



Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

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Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D.
Commissioner

July 1, 2015

David B. Hopson, Superintendent
Gateway Regional School District
12 Littleville Road
Huntington, MA 01050

Dear Superintendent Hopson:

Your recent letter stated that the member towns of your district have not yet approved a fiscal year 2016 budget. M.G.L. chapter 71, section 16B empowers the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education to order an appropriation for a regional school district when the regional school committee and the appropriating bodies of the member communities have not agreed on a budget. In accordance with this statute, I am authorizing the Gateway Regional School District to continue its operations and to spend up to \$1,367,220 in each month of fiscal year 2016 until your district's fiscal year 2016 budget has been adopted, or until December 1, 2015, whichever comes first. This interim monthly budget is *one-twelfth of the regional school district's budget request for FY16*.

Each member community within your district is ordered to appropriate and pay to the district such assessments as are calculated by the district treasurer for the support of said interim budget. Said assessments shall be due and payable on such dates as are specified in your regional agreement. Each member community's total payments under this order will be deducted from the total fiscal year 2016 assessment that will be charged to that community when the district's fiscal year 2016 budget is approved.

Please notify director Christine Lynch at such time as the district budget is approved by the member towns. In the meantime, if we can be of any further assistance, please contact Ms. Lynch at 781-338-6520 or by email at clynch@doe.mass.edu.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Wulfson".

Jeff Wulfson
Deputy Commissioner

c: Towns of Blandford, Chester, Huntington, Middlefield, Montgomery, and Russell
Stephanie Fisk, Business Manager, Gateway Regional School District
Christine Lynch, Director of School Governance, ESE