to and mentorship for new tool users, other new Tool users, schools and districts that are new to implementation, as well as the Department, Safe and Supportive Schools Commission, and others as needed and appropriate.

Funds are provided pursuant to line-item 7061-9612 of the 2021 state budget (fiscal year 2022). |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS RECEIVED:** | 12 |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS RECOMMENDED:** | 9 |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS NOT RECOMMENDED:** | 3 |
| **RESULT OF FUNDING:** A total of nine (9) school districts and their selected schools will receive funds through the two options described above to create safe, supportive, and welcoming school environments. **Option 1 – Action Planning:** A total of five (5) districts and their selected schools will receive funds to support the convening of school and district-based teams to utilize the Self-Reflection tool and create school and district-based action plans. **Option 2 – School Based Implementation and Mentorship/Support:** four (4) districts and their selected schools *(indicated in the list below with an asterisk)* will receive funds to support the implementation of school and district action plans. District and school personnel will also serve in a variety of capacities as mentors and support for Option 1 grantees and others |

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| **RECIPIENTS** | **AMOUNTS** |
| Arlington Public Schools\* | $10,000 |
| Carver Public Schools\* | $5,500 |
| Frontier Regional and Union 38 School Districts (South Deerfield) | $10,000 |
| Global Learning Charter School\* (New Bedford) | $10,000 |
| Haverhill Public Schools | $10,000 |
| Quaboag Regional School District\* (Warren) | $10,000 |
| Sandwich Public Schools | $8,820 |
| Springfield Public Schools | $10,000 |
| Taunton Public Schools | $10,000 |
| **TOTAL STATE FUNDS** | **$84,320** |

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| **NAME OF GRANT PROGRAM:**  | **Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) Competitive Grant** | **FUND CODE:** 452 |
| **FUNDS ALLOCATED:**  | $245,000 (Federal) |
| **FUNDS REQUESTED:** | $164,664 |
| **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this competitive federal grant is to assist state and county correctional agencies with education programs that meet the definition of career and technical education as contained in the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V).Proposed programs of study must offer a sequence of at least two courses that: (a) results in an industry-recognized credential or certificate, and (b) provides justice involved individuals with coherent and rigorous educational activities that develop the academic, technical, and career management knowledge and skills required to secure employment in an identified career pathway or enroll and complete a postsecondary program in the pathway. |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS RECEIVED:** | 3 |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS RECOMMENDED:** | 2 |
| **NUMBER OF PROPOSALS NOT RECOMMENDED:** | 1 |
| **RESULT OF FUNDING:** These awards provide two correctional facilities with multiyear funding to prepare ex-offender, returning citizens to succeed in CORI-neutral, regionally in-demand career pathways that offer a family-sustaining, livable wage. |

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| **RECIPIENTS** | **AMOUNTS** |
| Franklin County Sheriff’s Office  | $35,000 |
| Hampden County Sheriff's Department  | $57,275 |
| **TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDS** | **$92,275** |