

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER
State Allocation Board Meeting, May 24, 2006

SCHOOL FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT GRANT PROGRAM REPORT

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide a progress report regarding the School Facilities Needs Assessment Grant Program (Program).

BACKGROUND

At the February 2006 State Allocation Board meeting, the Board requested that Staff report back in three months to provide an update on any outstanding Needs Assessment Reports (Reports).

DESCRIPTION

Senate Bill (SB) 6 allocated \$25 million for local educational agencies (LEA) with eligible schools to perform a one-time assessment of school facility needs, which were to be submitted to the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) no later than January 1, 2006. A total of 2,050 Reports were deemed eligible statewide, based on certifications by the LEAs.

AUTHORITY

SB 6, Chapter 899, Statutes of 2004 (Alpert), as a part of the settlement agreement in the case of Williams vs. California, established the School Facilities Needs Assessment Grant Program.

SB 512, Chapter 577, Statutes of 2005 (Committee on Education), removed the county-operated schools from the list of schools required to complete the assessment as published by the California Department of Education.

Assembly Bill (AB) 831, Chapter 118, Statutes of 2005 (Committee on Education), revised the criteria for identifying schools ranked in deciles one to three on the 2003 Academic Performance Index.

STAFF COMMENTS

The OPSC has received 2,008 reports of the required 2,050. Of the 42 reports that remain outstanding, LEAs have indicated that nine Reports are in progress and 33 Reports are yet to be started. The Attachment lists the LEAs that have not submitted a Report for eligible schools. Recently, as well as throughout the process, Staff performed additional outreach and contacted all of the LEAs with Reports outstanding. Additionally, Staff sent a reminder letter to these LEAs in order to provide the necessary assistance to ensure compliance. As a result of this outreach, three LEAs responsible for 35 Reports have indicated that they will submit the assessments within 30 days of this report.

The full details of the Reports submitted to date are currently available for viewing on the OPSC Web site. Each Report contains details of the facility inventory, useful life of major building systems, five-year costs to maintain functionality, and necessary repairs.

RECOMMENDATION

Accept this report.

This Item was approved by the State Allocation Board on May 24, 2006.