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COMMISSIONER

EXHIBIT #IV.B.

To: Members of the State Board of Education

From: Susan A. Gendron, Commissioner*

Date: February 21, 2008

Subject: Major Capital School Construction Program; *Design and Funding Approval Consideration*; SAD #6, Buxton, new K-5 school construction project.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The SAD #6 new elementary school will be constructed in Buxton, Maine, and house 850 students, kindergarten through fifth grade. The project received Concept Approval on April 12, 2007, and was approved at referendum on May 22, 2007. The subsequent referendum passed with 66% voting in favor of the project.

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 #6 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 #6 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 #6;
- The SAD #6 estimated capital outlay expenditures are reasonable; and
- The SAD #6 proposed project is in compliance with MRSA Title 20-A, Chapter 301, as it relates to special education facilities.

Project Information

Project: SAD #6 Buxton Elementary School
Superintendent: Suzanne Lukas
Principal: Donald Gnecco
Architect: Jeff Larimer, AIA, Harriman

School Closures

Eliza Libby Elementary School (will become office space)
Jack Memorial School (alternate education and adult education)
Samuel D. Hanson School

Project Budget Information

Concept Approval Date and Total Project Cost: April 12, 2007, $28,079,641
Local Only (no State participation): $1,499,134
Approved for State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: $26,580,507
Anticipated Maine High Performance Schools Energy Grant: $120,000

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Construction Committee approved this exhibit at the February 4, 2008, meeting..

COMMISSIONER RECOMMENDATION

The Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval to SAD #6 for a new elementary school in Buxton, 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."