



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0023

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

SUSAN A. GENDRON
COMMISSIONER

EXHIBIT #IV.C.

To: Members of the State Board of Education
From: Susan A. Gendron, Commissioner*
Date: November 15, 2006
Subject: Major Capital School Construction Program; *Design and Funding Approval Consideration*; SAD #3 Thorndike, new PreK-12 school construction project.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The SAD #3 school construction project received Concept Approval by the State Board of Education on August 10, 2005. The project was approved by local referendum on September 27, 2005.

The District is requesting that the State Board of Education waive Section 6, 2, F (3) of Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, which reads:

“(3) Within nine months of a favorable local referendum vote, a project shall be presented to the State Board for Design and Funding Approval.”

The District is also requesting Design and Funding Approval pursuant to MRSA Title 20-A. It is recommended that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval to SAD #3 based upon the amended Concept Budget and approve additional funds of up to \$500,000. The voters of SAD #3 approved an article at their September 27, 2005, referendum to accept gifts in this amount to “provide additional equipment and improvements” for the project.

SAD #3 is requesting Design and Funding Approval for their proposed elementary school construction project qualifying under state statute and the State Board of Education’s Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects:

1. the SAD #3 proposed project is eligible for school construction aid under MRSA Title 20-A, Chapter 609;
2. the proposed project and the authorized method of financing are in the best interest of the State of Maine and SAD #3;
3. the total estimated capital outlay expenditures are reasonable; and
4. SAD #3’s proposed project is in compliance with MRSA Title 20-A, Chapter 301.

Project Information:

Project: SAD #3 new PreK-12
Superintendent: Barbara Rado-Mosseau
Architect: Rob Tillotson, Oak Point Associates
Principals: Peter Weston, Elementary School
Osmund Crowley, Middle School
Lynda Letteney, High School

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Concept Approval Date and Project Cost: August 10, 2005; \$39,825,552

Approved for State/Local Debt Service: \$39,521,130

Local Only Funds: \$184,422

Anticipated Maine High Performance School Energy Grant: \$120,000

Design & Funding Approval Date and Project Cost: November 15, 2006; \$40,325,551
(including \$499,999 in local gift monies)

Approved for State/Local Debt Service: \$39,521,130

Local Only Funds: \$684,421 (increased by \$499,999 additional local gift monies)

Anticipated Maine High Performance School Energy Grant: \$120,000

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

At its meeting on November 6, 2006, the Construction Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education grant Design & Funding Approval to SAD #3 for a new PreK-12 school construction project located in Thorndike, Maine. The Design and Funding Approval includes a request to waive the provisions of the State Board of Education's Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, Section 6, 2, F (3).

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

The Department of Education recommends that the State Board of Education waive Section 6, 2, F (3) of Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

The Department of Education further recommends that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval pursuant to MRSA Title 20-A. to SAD #3 for a new PreK-12 Major Capital School Construction Project in Thorndike, Maine, with an amount up to \$500,000 additional funds in gift monies approved in referendum.

This approval constitutes Design & Funding Approval. Final Funding Approval may be subject to adjustment under Section 10, Subsection 1, of the State Board of Education Rules for School Construction Projects, which states:

“Final Funding Approval by the Commissioner establishes the Project Budget and takes place after construction bids have been received. At that time the Commissioner may reduce the budget to finance the project, thus providing additional funds for other projects.” **

*Prepared by the School Facilities Services Team