

State of New Mexico
Public School Capital Outlay Council

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Public School Facilities Authority

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Catherine Smith, PEC

To: All School Districts

September 12, 2008

Re: Facility Master Plan (FMP) Assistance Program

Dear Colleagues:

Current law requires that all school districts have a five-year facilities master plan (FMP). The Public School Capital Outlay Council (PSCOC) is pleased to announce the third year of the grant assistance program to assist school districts in developing or updating their five-year FMP's required for funding consideration under the standards-based capital outlay process.

All districts are eligible for funding assistance for master planning based on the state/local match formula. While districts of all sizes are challenged to set aside portions of their capital budget to develop a comprehensive FMP for their facilities, smaller districts in particular struggle with this necessary expense. Based on specific statutory criteria for FMP development, some districts may qualify to receive funding to pay up to the total cost of developing or updating their FMP.

The PSCOC awarded \$79,158 to four districts last year and \$868,648 to 32 districts the first year to develop or update their existing plan to the current guidelines published by the PSFA. It is not currently contemplated that these districts or those that have current plans which meet the guidelines will be eligible for additional FMP grant assistance until the expiration of their respective five-year period, except in cases of high growth. Annual update of the plan is the responsibility of the district.

Any school district that is not currently under contract with a facility master plan contractor as of August 1, 2008 is eligible for consideration for funding assistance during this third allocation cycle. Please find the attached application along with instructions and current eligibility status for consideration for reduction of the local share requirement. The application can also be downloaded from the PSFA web site at www.nmpsfa.org (under Planning and Review Portal).

Completed applications for FMP funding assistance are due to the PSFA Santa Fe office by 5:00 PM on Friday, October 10, 2008. Awards are anticipated to be made at the November 6, 2008 PSCOC meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Gorrell".

Robert A. Gorrell