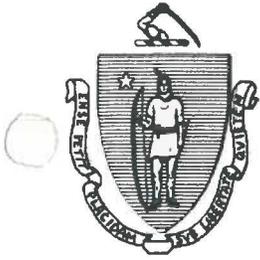


*The General Court of Massachusetts
State House, Boston 02133*



May 26, 2009

Katherine P. Craven, Executive Director
Massachusetts School Building Authority
40 Broad Street, Room 500
Boston, MA 02109

RE: Minuteman Regional High School

Dear Ms. Craven:

We write to you today to urge the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) to approve the application for funding within the Statement of Interest (SOI) submitted by Minuteman Regional Technical High School District (Minuteman). It is our understanding that the MSBA Board will be voting on June 3rd to move specific projects forward. The Minuteman project is urgently needed to sustain the responsiveness of our workforce, our educational quality and our economic development. The involvement of the business community, local municipal representatives, parents, teachers and students has firmly established an ongoing 'model process' by which all regional technical school districts can benefit.

Minuteman's SOI clearly describes a process of educational program development that will create a "state of the art" career and technical education (CTE) center that provides all of our learners (high school, post-grads, adults, area workforce) with rigorous academic and relevant technical training in a safe, healthy and high performance environment. Its existing and planned educational programming is delivered by an active professional faculty that values self-discipline, instills confidence, demonstrates leadership and promotes success. Renovation will give the school the capacity to serve its 16 member towns – the communities that we represent - and provide workforce development programming to serve the high tech industrial corridor of Route 128. Minuteman will finally harmonize the public interface of its facilities with the educational programming associations that it has developed in the community.

Minuteman needs immediate financial assistance to complete a study of the existing site and facility and to move quickly into feasibility in order to press on with its data-driven Strategic Planning Process, including a Labor Market Analysis, that has identified needed modifications in existing educational programs and is proposing new CTE programming to serve future learners. Major renovation and limited new construction are probable in order for Minuteman to continue to be a relevant and effective partner in the workforce education and development system. With the necessary financial support in hand, Minuteman will continue to be a leader in preparing our state's future workers.

Please advise the MSBA Board of our strong interest in seeing Minuteman move forward with its plans for renovation and limited new construction. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Senator Scott P. Brown
Norfolk, Bristol, and Middlesex

Representative Jay R. Kaufman
Fifteenth Middlesex

Senator James B. Eldridge
Middlesex and Worcester

Representative Harold P. Naughton, Jr.
Twelfth Worcester

Minuteman Regional School District A Sound Investment Now

About Minuteman

Mission Statement Summary

Minuteman collaborates with parents, communities, and business leaders to serve a diverse student body with multiple learning styles. Through a challenging, integrated curriculum students develop academic, vocational, and technical skills to be productive in a global economy.

16 Member Towns Acton, Arlington, Belmont, Bolton, Boxborough, Concord, Carlisle, Dover, Lancaster, Lexington, Lincoln, Needham, Stow, Sudbury, Wayland, Weston

2008-2009 Enrollment 698, 58 Post Graduate, 15 Part Time

Five Career Clusters with 22 Programs

Education (CTE) programs:

1. Trade & Engineering
2. Human & Commercial Services
3. Bio-Science
4. Business & Information Technology
5. Agriculture & Transportation

98.6% of Graduates Positively Placed

250 Local Business Partnerships

New Leadership

Superintendent-Director Edward A. Bouquillon received his Ph.D. in Workforce Education and Development from Pennsylvania State University. Nationally recognized research dissertation, published in professional journals, entrepreneur, business and education background.

Director, Workforce and Economic Development Ron Marino fills the first such position in a Massachusetts regional vocational technical school, demonstrating Minuteman's leadership.

FY10 Operating Budget: \$17,496,001

Strategic Planning Process

Facility Assessment Completed

In December 2007, Minuteman began a Regional Strategic Planning Process and Facility Assessment. Minuteman analyzed the school facility through our Energy Service Contractor (ESCO). Regional focus groups, forums, workshops and feedback processes were deployed and gleaned constructive input from all stakeholders. We are clear in regards to new CTE

Immediate Actions and Messaging

1. MSBA needs to approve Minuteman moving into (Feasibility) next phase.
2. MSBA needs to **partner** with Minuteman in moving more CTE school building projects forward within a strategic regional planning process that has been piloted, proven, and implemented by the new Minuteman Leadership.

programs, eliminating programs, and developing workforce training in alignment with our **'six indicators'**: Job Growth, Living Wage, Interest, Emerging Technology, Training 'Supply', & Strategic Partnerships. We have renewed our commitment to workforce and economic development in the region.

Energy Conservation Measures Phase 1: \$5M July 2009–June 2010

The first phase will include the replacement of Core Systems including, the boiler, cooling tower, electrical switch and management system. This phase of the renovation is under M.G.L. Chapter 25A section 11I with an ESCO vendor. The Energy Conservation Measures (ECM) are an investment in that energy will pay a significant portion of renovations. The total cost of this phase of Minuteman renovations, including 15 year financing, is projected to be \$7.2M. The energy/operational savings will be \$5.1M over 16 years. Thus the actual cost to Minuteman will be about \$2.1M over 16 years.

Energy Conservation Measures Phase 2: \$3M
In the queue once MSBA actions are known.

Full Facility Renovation: \$54M (estimated)
July 1, 2010–June 30, 2012

The full facility renovation will include a complete overhaul of the interior and significant updates for program specific technology and equipment. This is the first refurbishment since the school was opened in 1974.