



Prioritized FY2021-2022 Recommended Building Excellent Schools Today Lease-Purchase Grants

Submitted to:
Capital Development Committee

By:
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Executive Summary

Below please find information to support this request to approve the attached FY 2021-22 Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) grants recommended for funding through lease-purchase financing. This list comes from a larger list of public school facility construction projects recommended by the Public School Capital Construction Assistance Board (CCAB).

Background:

- BEST is a competitive grant program focused on improving health, safety, security, and technology for Colorado school districts, charter schools, institute charter schools, boards of cooperative educational services, and the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind.
- BEST funds can be used for systems replacement, renovations, and new school construction.
- Counting the awards for this grant round, BEST will account for nearly \$3.5 billion in schools improvement projects, in almost every school district in the state.
- BEST projects are partially funded with local matching dollars, as well as funding from State Land proceeds, spillover from the Colorado Lottery, and marijuana excise taxes.

FY 2021-22 BEST Grant Award Summary:

- In May 2021, the CCAB reviewed 42 grant applications, requesting a total of approximately \$336 million in state grant funds with \$322 million in matching funds, for \$658 million in total project costs.
- CCAB Members reviewed each grant application in detail, filled out an evaluation (scoring) sheet for each applicant, and then determined a prioritized list to recommend for final approval.
- Taking into consideration the financial assistance priority assessment conducted pursuant to C.R.S. 22-43.7-108, projects were prioritized according to the criteria outlined in C.R.S. 22-43.7-109(5), placing greatest emphasis on those that will address safety hazards or health concerns at existing public-school facilities, including concerns related to public school facility security, and projects that are designed to incorporate technology into the educational environment.
- Pending budget decisions made by the Colorado General Assembly and Governor, and votes by the State Board of Education and the Capital Development Committee, staff will work with the State Treasurer's Office to finalize a list of awardees, with the goal to fund as many projects as possible within the allowable budget.

The following is a link to a summary of all grant applications received this year:

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/capitalconstruction/fy2122listofrecommendedprojects>

Standard of Review for the Capital Development Committee:

No later than June 25 of each year, the State Board of Education shall submit to the Capital Development Committee (CDC) a prioritized list that includes only those projects that involve lease-purchase agreements. The CDC may approve or disapprove the list if it concludes that the inclusion of one or more of the listed projects would unreasonably increase the cost of providing financial assistance that involves lease-purchase agreements for all of the listed projects no later than July 15 of each year. If the CDC does not approve or disapprove the list by July 15, it will be deemed to have approved the list as submitted.

If the CDC disapproves a revised prioritized list, it shall provide its reasons for doing so in writing to the CCAB no later than July 20. The CCAB may resubmit the list with modifications or additional information, or both, that address the committee's concerns no later than August 1. The CDC may approve the entire resubmitted list or may disapprove one or more projects on the resubmitted list if the committee again concludes that the inclusion of the project or projects would unreasonably increase the cost of providing financial assistance that involves lease-purchase agreements for all of the listed projects, no later than August 15. If the CDC disapproves a project on the resubmitted list, the project shall not receive financial assistance that involves lease-purchase agreements, and the remaining projects on the resubmitted list shall receive such financial assistance that the State Board recommends. If the CDC does not approve or disapprove the resubmitted list by August 15, it will be deemed to have approved the list as resubmitted.

Conclusion:

The State Board of Education is submitting to the Capital Development Committee the following prioritized list and description of seven projects for lease-purchase financing, with one of those a back-up project to be funded if a higher prioritized project becomes ineligible for financial assistance due to their inability to raise the required matching moneys. The State Board met on June 9, 2021 and approved the Capital Construction Assistance Board's grant recommendations pursuant to Section 22-43.7-109(7)(a) C.R.S.

The following is submitted for Capital Development Committee approval at their June 2021 meeting.



