



Timothy P. Cahill
Chairman, State Treasurer

Katherine P. Craven
Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors, Massachusetts School Building Authority
From: Katherine P. Craven, Executive Director
Date: May 26, 2010
RE: 2010 Needs Survey Update

The 2010 Needs Survey, which began in April, is progressing well. To date, 880 site visits have been completed. By the end of this month, we will have completed more than 1,000 on-site assessments in more than 170 school districts across the Commonwealth. When the survey is complete, we will have analyzed the current facility conditions of every public elementary, middle, high and vocational-technical school that may be eligible for funding from the Massachusetts School Building Authority. A list of the schools that have been visited to date is attached.

As you are aware, the MSBA has contracted with the consulting firm STV, Inc. to conduct the Needs Survey. STV has deployed a team of 12 full-time assessors, who rely on their professional observations as well as interviews with district and school personnel, to collect data on maintenance practices, general educational environment, capacity and the conditions of seven (7) site and eighteen (18) building systems. An additional assessor is dedicated solely to rating the conditions at the state's vocational, technical and agricultural high schools.

In order to ensure consistent and accurate information and transparency in the process, assessors are responsible for uploading their data to the MSBA database on the

same day it is collected. Each assessment is then subject to two rounds of quality review from our consultants before a final review by the MSBA.

The MSBA has already begun to analyze the data and is working to finalize the scoring methodology and to develop the format for a comprehensive report which is expected to be released this fall.