

# Massachusetts School Building Authority

**Timothy P. Cahill**  
*Chairman, State Treasurer*

**Katherine P. Craven**  
*Executive Director*

April 9, 2008

Superintendent Mark Masterson  
Maynard Public Schools  
12 Bancroft Street  
Maynard, MA 01754

*More discussions to follow!*

Re: Maynard High School Project

Dear Superintendent Masterson:

I am pleased to report that the Board of the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA") voted to invite your school district to collaborate with the MSBA in conducting a Feasibility Study on the above referenced school. Conducting a Feasibility Study is the next phase in the MSBA's process. During this phase, the school district and the MSBA will collaborate to find the right-sized, most fiscally responsible and educationally appropriate solution to the facility's problems. I do want to emphasize that this invitation to collaborate on a Feasibility Study is not approval of a project, but is strictly an invitation to your school district to work with MSBA to explore potential solutions to the problems that have been identified.

The Board's decision to move the above referenced school to the Feasibility Study phase is the culmination of months of due diligence and analysis by the MSBA to determine which school facilities across the Commonwealth are in most need of capital investment. The MSBA received 423 Statements of Interest (SOIs) from 162 different school districts. Based on lessons learned from the Waiting List, the MSBA then asked each district that submitted multiple SOIs to prioritize one SOI.

The MSBA has been focusing on the 162 district priorities, analyzing the SOI, visiting schools to assess overcrowding, conducting facility assessments and senior studies with teams of architects and engineers, reviewing enrollment trends and forecasts, reviewing educational programs, and meeting with local officials, to help determine which school facilities are in most need of attention.

Through the MSBA's due diligence process, it was determined that the above referenced school met some or all of the criteria of having the neediest facility conditions and/or overcrowding contributing to poor educational environments. Accordingly, the Board voted to invite your district to collaborate with the MSBA on a Feasibility Study.

The Feasibility Study, which will be conducted pursuant to the MSBA's regulations, will involve the MSBA collaborating with the district to begin to explore potential solutions to the problems identified in the SOI. Solutions to be explored may include non-construction options such as re-districting, regionalization, or re-programming of existing spaces. Regionalization will be one of the options studied during the analysis of alternatives for the Maynard High School. Again, this authorization for a Feasibility Study is *not* approval of a project, and moving forward in the process requires collaboration with the MSBA. Communities that "get ahead" of the MSBA, without MSBA approval, will not be eligible for grant funding. To qualify for any funding from the MSBA, local communities must follow the MSBA's statute and regulations, which require MSBA collaboration and approval at each step of the process.

Please contact the MSBA soon to discuss the next steps of the process in more detail. I look forward to continuing to work with you as the MSBA's new grant program progresses. As always, feel free to contact me or Ralph Wallace of my staff at (617) 720-4466 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine Craven". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katherine Craven  
Executive Director

Cc: Representative Patricia Walrath  
Senator Pamela Resor