

**BEMIDJI AREA SCHOOLS
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA**

DATE: JANAURY 26, 2026

TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION

**FROM: COLLEEN CARDENUTO, DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM AND ADMIN
SERVICES**

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO ACCEPT GRANT

COMMENTS:

Title of Grant: Housing Challenge Funds for Schools

Type of Grant: State of MN

Grant Preparer: Tony Hommes

Amount of Grant: \$100,000

Purpose: Grant funds are available for direct costs related to the construction of homes, including building materials, construction tools, subcontractors and professional labor.

Headwaters Housing Development Corporation (HHDC) funds are high school construction build and will continue to assume that responsibility. The school district is required to apply for the grant, but HHDC will assume the responsibilities as in the past.

District Responsibility: The grant will provide funds directly related to the construction program to provide funds for the above mentioned items. The district would work directly with HHDC by either reimbursing them for associated costs or pay invoices directly to suppliers in the relation to materials for the construction of the house. The teacher and HHDC will assume any reports associated with the grant and work with the business office on expenses.