



# Massachusetts School Building Authority

**Deborah B. Goldberg**  
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**James A. MacDonald**  
*Chief Executive Officer*

**John K. McCarthy**  
*Executive Director / Deputy CEO*

October 30, 2019

The Honorable Edward A. Bettencourt, Jr.  
Mayor, City of Peabody  
Peabody City Hall  
24 Lowell Street  
Peabody, MA 01960

Re: City of Peabody, William A. Welch Elementary School

Dear Mayor Bettencourt:

I am pleased to report that the Board of the Massachusetts School Building Authority (the “MSBA”) has voted to invite the City of Peabody (the “City”) to partner with the MSBA in conducting a Feasibility Study for the William A. Welch Elementary School. The Board’s vote follows the City’s timely completion of all 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 William A. Welch Elementary 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 Peabody.

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Peabody Feasibility Study Invitation 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,



John K. McCarthy  
Executive Director

Cc: Legislative Delegation  
Jon G. Turco, President, Peabody City Council  
Andrew Arnotis, Vice-Chair, Peabody School Committee  
Cara E. Murtagh, Superintendent, Peabody Public Schools  
Beverley Ann Griffin Dunne, Peabody School Committee and Chair of the School Building Committee  
James Hafey, Director of Facilities, Peabody Public Schools  
File: 10.2 Letters (Region 3)