List of Prioritized Recommended FY2021-22 BEST Lease-Purchase Grants

BEST FY21-22 List of Recommended Projects in Priority Order					
County	Applicant Name	Project Title	BEST Request Amount	Applicant Contribution	Total Request & Matching Contribution
HUERFANO	HUERFANO RE-1	John Mall HS Replacement	\$ 20,837,068.50	\$ 9,361,581.50	\$ 30,198,650.00
OTERO	*ROCKY FORD R-2	PK8 Replacement - HS Addition/ Renovation	\$ 39,867,054.16	\$ 7,628,804.00	\$ 47,495,858.16
OTERO	FOWLER R-4J	MSHS Addition to Fowler ES/Renovation	\$ 31,958,947.38	\$ 4,902,583.62	\$ 36,861,531.00
SEDGWICK	JULESBURG RE-1	PK-12 Replacement	\$ 33,470,964.00	\$ 8,177,379.00	\$ 41,648,343.00
LARIMER	THOMPSON R2-J	MS Renovation & K-5 Addition	\$ 5,207,873.07	\$ 12,750,309.93	\$ 17,958,183.00
WELD	JOHNSTOWN-MILLIKEN RE-5J	HS Conversion into MS	\$ 19,080,130.56	\$ 20,670,141.44	\$ 39,750,272.00
* Grants are contingent upon a November 2021 Bond Election		Total Recommended for Lease/Purchase Grants	\$ 150,422,037.67	\$ 63,490,799.49	\$ 213,912,837.16
Backup Projects in Prioritized Order (in the event an awarded project fails to secure matching funds)					
PUEBLO	Chavez/Huerta K-12 Preparatory Academy	DHP HS Add/ Reno - ECMS Modular Replacement	\$ 30,135,956.61	\$ 4,905,853.40	\$ 35,041,810.01
** Grants marked BACKUP in both columns are eligible for either Lease/Purchase or Cash funding. A final determination of the availability and type of funding will be made following November 2021 bond elections.					



Summaries of the Prioritized Recommended FY2021-22 BEST Lease-Purchase Grants

Huerfano RE-1 – John Mall High School Replacement

This project addresses health and safety deficiencies including shifting foundations, compromised structural integrity, and inadequate HVAC systems. This project will resolve these deficiencies and enhance student achievement by building a new high school facility. This project consolidates several structures into one and will follow the requirements for high performance buildings.

This project is recommended for BEST Lease-Purchase funding as follows:

Grant Amount: \$20,837,068.50; District Contribution: \$9,361,581.50 or 31%, with the source of match, a 2020 bond.

Rocky Ford R-1 – PK-8 Replacement – High School Addition/Renovation

This project addresses health and safety deficiencies in the primary school and intermediate school. Each building has mechanical and electrical deficiencies that affect comfort in the classroom. There are plumbing concerns including floods at the intermediate school. The district and community determined an addition to the high school would be the most cost-efficient solution. This project will resolve these deficiencies and enhance student achievement by relocating the primary and intermediate students to the high school, addressing safety concerns, and allowing for all classes to be in one location. The addition will be energy efficient, include current technology, and provide for district educational delivery.

This project is recommended for BEST Lease-Purchase funding as follows:

Grant Amount: \$39,867,054.16; District Contribution: \$7,628,804.00 or 16%, with the source of match, district cash reserves and a November 2021 bond election.

Fowler R-4J – Middle School/High School Addition, Fowler Elementary School/Renovation

This project addresses health and safety concerns for students crossing a road to access the cafeteria and sports fields, addresses hazardous materials abatement, and technology deficiencies. The project will also address deficiencies at the agricultural shop and education building. This project will resolve these deficiencies and enhance student achievement by building an addition to the existing elementary school which will include a common cafeteria and educational spaces for the high school and middle school students, and minimize students crossing the street. The project will be designed to address high performance design and certification.

This project is recommended for BEST Lease-Purchase funding as follows:

Grant Amount: \$31,958,947.38; District Contribution: \$4,902,583.62 or 13%, with the source of match, a 2019 bond.

