

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors, Massachusetts School Building Authority
FROM: John K. McCarthy
DATE: July 18, 2012
RE: Science Lab Initiative: Final Recommendations for Invitation to Feasibility Study

At the June 6, 2012 MSBA Board of Directors meeting, based on staff's recommendation, the Board approved 10 of the 13 Statements of Interest ("SOIs") submitted for the Science Lab Initiative (the "Initiative") for an Invitation to Feasibility Study, as shown on Attachment A. MSBA staff deferred a recommendation for the remaining three SOIs submitted by Newton, Revere, and Springfield, pending further review by the Science Lab Advisory Committee of overcrowding and building condition issues.

Since the June Board meeting, staff has taken the following steps:

- For each of the invited districts, the MSBA has assigned an Owner's Project Manager and Designer from its pre-selected pool of consultants and has provided each with a standard contract for services to use in negotiating and executing contracts with each consultant.
- The MSBA has conducted a briefing regarding Initiative policies, procedures, and timetables for all Owner's Project Managers and Designers selected by the MSBA to participate in this Initiative.
- The MSBA has held a kick-off meeting with each district and its consultant team to answer questions and discuss work plans and schedules.
- The MSBA has met with each of the three remaining districts in order to finalize its recommendations for this Initiative at the July Board meeting.

Based upon the above meetings, staff recommends the following next steps:

- Based upon the kick-off meetings with districts, staff will begin scheduling district presentations in preparation for recommendations for project approvals commencing with the October 3, 2012 Board meeting.
- The issues related to overcrowding at Newton South High School are too significant to be addressed by the Science Lab Initiative. Therefore, the MSBA does not recommend an invitation for Newton but recommends that the MSBA continues to work with the City to further understand its long-term, district-wide needs and assist the City with filing new Statements of Interest as may be appropriate.

- The issues related to the building condition at Revere High School are too significant to be addressed by the Science Lab Initiative. Therefore, the MSBA does not recommend an invitation for Revere but recommends that the MSBA continue to work with the City to further understand the City's ability and timing for a Feasibility Study to address the issues at Revere High School.
- The City of Springfield has stated its commitment to address the overcrowding at Central High School by adjusting its freshman acceptance over the next several years commencing with September 2012. Based on these communications with the City, staff recommends that the Board of Directors authorize an Invitation to Feasibility Study for the Science Lab Initiative, subject to certain conditions.

| District | School | DESE Current Enrollment |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Springfield | Springfield Central High School | 2,074 |

The Board's approval of Central High School in Springfield to receive an Invitation to Feasibility Study shall be subject to the following conditions:

- 1) As part of its schematic design submittal to the MSBA for project approval, the City shall submit a narrative describing its plan for staff professional development that will support opportunities for the development and implementation of more robust science course offerings and curricula and allow the City to take full advantage of its proposed science laboratories.
- 2) Improvement of chemical management and removal of excess stored items:
The City shall perform a thorough review and assessment of items stored within science department spaces to ensure that excess or outdated materials not being used in the current curricula and/or inappropriate for long-term storage are not unnecessarily cluttering the area and reducing the space available for program delivery.
- 3) The City shall ensure that areas designated as chemical storage and preparation areas are being used for their intended purpose and not for offices, lunch areas, or other inappropriate uses.
- 4) The City shall complete the implementation of all items included in the MSBA's Chemical Management Certification, which the MSBA provided to the City by letter dated February 23, 2012.
- 5) The City shall comply with Massachusetts Stretch Energy Code requirements for any scope of work that includes roof, windows, and/or boiler replacement.

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6) The City shall comply with all applicable Massachusetts public bidding and procurement laws including, but not limited to, M.G.L. Chapter 149 and 149A, and shall be prepared to provide proof of compliance with all public bidding and procurement laws to the MSBA upon request.

7) The City shall comply with the MSBA Science Lab Guidelines except as may otherwise be authorized in writing by the MSBA.

MSBA staff and the Science Lab Advisory Committee are pleased to recommend the City of Springfield for participation in the Science Lab Initiative.

Attachment A
Districts invited at the June 6, 2012 Board Meeting

| District | School | DESE Current Enrollment |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Blackstone Valley Regional School District | Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School | 1,147 |
| Gardner | Gardner High School | 636 |
| Holyoke | William J. Dean Vocational Technical High School | 573 |
| Medford | Medford High School | 1,227 |
| Melrose | Melrose High School | 1,026 |
| Nashoba Regional School District | Nashoba Regional High School | 1,016 |
| North Attleborough | North Attleborough High School | 1,209 |
| Saugus | Saugus High School | 709 |
| Swansea | Joseph Case High School | 587 |
| Tri-County Regional School District | Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School | 1,006 |

Exhibit D

Invitation to Science Lab Initiative Program

| District | School | Age of Existing Building | Grade | 2011/2012 Enrollment |
|-------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------|----------------------|
| Springfield | Central High School | 1986 | 9-12 | 2,074 |