



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
School Building Authority
Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

May 8, 2020

Colleen Jermain, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Newport Public Schools
109 Old Fort Road
Newport, RI 02840-3898

Dear Dr. Jermain:

The School Building Authority (SBA) at the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) received the district's Stage II Necessity of School Construction Application and has expedited the review of all documentation. The submission represents a considerable attempt to respond to all the requested material in compliance with the School Construction Regulations. RIDE commends Newport Public Schools (NPS) and the City of Newport for its efforts to provide healthy and safe schools, while also addressing educational program enhancements that will help align the LEA's facilities to the teaching and learning that the district aspires to deliver.

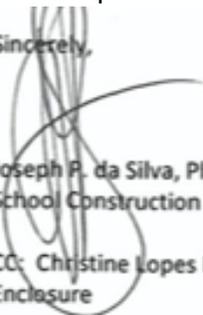
The SBA, NPS, the School Building Committee, and the design team have been working collaboratively to come up with an educationally sound and economically feasible solution. Given the documented need and based on the level of documentation provided, the SBA is forwarding a recommendation to the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education to support the district's proposed 5 year capital improvement plan as follows:

- 1) The project budget eligible for housing aid will be no more than **\$106,334,967**.
 - a. Pell Elementary School \$ 7,472,300
 - b. Rogers High School \$ 98,862,667

Please note that this recommendation is contingent on approval by the Council. Given the historic level of funding requests, these applications receive careful review by the School Building Authority. The approved amount includes an adjustment of the Pell Elementary School cost to align with the SBA's new construction cost for elementary schools. The Rogers High School costs incorporates additional square footage associated with the district's vision of a comprehensive high school with integrated career tech spaces, but adjusted the square footage to align the excess maintenance spaces to the regulatory space standard.

We offer our collaboration and support in these tasks. Feel free to contact us if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,



Joseph P. da Silva, Ph.D., AIA
School Construction Coordinator

CC: Christine Lopes Metcalfe, Manuel Cordero, Mario Carreño - RIDE
Enclosure