



Office of Finance & Administration

Unlocking the Potential in ALL Students

Natalie Forbes, Executive Director of Finance

forbesn@mpsct.org (860) 638-1414

311 Hunting Hill Ave, Middletown, CT 06457

www.middletownschoools.org

Board of Education Meeting, May 12, 2026

DRIP Grant

The District Repair and Improvement Project (DRIP) program in Connecticut was approved by the Connecticut General Assembly on June 4, 2025, as part of a bonding and school-building projects bill. The program, established by Public Act 25-174, authorizes \$60 million in state bonds for school repairs, \$30 million in each of fiscal years 2026 and 2027. For fiscal year 2025-26, Middletown Public Schools was awarded \$237,723.98.

The purpose of the grant is to provide direct grants for capital repairs at public school districts. The effective date for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 funds is July 1, 2025, with funds dispersed by June 30, 2026. The Office of Policy and Management (OPM) manages this program.

A District repair and improvement project means a capital expenditure project, approved by the Board of Education, for any of the following:

- (A) The construction, renovation, repair, or enlargement of school buildings or school grounds, including parking lots, athletic fields, and playgrounds;
- (B) improvements to school facilities for compliance with health, safety, or code requirements; or
- (C) the purchase, installation, or maintenance of or improvements to fixed school infrastructure, including, but not limited to, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, plumbing, electrical systems, and roofing.

No grant money can be used to satisfy a local matching requirement for any state assistance program or for any school building project under section 10-283 of the general statutes.

For Fiscal Year 2025-26, the district needs to remove the underground oil tank at Moody Elementary School, located at 300 Country Club Road, Middletown, CT 06457, and replace it with an above-ground oil tank. The current tank is more than 30 years old and is considered high-risk for corrosion and leaks. As a result, it has been flagged by the Department of Economic and Environmental Protection for removal with a required signed contract date of June 1st, 2026. The cost of removing and replacing the Moody Elementary School Oil Tank, including labor and equipment, is \$200,500.

The administration is asking the Board of Education to approve \$200,500 to complete the removal and replacement of the Moody Elementary School Oil Tank.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Forbes, Executive Director of Finance