



CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

135 BERKSHIRE STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02141

August 8, 2023

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

GRANT AWARD: **FY24 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (SC24605)**

RECOMMENDATION: That the School Committee accept and approve the grant award below in the amount and for the period indicated.

Amount: \$2,971,981.00 Period: 9/1/2023 – 6/30/2024
Source: Federal thru State, Entitlement Administrator: Dr. Karyn Grace

Table with 5 columns: Expense Category, FY23 Budget Amended, FY23 FTE, FY24 Budget, FY24 FTE. Rows include Permanent Salaries & Benefits, Tuition to Other Schools, Other Expenses, and Total.

Description:

The purpose of the IDEA grant is to provide funds to ensure that eligible students with disabilities receive a free and appropriate public education that includes special education and related services designed to meet their individual needs. The largest portion of the IDEA grant is allocated for out-of-district tuition (\$2,239,009). In addition, the grant will fund a health curriculum for students with significant disabilities (\$30,000). To meet the requirement of proportionate share for eligible students attending private schools, a set-aside of \$247,776.73 is included. There is also \$3,500 for membership in the MA Urban Collaborative. The remainder of the grant (\$451,695) will be for activities under the Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CCEIS), including professional learning on universal design learning, research based interventions/curricula, and social/emotional learning; a 1.0 FTE lead teacher of English Language Arts; a partial (0.3) FTE for the MTSS Director who is also partially paid on the FY23 IDEA grant; iReady intervention system and personalized learning; and an MTSS dashboard. As of SY21-22, the district has been required to implement a plan for CCEIS in order to mitigate the disproportionate identification of the subset of African American/Black students for special education services.

SUPPORTING DATA: RULES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Chapter III, Section 19, Acceptance of Grants for Expenditure. Pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L.c.44 & 53A, the Superintendent or his/her designee may submit applications for grants or gifts from federal, state, charitable foundation, private corporation, or individual. Grant or gift awards for educational purposes must be submitted to the School Committee for acceptance and approval prior to expenditure.

Respectfully submitted,
Victoria Greer, PhD
Superintendent of Schools