

**8 Town Regional School District Planning Board**

c/o RSDPB Chair, Lucy Prashker

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September 16, 2022

**By Email**

Town of Great Barrington

Town of Stockbridge

Town of West Stockbridge

Town of Sheffield

Town of New Marlborough

Town of Monterey

Town of Egremont

Town of Alford

Berkshire Hills Regional School District School Committee

Southern Berkshire Regional School District School Committee

*Re: 8 Town Regional School District Planning Board / Request for Funding*

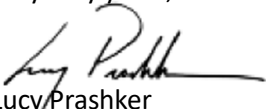
Dear Selectboards and School Committees:

Since our August 25, 2022 letter requesting funding to support the ongoing work of the RSDPB, there have been two encouraging developments that may reduce, or possibly even obviate, the need for the requested funding at this time. First, based on an encouraging conversation we had with Senator Adam Hinds, it appears there is a good chance that the Commonwealth's FY22 Supplemental Budget may include funding for district regionalization work, including the work of the RSDPB. (The state legislature will likely address the Supplemental Budget sometime in October.) In addition, BERK12 has told us that it will be able to provide us with some bridge funding that would cover our efforts through November 2022.

For those of you who have already approved our request, we thank you for the vote of support. For those who have not yet approved the request, or who require the scheduling of a special town meeting just for this request, we leave to you the decision whether to table our request until after the Supplemental Budget is addressed. For those towns that have a special town meeting already scheduled in the next month or so, you may decide that you would prefer to seek authorization at that meeting for up to \$15,000 in the event the state funding does not materialize. Either way, we do not plan to ask you to contribute any specific amount until we determine exactly what additional funding (if any) we will need to raise locally following action on the Supplemental Budget.

We will keep for advised of future developments as we learn of them. In the interim, we are moving forward with our study of the preferred model, the drafting of a proposed 8 Town regional school district agreement, and educational visioning. Thank you again for your past support of this important work.

Very truly yours,



Lucy Prashker  
Chair, RSDPB

Copy: Peter Taylor  
Jake Eberwein