



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Al Moor, *Suffolk City Manager*

**FROM:** Dr. John B. Gordon III, *Superintendent JBG3/14*

**DATE:** October 7, 2021

**RE:** Increase in State and Federal Grant Appropriation for Fiscal 2021-2022

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The Federal government passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (C.A.R.E.S. Act) on March 27, 2020. The Commonwealth of Virginia in March 2021 has appropriated a second round of funding of **\$12.1 million** to Suffolk Public Schools. The focus of this money is for schools' divisions to plan for and coordinate long-term closures, mitigate learning loss, meet the needs of students disproportionately affected by COVID 19, provide technology for online learning including hardware, software, and connectivity for students, and supplies/equipment to sanitize and clean facilities.

April 30, 2021 the application for the additional award was approved by the Virginia Department of Education for these funds. In June 2021, the School division requested an increase of \$1.8m of the \$12.1m for funds expected to be spent prior to June 30, 2021. Our adopted budget includes \$8m as approved by City Council in May. The division is requesting the remaining **\$2.3m** be approved for appropriation in fiscal 2021-2022.

August 30, 2021, Dr. James F. Lane, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, released an appropriation of **\$2,762,577** in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF). These funds require a 100 percent cash match in funding. The memo stated, "School divisions should prioritize heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system replacement". The division has determined that the priority HVAC project will be Elephant's Fork Elementary school and the matching funds projects using the appropriated Capital Improvement funds under HVAC Chiller replacements and major systems for the city will be the Lakeland and Nansemond River Gym air handling unit replacements that will come from the remaining funds in the 2021-2022 Major systems replacement and one half of the 2022-2023 Major systems replacement. The deadline for spending these funds is December 2024.

September 1, 2021 the state application for the third round of the CARES Act money was submitted to the state in the amount of **\$27,355,557**. The entire plan for spending is available on the SPS website. Suffolk Public Schools is dedicating \$13,244,477 of these funds to be used to replace as many of the following shingle roofs with standing seam metal roofs as possible: Oakland, Hillpoint, Mack Benn, Jr., Northern Shores, Creekside, and Southwestern. Standing seam metal roofs have a longer life, require less maintenance, and leak far less than the shingle roofs that are now in place thus protecting the inside of the school from water damage.

Therefore, we respectfully request an increase in state and federal appropriation so that we can plan and execute the requirements of these various grants. The re-appropriation request totals are as follows:

	
C.A.R.E.S. Act II	<b>\$ 2,300,000</b>
CSLFTF funds	<b>2,762,577</b>
C.A.R.E.S. Act III	<b><u>27,355,557</u></b>
Total Appropriation Request	<b>\$32,418,134</b>