



Massachusetts School Building Authority

Deborah B. Goldberg
Chair, State Treasurer

James A. MacDonald
Chief Executive Officer

Mary L. Pichetti
Executive Director / Deputy CEO

December 13, 2024

The Honorable Katjana Ballantyne, Mayor
City of Somerville
Mayor's Office
93 Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02143

Re: City of Somerville, Winter Hill Community School

Dear Mayor Ballantyne:

I am pleased to report that the Board of the Massachusetts School Building Authority (the "MSBA") has voted to invite the City of Somerville (the "City") to partner with the MSBA in conducting a Feasibility Study for the Winter Hill Community School. The Board's vote follows the City's timely completion of all of the requirements of the MSBA's Eligibility Period.

I do want to emphasize that this invitation to partner on a Feasibility Study is **not** approval of a project, but is strictly an invitation to the City to work with the MSBA to explore potential solutions to the problems that have been identified. Moving forward in the MSBA's process requires collaboration with the MSBA, and communities that "get ahead" of the MSBA without MSBA approval will not be eligible for grant funding. To qualify for any funding from the MSBA, local communities must follow the MSBA's statute, regulations, and policies which require MSBA collaboration and approval at each step of the process.

During the Feasibility Study phase, the City and the MSBA will partner pursuant to the terms of the Feasibility Study Agreement to find the most fiscally responsible and educationally appropriate solution to the problems identified at the Winter Hill Community School. The Feasibility Study, which will be conducted pursuant to the MSBA's regulations and policies, requires the City to work with the MSBA on the procurement of an Owner's Project Manager and Designer, which will help bring the City's Feasibility Study to fruition.

We will be contacting you soon to discuss these next steps in more detail. In the meantime, however, I wanted to share with you the Board's decision and provide a brief overview of what this means for the City of Somerville.

Page 2

December 13, 2024

Somerville, Winter Hill Community School Feasibility Study Board Action Letter

I look forward to continuing to work with you as part of the MSBA's grant program. As always, feel free to contact me or my staff at (617) 720-4466 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Pichetti". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mary" and last name "Pichetti" clearly distinguishable.

Mary L. Pichetti
Executive Director

Cc: Legislative Delegation
Ben Ewen-Campen, President, Somerville City Council
Richard E. Raiche, Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management, City of Somerville
Nikki Spencer, Chief of Staff to the Mayor of Somerville, City of Somerville
Ilana Krepchin, Chair, Somerville School Committee
Dr. Ruben Carmona, Superintendent, Somerville Public Schools
Jackie Piques, Chief Communications and Development Officer, Somerville Public Schools
Amara Anosike, Chief of Staff and Strategy, Somerville Public Schools
File: 10.2 Letters (Region 4)