Realizing the Vision for Safe and Supportive Schools

In 2014, the Legislature incorporated the Safe and Supportive Schools law into its groundbreaking Act Relative to the Reduction of Gun Violence. The Legislature’s vision was to help schools create safe and supportive whole-school cultures that effectively address many barriers to learning, such as substance abuse, gun violence, and bullying, so that all students can succeed in school. Continued support is crucial for spreading implementation across the Commonwealth.

The Safe and Supportive Schools Commission has recommended continued funding for the Safe and Supportive Schools Line Item. This funding would be used to accomplish the following:

1. **Continue the Safe and Supportive Schools Grant Program.** Grantee schools use the Safe and Supportive Schools Framework and accompanying online Self-Assessment Tool. New Grantees develop school-wide Action Plans; Continuation Grantees implement them and include them in their annual School Improvement Plans; Mentor Grantees help others learn best practices.

2. **Maintain DESE staffing** that will continue to:
   - Coordinate the Grant Program
   - Hold state and regional trainings and conferences
   - Update the online Framework and Self-Assessment Tool
   - Provide technical assistance
   - Staff the Commission
   - Convene focus groups
   - Collect feedback from students, families, experts and other stakeholders
   - Develop and disseminate model practices

3. **Provide for statewide conferences and leadership summits** to help spread the work beyond grantee schools and districts.

4. **Conduct a second independent evaluation of the activities funded by the line item to help DESE and the Commission learn what is working well.**

For more information, contact Anne Eisner, Massachusetts Advocates for Children (617) 998-0110 or aeisner@massadvocates.org
Safe and Supportive Schools Grantees

**FY14 - (17 districts)**
Agawam Public Schools
Beverly Public Schools
Boston Public Schools
Brockton Public Schools
Lowell Public Schools
Mashpee Public Schools
Newburyport Public Schools
Newton Public Schools
North Central Charter Essential School
Orange Elementary School District
Quaboag Regional School District
Reading Public Schools
Seven Hills Charter School
Shrewsbury Public Schools
Tantasqua Regional School District
Wareham Public Schools
Winchendon Public Schools

**FY16 - (10 districts)**
Barnstable Public Schools
Boston Public Schools
Brimfield Elementary School District
Framingham Public Schools
Holyoke Public Schools
Newburyport Public Schools
Northampton Public Schools
Quaboag Regional School District
Reading Public Schools
Tantasqua Regional School District

**FY17 - (18 districts)**
Arlington Public Schools
Berkshire Arts and Technology Charter Public School (Adams)
City on a Hill Charter Dudley Square (Boston)
City on a Hill Charter New Bedford
Chelsea Public Schools
Clinton Public Schools
Fall River Public Schools
Gill-Montague Regional School District (Turners Falls)
Groton-Dunstable Regional School District (Groton)
Lawrence Public Schools
Leominster Public Schools
Melrose Public Schools
Milton Public Schools
North Adams Public Schools
Saugus Public Schools
Tantasqua Public Schools (Fiskdale)
Whitman-Hanson Public Schools (Whitman)
Wilmington Public Schools

**FY18 - (17 districts)**
Arlington Public Schools
Berkshire Arts and Technology Charter Public School (Adams)
Berkshire Hills Regional School District (Stockbridge)
Boston Public Schools
Carver Public Schools
Chelsea Public Schools
Clinton Public Schools
Easthampton Public Schools
Milton Public Schools
Monomoy Regional School District (Chatham)
North Adams Public Schools
Pioneer Valley Regional School District (Northfield)
Quaboag Regional School District (Warren)
Sandwich Public Schools
Southbridge Public Schools
Stoneham Public Schools
West Springfield Public Schools

**FY19 - (30 districts)**
Agawam Public Schools
Arlington Public Schools
Athol/Royalston Regional School District (Athol)
Avon Public Schools
Berkshire Arts and Technology Charter Public School (Adams)
Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical School (Taunton)
Carver Public Schools
Central Berkshire Regional School District (Dalton)
Chelsea Public Schools
Fall River Public Schools
Gateway Regional School District (Huntington)
Gill-Montague Regional School District (Turners Falls)
Global Learning Public Charter School (New Bedford)
Methuen Public Schools
Milton Public Schools

**FY20**
Monomoy Regional School District (Chatham)
North Adams Public Schools
Northbridge Public Schools
Norwood Public Schools
Phoenix Charter Academy Network (Lawrence)
Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School (South Hadley)
Quaboag Regional School District (Warren)
Randolph Public Schools
Southern Worcester Regional Vocational Technical High School (Charlton)
Springfield Public Schools
Triton Regional School District (Byfield)
Walpole Public Schools
Wayland Public Schools
Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School (Haverhill)
Wilmington Public Schools

**Past Funding History**

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