Sharon Williams, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

To: RIMSD 41 Board of Education
From: Dr. Sharon Williams
Cabinet Champion: Annaka Whiting, Chief Financial Officer
Date: November 10, 2026
Re: School Building Maintenance Project Grant

We are seeking approval to apply for the Fiscal Year 2027 School Maintenance Project Grant through the Illinois State Board of Education. The application period is open through 4:00 p.m. Friday, January 29, 2027, and must be submitted through the School Maintenance Project Grants system accessed via IWAS by the deadline. This grant is a competitive dollar-for-dollar state matching program that provides awards up to $50,000 to grantees exclusively for the maintenance or upkeep of buildings or structures for educational purposes. Applicants must provide a local match equal to the grant amount requested and submission of a grant application does not guarantee funding.

We recommend that the funding be used for the Building Automation System (BAS) Replacement Project at Ridgewood Elementary. The project is anticipated to be bid and awarded in spring, with work completed over the summer, depending on when the award announcement is made. The current cost estimate is $210,000.

Ridgewood Elementary School serving the Rock Island Milan School District has an existing, non-functional, non-communicating building automation system serving a portion of the building. The remainder of the building is controlled by another system which is currently functional, but not on the districtwide mechanical control system. It is recommended that the non-functional control system be removed and replaced with a functional system that integrates into the district standard. The specific scope of work for such a project would include removal and disposal of the existing, nonfunctional control system and providing new control modules on existing mechanical equipment, including sensors, interconnection wiring, programming, commissioning, and integration into the districtwide system.

Per grant requirements, no work may begin prior to submission of the grant application. Once bids are received, staff will present a recommendation to the Board for approval prior to work beginning, pending final grant award. All project activities must be expended or legally obligated within two years of state disbursement.

Investment Period: NA
Total Investment: $210,000
Funding Source: School Maintenance Project Grant/Operations and Maintenance Fund

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