



**Testimony of Commissioner Michelle H. Gilman**

**Department of Administrative Services**

**School Construction Project**

**Priority List Review Committee**

January 14, 2026

Good afternoon, Senator McCrory, Representative Leeper, Senator Berthel, Representative Zupkus, Senator Osten, Representative Walker, Senator Somers, Representative Nuccio, Senator Fonfara, Representative Horn, Senator Fazio, and Representative Polletta.

I am Michelle Gilman, 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 this Committee in accordance with C.G.S. Sec. 10-283(a)(2).

Section 1 lists six school building grant applications for your review. The applications include projects for three elementary schools, one middle school, one elementary through middle school, and one high school. The projects include three new schools and three alteration projects.

The proposed Priority List includes an estimated total project cost of \$305,592,786. If the legislature and Governor approve, the state's maximum grant amount for these projects would be \$141,717,908.

Also, this year's proposed Priority List includes a summary analysis of previous Priority Lists and an Addendum of Non-Priority List projects for FY2025 to produce greater transparency regarding total school building grant awards. For FY 2025, DAS authorized 31 projects for a total estimated state grant commitment of just over \$31 million.

Thank you for the opportunity to present the 2026 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.