



Lincoln County Schools

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Mr. Andy Neptune, Executive Director
School Building Authority of West Virginia
2300 Kanawha Blvd E
Charleston, WV 25311

RE: Request for additional SBA funding for a New Duval PK8 School

Mr. Neptune,

The Lincoln County Board of Education (LCBOE) requests supplemental financial support from the School Building Authority of West Virginia for the "Needs" Grant award in December 2021 for the construction of a New Duval PK8 School. This financial request is due to bidding / construction costs being higher than anticipated associated to recent cost increase since the project received funding.

As you are aware, in May of 2023, LCBOE received bids for the new Duval PK8 School. Unfortunately, the project was substantially over the original anticipated budget of \$27,746,460. During June, we met with the SBA and Williamson Shriver Architects (WSA) to reevaluate the design and budget. Through multiple meetings and suggestions from all parties, it was determined the building square footage could be reduced by eliminating the elementary physical classroom, reducing the size of the STEM area, eliminating multiple plumbing fixtures in primary classrooms and reducing the quantity of classrooms to fit the current enrollment. The building location was evaluated and repositioned on the site to eliminate the extensive number of helical piers and grades beams due to poor soil conditions surrounding the existing building. The new location allowed for the reconfiguration of the building to a two-story building to reduce the overall building footprint on site. The placement of the building situated the footprint to be on a "cut area" instead of a mixture of cut and fill like the original design. With all these reductions, we anticipated cost savings and proceeded with a redesign and rebid. However, despite the reductions of the square footage and the redesign the building placement and efficiently while meeting, and not exceeding, the minimum design standards of WVDE and SBA policies, the bids came in substantially higher than expected.

The redesign post-bid budget reflects a remaining deficit of **\$13,959,796** that LCBOE cannot financially undertake. In response, our board has agreed to commit **\$2,000,000** in additional funds toward the project to provide a new building for the students that have been displaced because of the original Duval-PK8 School closure. Therefore, the Lincoln County Board of

Education formally requests **\$11,959,796** in additional SBA funding toward the completion of this much-needed school.

We appreciate all that the SBA Board and Staff members have offered during this process, and we are eager to move forward in building our new school for our students. With the additional supplemental financial support, we can present to our Board the approval to award the bids to the successful contractors and allow the building contractor to begin work on this project with a notice to proceed as soon as our project budget is solidified.

Thank you for your consideration.

Frank L. Barnett, Superintendent
Lincoln County Schools