



THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF BROOKLINE  
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## Memorandum

**TO:** Andrew Bott, Superintendent of Schools  
Mary Ellen Dunn, Deputy Superintendent For Administration and Finance

**FROM:** Matthew J. Gillis, School Director of Operations & Facilities

**CC:** Melvin Kleckner, Town Administrator  
Melissa Goff, Deputy Town Administrator  
Charlie Simmons, Town Facilities Director  
Anthony Guigli, Town Project Manager

**RE:** **MSBA Statement Of Interest Vote and Application – Driscoll HVAC Repair**

**DATE:** **March 31, 2017**

The Capital Improvements Program, FY18 budget request # 77 is for the \$4,400,000 to perform needed repairs to the HVAC system at the Michael Driscoll School. The Town Facilities Director indicates the building needs the work as parts have become extremely difficult to find, and portions of the system date back anywhere from 1910 to 1953.

This work appears to be a match for MSBA's Major Repair Program and fits the Statement of Interest (SOI) Priority #5 "*Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility.*"

If the project is approved for grant funding, and there is NO guarantee of approval of funding for submitting an application, the grant rate would likely be somewhere between the base reimbursement rate of 31% and the latest grant rate for Brookline at 38%. MSBA updates grant rates each year, and may change or remove incentives that get added to the base rate.

So, for the sake of discussion in round numbers, a 30% grant on \$4,400,000 would mean the MSBA picking up \$1,320,000 of the estimated project cost for the Brookline taxpayers.

There are three foreseeable outcomes after submitting the SOI for the Driscoll HVAC project.

1. MSBA declines the application and the CIP project budget and schedule remains unchanged..
2. MSBA approves the grant without any restrictions and the project proceeds as scheduled with grant funding and support from MSBA.

3. MSBA approves the grant application, but establishes restrictions and/or will not fund the project until the Devotion project is complete, and that would delay the Summer 2018 start of the Driscoll HVAC major repair project. This would require some policy direction before we could accept this award.

I will obtain a time frame on when we will likely hear back on an approval or denial from MSBA.

Here is the link the SOI FAQs on the MSBA webpage for your reference.

[http://www.massschoolbuildings.org/building/SOIs/2017\\_SOI\\_FAQs](http://www.massschoolbuildings.org/building/SOIs/2017_SOI_FAQs)

Below is the populated vote language MSBA requires of the School Committee to submit a Statement of Interest.

“Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on April 6, 2017, prior to the closing date, the School Committee of Brookline, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent, Andrew Bott, to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated April 7, 2017 for the Michael Driscoll School located at 64 Westbourne Terrace, Brookline, MA which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category # 5 for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future [Insert a description of the priority(s) checked off on the Statement of Interest Form and a brief description of the deficiency described therein for each priority] \_ *Priority Category # 5 Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility.*” The Driscoll School is need of replacing its HVAC system with temperature controls which heats the building via steam, and parts of the system date back to 1910, 1928, and 1953.; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City/Town/Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority. “

The Board of Selectmen will take up the issue and is being asked to take the required vote on April 4, 2017.