



Jeffrey C. Riley
Commissioner

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

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June 30, 2020
by email (jobrien@gnbvt.edu)

James O'Brien, Superintendent of Schools
Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical School District
1121 Ashley Blvd
New Bedford, MA 02745

RE: Interim 1/12th Budget for Fiscal Year 2021, pursuant to Section 8 of
Chapter 56 of the Acts of 2020

Dear Superintendent O'Brien:

Correspondence received from the Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical School District (District) stated that approval of the proposed FY21 budget for the District by the appropriating bodies of the member municipalities has been delayed due to the COVID-19 outbreak. In this circumstance, Section 8 of Chapter 56 of the Acts of 2020 empowers the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, or his designee, to order an appropriation for a regional school district and certify an amount sufficient for its operation.

After review of documentation submitted by your District, and in accordance with Section 8 of Chapter 56 of the Acts of 2020, I am authorizing the Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical School District to continue its operations and to spend up to \$3,444,302 in each month of FY21 until the District's FY21 budget has been adopted, or until December 1, 2020, whichever comes first. This interim monthly budget is one-twelfth of the regional school district's budget for the prior fiscal year.

Each of your District's member municipalities must appropriate and pay to the District such assessments as are calculated by the District treasurer for the support of said interim budget. The District treasurer shall calculate the assessments using the statutory assessment method, as defined in 603 C.M.R. 41.01. Said assessments shall be due and payable on such dates as are specified in your District's regional agreement.

Each member municipality's total payments under this interim 1/12th budget shall be deducted from the total FY21 assessment that will be charged to that municipality when the District's FY21 budget is locally approved.

Please ensure that your District continues to engage in the steps required by M.G.L. c. 71, §16B in order to secure a locally approved budget. If the District's proposed budget is not

approved by the member municipalities by December 1, 2020, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 71, §16B, and 603 CMR 41.05(4)(b), the Commissioner must assume fiscal oversight of the operations of the District, establish a final District budget for the fiscal year and assume responsibility over specific fiscal functions.

Please notify Michelle Griffin in the Office of Regional Governance when the District's budget is approved by the appropriating authorities of the member municipalities. In the meantime, if we can be of any further assistance, please contact Ms. Griffin at 781-338-6515 or by email at Michelle.L.Griffin@mass.gov.

Sincerely,



Jay Sullivan, Associate Commissioner
School Finance and District Support

- c: Chairs of the Select Boards/City Councils: Dartmouth, Fairhaven and New Bedford, by
first class U.S. mail
Pamela Stuart, School Business Official, by email (pstuart@gnbvt.edu)
Christine M. Lynch, Office of Regional Governance
Michelle Griffin, Office of Regional Governance