



DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Testimony of Commissioner Michelle H. Gilman

Department of Administrative Services

School Construction Project

Priority List Review Committee

January 24, 2024

Good morning, Senator McCrory, Representative Currey, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, Senator Osten, Representative Walker, Representative Nuccio, Senator Fonfara, Representative Horn, Senator Martin, and Representative Cheeseman.

My name is Michelle Gilman, and I am the Commissioner of the Department of Administrative Services (DAS). For your consideration, the agency has provided a listing of eligible school building projects to the Office of the Governor, the Office of Policy and Management and to this Committee in accordance with C.G.S. Sec. 10-283(a)(2).

Section 1 lists eleven school construction grant applications for your review. The applications include projects for three high schools, three elementary schools, two middle schools, two magnet schools, and one Pre-K school. Five are renovation projects, three are categorized as “Extension/Alteration” projects, two are new school projects, and one is categorized as the purchase of a facility.

The proposed Priority List includes an estimated total project cost of \$583,320,021. If the legislature and Governor approve, the State’s maximum grant amount for these projects would be \$470,235,824. In addition, there are two requests for reauthorization with an estimated project costs of \$41,086,326 and a potential grant change of \$39,032,010, along with a request for forgiveness of the unpaid balance of a grant due to the State for \$202,538.

Finally, the proposed Priority List also includes a listing in Addendum A of the non-priority list projects administratively awarded in the previous fiscal year to provide greater transparency regarding total school construction grant awards.

Thank you for the opportunity to present the 2024 Priority List today. DAS looks forward to working with this committee and the legislature in the coming months and we appreciate your continued dedication to Connecticut’s schools. I am pleased to answer any questions you may have.