



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
23 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0023

SUSAN A. GENDRON  
COMMISSIONER

EXHIBIT IV.B.

To: Members of the State Board of Education  
From: Susan A. Gendron, Commissioner\*  
Date: January 9, 2008  
Subject: Major Capital School Construction Program; *Design and Funding Approval Consideration*; SAD #46 Dexter, new preK-8 school construction project.

**STATEMENT OF FACT**

The SAD #46 school will be constructed in Dexter, Maine, and house 794 students, preK through eighth grade. The project received Concept Approval on March 27, 2007. The subsequent referendum passed with 73% voting to approve the project.

On September 13, 2007, the project received Phase I Design and Funding Approval for the site work. This was done to expedite the project, possibly save money, and keep the schedule for a Spring 2008 bonding date.

The Design and Funding Approval is being requested pursuant to MRSA Title 20-A, Section 15905(1).

The basic design of the project and budget have not changed since Concept Approval, and it has met the needed criteria to move forward which will allow it to be bonded and constructed on schedule.

SAD #46 is requesting Design and Funding Approval for a new elementary school qualifying under State statute and State Board of Education Rule, Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, and

- The SAD #46 proposed school construction project is eligible for school construction under MRSA Title 20-A, Chapter 609;
- The proposed project and authorized method of financing are in the best interest of the State of Maine and SAD #46;
- The SAD #46 estimated capital outlay expenditures are reasonable; and
- The SAD #46 proposed project is in compliance with MRSA Title 20-A, Chapter 301, as it relates to special education facilities.

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### **Project Information**

Project: Dexter Elementary School  
Superintendent: Kevin Jordan, Superintendent  
Principal: Julianna Richard and Timothy McCuskey  
Architect: Steve Blatt, AIA, Stephen Blatt Architects

### **School Closures**

Dexter Middle School  
Dexter Primary School  
Exeter Consolidated School  
Garland Elementary School

### **Project Budget Information**

Concept Approval Date and Total Project Cost: February 14, 2007, \$30,587,000  
Local Only (no State participation): \$562,000  
Approved for State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: \$29,905,000  
Anticipated Maine High Performance Schools Energy Grant: \$120,000

## **CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

At its meeting on January 7, 2008, the Construction Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval to SAD #46 for a new preK-8 School construction project located in Dexter, Maine.

## **DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

The Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval to SAD #46 for a new elementary school in Dexter, Maine, as a Major Capital School Construction Project and approve the design and funding budget as presented.\*\*

\*Prepared by the School Facilities Services Team

\*\*This approval constitutes Design & Funding Approval. Final Funding Approval may be subject to adjustment under Section 10, Subsection 1, of the State Board of Education Rules for School Construction Projects, which states:

*“Final Funding Approval by the Commissioner establishes the Project Budget and takes place after construction bids have been received. At that time, the Commissioner may reduce the budget to finance the project, thus providing additional funds for other projects.”*