



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

SUSAN A. GENDRON  
COMMISSIONER

**EXHIBIT: #VII.B.**

To: Members of the State Board of Education

From: Susan A. Gendron, Commissioner\*

Date: April 14, 2010

Subject: Major Capital School Construction Program; *Design and Funding Approval Consideration*; RSU #1, Renovation/Addition, Woolwich Central School construction project.

**STATEMENT OF FACT**

The Woolwich Central School will be renovated and an addition constructed on the existing site in Woolwich Maine. The renovated facility will house 375 students, grades preK through 8. The project received Concept Approval on February 11, 2009. The subsequent referendum passed with an 82% vote in favor of the project.

The existing Woolwich Central School rated number 16 on the 2004-2005 Priority List. Prior to approving the project as a preK-8 facility, a study was conducted to determine whether middle school students could be educated at Bath Middle School. It was determined that there was insufficient space in Bath. It will be necessary to temporarily house students away from the site during construction.

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.

RSU #1 is requesting Design and Funding Approval for renovation of and an addition to the existing Woolwich Central School qualifying under State statute and State Board of Education Rule, Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, and

- RSU #1 Woolwich 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 RSU #1.
- RSU #1 Woolwich estimated capital outlay expenditures are reasonable; and
- RSU #1 Woolwich 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: Woolwich Central School – Renovation/Addition  
Superintendent: William Shuttleworth  
Principal: Thomas Soule  
Architect: Rick Malm, Lewis & Malm Architects  
School(s) to be closed: None

**Project Budget Information**

Concept Approval Date: February 11, 2009  
Total Project Cost: \$18,958,454  
Local Only (no State participation): \$566,504  
Approved for State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: \$18,238,609  
Anticipated Maine High Performance Schools Energy Grant: \$153,341

**CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

The Construction Committee will consider this Design and Funding Approval request at its April 5, 2010, meeting.

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

The Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval to RSU #1 Woolwich for renovation of/addition to the Woolwich Central School in Woolwich, 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.”*