

CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

135 BERKSHIRE STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02141

26-173



August 4, 2026

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

GRANT AWARD:

FY26 Circuit Breaker Allocation (SC26776) - INCREASE

RECOMMENDATION:

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

Grant Amount: \$9,254,850.00

Period: 9/25/2025-6/30/2027

Source: State

Administrator: Desiree Phillips

DESCRIPTION: The purpose of this grant is to provide reimbursement for a portion of CPS costs of educating high-needs special education students. The state is increasing the Circuit Breaker allocation for CPS by \$194,281 for FY26 funding.

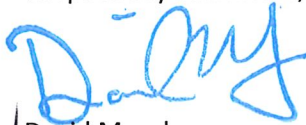
- The state's Special Education Circuit Breaker program reflects the district's reimbursement for prior year expenses educating high-needs special education students in excess of the per-student threshold;
- In FY25, the per-student threshold was \$52,419.00;
- The allocation for FY26 is based on a reimbursement rate of 75% for instruction and tuition claims and 67.89% for transportation claims made in FY25;
- The district uses Circuit Breaker to fund out-of-district tuition and transportation expenses.

DISTRICT PLAN ALIGNMENT: The Circuit Breaker Allocation supports the following Strategic Initiatives: 1.3 – Establish robust Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) to support students' academic, social, emotional, and behavioral needs. 4.10 – Improve families' access to resources within and beyond CPS.

Expense Category	FY26 Budget	FY26 FTE
Permanent Salaries & Benefits	-	-
Temporary Salaries	-	-
Other Expenses	9,254,850.00	-
Total	\$9,254,850.00	-

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,


David Murphy
Superintendent of Schools