



Shrewsbury Public Schools

Patrick C. Collins, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations

1 October 2020

To: School Committee

Subj: RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT FY21 FEDERAL AND STATE GRANTS

Background

Federal and state grants are an important source of funding for our school operations. Entitlement grants are established and allocated at the state and federal level. Entitlement grants are noncompetitive and are awarded automatically on the basis of defined formulas that differ by grant. Competitive grants are awarded based upon a merit-based application process that best fulfills the intent of the grant funds available.

This report will show the amount [\$3.66M] of federal and state grant funds we are receiving for Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21), i.e., the 2020-2021 school year, and it also provides a five-year history. While relatively small in comparison to the appropriated budget of \$67.9M, state and federal grants provide valuable resources for a wide variety of student supports and staff development.

Of course the major difference for FY21 is the allocation of Coronavirus-related grant funding. At this point, two grants are allocated to the District as a result of federal stimulus funding. The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund [ESSER] provided funds based upon the District's relative wealth of the community and student body. The Coronavirus Relief Grant provided a standard \$225 per pupil to all school districts.

Process for Entitlement Grants

Having received the allocation amounts, the district submitted detailed program plans and associated budgets to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education who oversees the administration and disbursement of funds on a statewide basis. Once our plans are approved, we can begin expending funds and submitting for monthly reimbursement of expenses. The Business Office is responsible for handling all monthly cash requisitions using the state's online grants management system.

Recommendation

In closing, grant funds play an important role in the overall financing of public education in Shrewsbury. Each grant comes with a specific purpose, compliance and reporting requirements, and accountability for use of the funds.

It is recommended that the School Committee vote to accept the funds using the following motion:

"I move that the Committee accept all FY21 grant funds noted in the enclosed chart and use such funds for their intended purpose"

SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FEDERAL and STATE GRANT ALLOCATIONS AS OF 10/1/2020

Grant	State Code	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	1 Year Difference	5 Year Difference	Federal [F] or State [S]
COVID Relief School Opening Program Grant	102	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,390,050	\$1,390,050	\$1,390,050	F
CARES ACT (ESSER) Emergency Relief Fund Grant	113	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$162,060	\$162,060	\$162,060	F
Teacher Quality Grant (Title IIA)	140	\$84,280	\$106,953	\$90,635	\$88,047	\$78,595	(\$9,452)	-\$5,685	F
English Language Acquisition (Title III)	180	\$29,580	\$32,474	\$28,433	\$27,071	\$29,983	\$2,912	\$403	F
Immigrant Grant (Title III)	184	\$822	\$803	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$822	F
Special Education Entitlement Grant	240	\$1,460,831	\$1,485,349	\$1,470,469	\$1,540,147	\$1,626,758	\$86,611	\$165,927	F
Secondary Transition Sys. Improvement	243	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$15,000	F
Significant Disproportionality in Special Education Improvement Grant	258	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,000	\$0	(\$8,000)	\$0	F
Early Childhood-Special Education	262	\$33,573	\$31,868	\$33,500	\$34,801	\$35,142	\$341	\$1,569	F
Special Education Program Improvement Grant	274	\$47,846	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$47,846	F
Early Childhood-Special Education Entitlement	298	\$2,250	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$2,250	F
Education for Disadvantaged Children (Title I)	305	\$206,874	\$358,371	\$199,766	\$197,018	\$172,933	(\$24,085)	-\$33,941	F
Student Support & Acad Enrichment	309	\$0	\$5,297	\$26,069	\$13,457	\$14,349	\$892	\$14,349	F
Improving Student Access to Behavioral & Mental Health Services	336	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$90,000	\$0	(\$90,000)	\$0	S
High School Voter Registration Grant	575	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	S
Safer Schools & Communities Initiative	629	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$70,000	\$50,000	(\$20,000)	\$50,000	S
Comprehensive School Health Services	929	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	S
Totals		\$1,881,056	\$2,021,115	\$1,858,872	\$2,168,541	\$3,662,870	\$1,494,329	\$1,781,814	
							68.91%	94.72%	

Note: Fluctuations in annual Title 1 funding [State Code 305] are due to changes in Shrewsbury's "students in poverty level" that go over or under the 5% threshold. When we are at 5% or greater, we receive an additional allocation of funding. When we fall below 5%, we do not receive the additional funding.