Julesburg – PK-12 Replacement

This project addresses health and safety deficiencies including poor ventilation and temperature control, safety and supervision challenges including students walking between three separate sites, water quality and sewer issues, high radon levels, asbestos, poor insulation, and moisture intrusion. This project will resolve these deficiencies and enhance student achievement by replacing the campuses with a new PK-12 school on a new site containing all the district's facilities. The new facility will meet high performance certification standards.

This project is recommended for BEST Lease-Purchase funding as follows:

Grant Amount: \$33,470,964.00; District Contribution: \$8,177,379.00 or 20%, with the source of match, a 2020 bond.

**Thompson R2-J – Middle School Renovation and K-5 Addition**

This project addresses health and safety including renovating a middle school and adding on classrooms that will house new grade levels. This project will resolve deficiencies and enhance student achievement by providing a K-8 school that incorporates best practices gleaned from the district's two recent K-8 school projects. Two aged and underutilized elementary schools will be merged with a middle school that also had underutilized capacity.

This project is recommended for BEST Lease-Purchase funding as follows:

Grant Amount: \$5,207,873.07; District Contribution: \$12,750,309.93 or 71%, with the source of match, a 2018 bond.

Johnstown Milliken – High School Conversion into Middle School

This project addresses health and safety deficiencies including inadequate access control, combustible roof with structural concerns, lack of adequate fire separation, and moisture infiltration. Overcrowding is an additional secondary and compounding driver of the project due to rapid growth in the area. This project will resolve these deficiencies and enhance student achievement through a partial replacement, addition, and renovation of the existing campus, to accommodate moving middle school students in, while high school students move to a new facility built with bond funds. The project will be built to target CHPS Verified Leader certification.

This project is recommended for BEST Lease-Purchase funding as follows:

Grant Amount: \$19,080,130.56; District Contribution: \$20,670,141.44 or 52%, with the source of match, a 2020 bond.

