

# Promoting Safe and Healthy Learning Environments: Elevating Student Voice and Well-Being (Fund Code 0128)

Bidders Conference  
January 2025



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# Overview of the Student Voice and Well-Being Competitive Grant

# Purpose of the Competitive Grant

- support districts/schools in elevating student voice in order to strengthen safe, supportive and healthy learning environments, Preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade
- help build the capacity of administrators and educators to more effectively engage with students in ways that are developmentally appropriate, culturally responsive and anti-racist

# Eligible Entities

Massachusetts public school districts and charter public schools that meet at least one of the following criteria:

- have an LEA Need Index of 80 or higher\*; and/or
- were identified for the [Rethinking Discipline](#) initiative; and/or
- continue to serve students that enrolled in the district as a result of being placed in an eligible emergency expansion shelter site that opened since spring of 2022 or the temporary respite center sites opened in 2023; and/or
- reported serving at least 100 homeless students in school year 2023-2024; and/or
- reported serving at least 100 newcomer students in October 2024.

Collaboratives are eligible to apply on behalf of one or more eligible school districts.

# Six (6) Levers for Elevating Student Voice and Well-Being

- A. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers High School Interns (maximum: up to \$60,000)  
Note: 21st CCLC High School Internship includes ONLY current recipients of a FY 2025 FC647, FC 0645 Continuation Grant and/or FC 0646 Exemplary Programs grant.
- B. Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Framework (maximum: up to \$55,000 plus \$25,000 for districts applying for the PREP Grant (FC0211))
- C. Supporting Newcomer-Homeless Students and Families; (maximum: up to \$40,000)
- D. Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Academic integration through Service-Learning; (maximum: up to \$52,500 plus \$10,000 for SELIS)
- E. teen Mental Health First Aid (tMHFA) (maximum: up to \$100,000)
- F. Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) (maximum: up to \$75,000)

# Additional Information

- Due Date: **January 24, 2025 by 5:00 p.m.**
- Submitted in our new [Grants for Education Management System \(GEM\\$\)](#) system. The following will be required to be submitted or uploaded directly into GEM\$:
  - Required Program Information (for all districts, regardless of which option(s) are being applied for)
  - Assurance Statement
  - Private School Consultation (required for all applicants with private schools located within district boundaries)

And, for each initiative for which the district is applying, applications must complete in GEM\$:

- Budget: FY2025 budget will be entered into the GEM\$ Budget Form (for each option the district is applying for)
- Program Narrative (for each option the district is applying for)
- Additional Information to be posted with [DESE's Student Voice web resources](#)

# Private School Consultation

- *An eligible LEA applying for a Stronger Connections subgrant (e.g., Fund Code 0128 – Promoting Safe and Healthy Learning Environments – Elevating Student Voice and Well-Being) must consult with appropriate private school officials before the entity makes any decision that affects the opportunities of eligible private school children and educators to participate (ESEA section 8501(c)(3)).*
- *Consultation might include a brief survey of non-public schools or other information gathering to indicate the schools' interest in participating and the population to be served.*
- *If there are different interests in terms of the initiatives under Option 2, try to resolve it through the consultation process.*
- *If after consultation, the private school still wants to participate in a different initiative, you can note it in the grant application and DESE will consider it as part of the application review process.*

# Additional Expectations for Awarded Grantees

This grant comes with it:

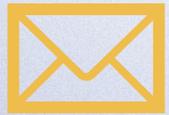
- A number of required networking and professional development opportunities, including:
  - a.) a kick-off professional development on student voice in early Spring 2025;
  - b.) a Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) experience in Spring 2025;
  - c.) a Student Voice Summit in the Spring of 2026.
- Option specific Professional Development and/or Coaching
- Evaluation and Reporting Activities

# Questions



# THANK YOU

Kristen McKinnon/Donna  
Traynham



[achievement@doe.mass.edu](mailto:achievement@doe.mass.edu)



781-338-3010



[www.doe.mass.edu](http://www.doe.mass.edu)



135 Santilli  
Highway  
Everett, 02149