

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors, Massachusetts School Building Authority
FROM: Katherine Craven, Executive Director
DATE: July 29, 2009
RE: Sustainable Building Design

As reported at the last board meeting, the MSBA is working to transition the ongoing effort of sustainable design for public K-12 schools in Massachusetts and the responsibility for managing the sustainable documentation system as a part of this transition.

The MSBA has begun the initial tasks as previously outlined:

1. The MSBA has reviewed the status of all schools registered or potentially registered with MA-CHPS, and is conferring with these districts to discuss options regarding documentation of their sustainable design approaches. The MSBA has also been contacting districts within our capital pipeline to confirm the status of their design and to better assess the impact any changes to the sustainable design program may have on the individual projects.
2. The MSBA has had ongoing discussions with the CHPS National office in California to discuss the coordination effort required between CHPS and MSBA to ensure continuity for projects already registered in the MA-CHPS program.
3. The MSBA has developed a list of tasks required to make this transition, and has met with the Massachusetts Division of Capital Asset Management (DCAM) to discuss policies established by other state agencies regarding sustainable practices for public sector construction. Cost comparison matrixes have been developed showing MA-CHPS and LEED anticipated costs for schools both by project and by year (2009 and 2010).
4. The MSBA is currently developing a point by point comparison of the MA-CHPS and LEED programs for evaluation and discussion in regard to the best program to be implemented in school building design.

In order to support the MSBA through this transition process, a request for response was developed requesting the services of a sustainable design consultant to support and assist the MSBA in developing and implementing sustainable design and construction standards for K-12 schools in Massachusetts. This consultant would assist the MSBA throughout this transitional process, helping to ensure that the MSBA continues to encourage cost-effective and energy efficient school construction. The MSBA anticipates receipt of these responses on July 30th and will update the board as to the status of this procurement and ongoing efforts at the September board meeting.