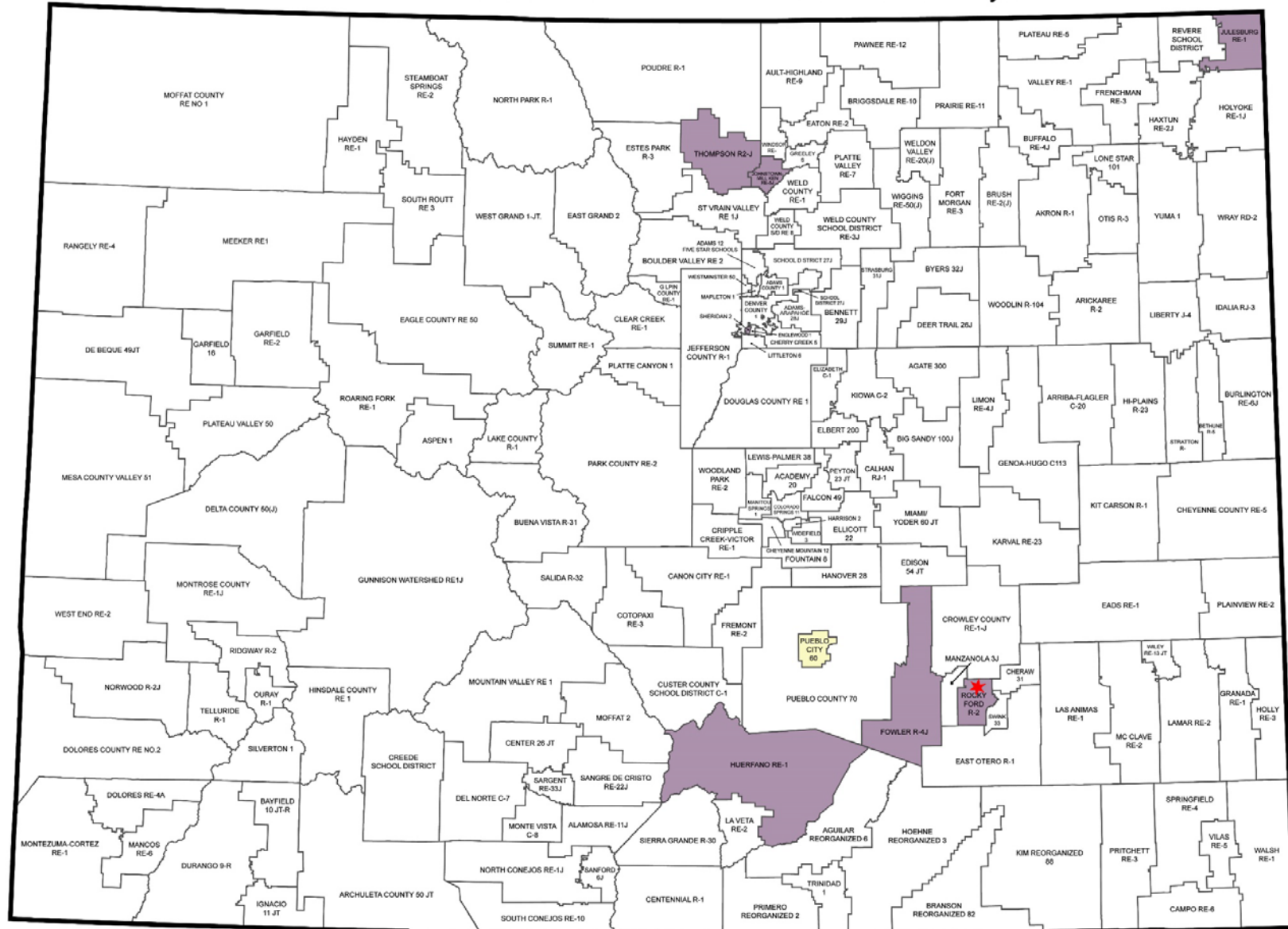
BACKUP PROJECTS:**Chavez Huerta K-12 Preparatory Academy – Addition, Renovation, and Modular Replacement**

This project addresses health and safety deficiencies involving a campus of nine modular units with inadequate foundations, inadequate heating and cooling and poor air quality, fire safety concerns with the electrical system, and emergency egress issues. This project will resolve these deficiencies and enhance student achievement by providing an addition to the high school building and renovating for code compliance and energy efficiency.


This project is recommended for BEST Cash and/or Lease-Purchase funding as follows:

Grant Amount: \$30,135,956.61; Charter Contribution: \$4,905,853.40 or 14%, with the source of match including but not limited to a 2020 bond refinance.


FY21-22 BEST Grant Recommended Lease Purchase Projects



Produced by the Colorado Department of Education Web Management Team - April, 2014

 Recommended Projects (6)

 Back-up Project (1)

 Bond Contingent

**FY 2021-2022 Lease Purchase Projects by Congressional District:**

Committee Member:	District:	Counties:	Projects:
Edie Hooten	10	Boulder	
Tammy Story	16	Boulder, Denver, Gilpin, Jefferson	
Rhonda Fields	29	Arapahoe	
Janice Rich	55	Mesa	
Jerry Sonnenberg	1	Cheyenne, Elbert, Kit Carson, Lincoln Logan, Morgan, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington, Weld, Yuma	Johnstown-Milliken RE-5J
Donald Valdez	62	Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Huerfano, Mineral, Pueblo, Rio Grande, Saguache	Huerfano RE-1, Chavez/Huerta K-12 Preparatory Academy

Projects not in Member Districts:

<u>Counties:</u>	<u>Projects:</u>
Larimer	THOMPSON R2-J
Sedgwick	JULESBURG RE-1
Otero	FOWLER R-4J
Otero	*ROCKY FORD R-2

**Indicates bond contingent project.*