

IN CITY COUNCIL

Marlborough	, Mass.,	MARCH 28, 2022	
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ORDERED:

That the Statement of Interest for Marlborough Public Schools to the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) relative to the Richer School, be and is herewith referred to the FINANCE COMMITTEE.

ADOPTED

ORDER NO. 22-1008551



City of Marlborough ERRY'S OFFICE Gribur G. Vigeant MAYOR Office of the Mayor EXECUTIVE AIDE

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Ryan P. Egan EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

March 24, 2022

Council President Ossing Marlborough City Council 140 Main Street Marlborough, MA 01752

RE: Statement of Interest for Marlborough Public Schools

Honorable President Ossing and Councilors,

On February 8, 2022, the School Committee voted to submit a Statement of Interest (SOI) to the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), that is the first critical step in applying for funding through the MSBA's program for school building construction, addition/renovation, and repair grants. The SOI allows districts to inform the MSBA about deficiencies that may exist in a local school facility and how those deficiencies inhibit the delivery of the district's educational program.

The Marlborough Public Schools Administration and the School Committee have briefly discussed the future needs of Richer Elementary School. Since October 2021, we have 290 new students bringing us just over 5,000 in district. While I believe that we will need to address the immediate space constraints and the renovation, I'm concerned that Richer School will not provide the adequate space needed and more indepth analysis needs to be conducted before addressing capital needs.

Enclosed is a letter from Superintendent Bergeron and Finance and Operations Director Doug Dias, as well as drafted language for the order for submission. The deadline for submission is April 29, 2022. The filing of an SOI is a formal procedure enabling a district to communicate its interest in a potential school building construction or renovation project. It does not obligate the City to commit to any project or funding of any kind.

I will await your decision on approving the submittal of the Statement of Interest.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Arthur G. Vigeant

Mayor

Enclosures



Marlborough Public Schools

Douglas Dias • Director of Finance & Operations
District Education Center
25 Union Street, Marlborough, MA 01752
(508) 460-3509 ext.13810 • ddias@mps-edu.org

March 11, 2022

Mayor Arthur Vigeant City of Marlborough 140 Main Street Marlborough, MA 01752

Re: Richer Elementary School Statement of Interest

Mayor Vigeant,

The Marlborough Public Schools intends to submit a statement of interest (SOI) to the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) for a renovation/addition of the Richer Elementary School. Submitting an SOI is the initial step to inform the MSBA that Marlborough is interested in pursuing a school building renovation/addition of the Richer school with MSBA funding.

School Administrators believe that a renovation/addition of the Richer school would address the existing capital improvement needs of the school as well as address critical space constraints of our elementary program, which may soon need to give up classrooms for specials (art, music, engineering, etc.) for general teaching classrooms.

The SOI submission deadline is Friday, April 29th. Before the SOI is formally submitted, the District is required to obtain a vote of support by the School Committee and the City Council. The School Committee voted to support the SOI submission on February 8th, and we are respectfully requesting the opportunity to bring the matter in front of the City Council for a vote.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Director of Finance and Operations

Enclosures: Required MSBA vote language

Michael Bergeron

Superintendent of Schools



Marlborough Public Schools

Douglas Dias • Director of Finance & Operations
District Education Center
25 Union Street, Marlborough, MA 01752
(508) 460-3509 ext.13810 • ddias@mps-edu.org

Required MSBA Vote Language

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on xx/xx/2022, prior to the SOI submission closing date, the City Council of the City of Marlborough in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated February 2022 for the Richer Elementary School located at 80 Foley Road, Marlborough, MA 01752 which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future;

The District is submitting the Statement of Interest under three priorities:

Priority 2: Elimination of severe overcrowding

Priority 4: Prevention of severe overcrowding expected to result from increased enrollments

Priority 5: Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility

The Richer Elementary School SOI would address overcrowding at the elementary level as well as capital maintenance concerns at that building. The MSBA and the District's Study Enrollment Certification for the Goodnow Brothers project predicted in 2015 that Marlborough would have 2,260 K-5 students by FY26, and the District's actual K-5 enrollment in FY22 is 2,478 students. Priorities two and four would address this overcrowding in our elementary schools, which has caused non-traditional classroom spaces throughout the District to be used as classrooms. Further, priority five would address Richer Elementary's outdated HVAC and plumbing systems, as well as aged building envelope systems (windows, roof) that require modernization;

and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City of Marlborough to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

www.mps-edu.org



Marlborough Public Schools

School Committee
District Education Center
25 Union Street, Marlborough, MA 01752
(508) 460-3509

8. Public Participation: None.

It should be noted that members of the public may provide comment via email before the meeting to superintendent@mps-edu.org. Public participation is a time for your comments to be heard by the committee; it is not a question-and-answer session.

9. Action Items/Reports

A. MSBA Statement of Interest

Mr. Dias read the MSBA Statement of Interest action item into the record verbatim. Superintendent Bergeron recommended that the School Committee give the authority, by agreeing to the language, to the district to submit a SOI and approach the City Council to make the same request.

Motion made by Mrs. Matthews, seconded by Chairman Vigeant to approve the recommendation.

Motion passed 6-0-1.

B. MPS Substitute Pay Rates

Superintendent Bergeron attached a proposed new rate for substitute teachers. Current rates are included below the table for comparison purposes. These rates would become effective tomorrow if approved.

Motion made by Mrs. Matthews, seconded by Chairman Vigeant to approve these new rates.

Motion passed 7-0-0.

C. Superintendent Job Description

Superintendent Bergeron has worked on updating the job description for the Superintendent position with the help of Patty Brown. The job posting will hopefully be put out tomorrow.

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