



Report to the Legislature on the Progress of the Green School Works Program

Pursuant to Section 35, Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023, which amended Chapter 69 by adding Section 37: “(c) Annually, not later than July 15, the commissioner shall report to the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate, the joint committee on education, the joint committee on telecommunications, utilities and energy and the house and senate committees on ways and means on the grants awarded during the previous fiscal year, including the grant amount, grant recipient, a description of the project for which the grant was awarded and any progress on completion of the project.”

July 2026

This document was prepared by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

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Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

135 Santilli Highway, Everett, MA 02149

Phone 781-338-3000 TTY: N.E.T. Relay 800-439-2370

www.doe.mass.edu





July 15, 2026

Dear Members of the General Court:

I am pleased to submit the fiscal year 2026 Annual Report to the Legislature on the Progress of Green School Works Program pursuant to Section 35, Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023, which amended Chapter 69 by adding Section 37(c): "Annually, not later than July 15, the commissioner shall report to the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate, the joint committee on education, the joint committee on telecommunications, utilities and energy and the house and senate committees on ways and means on the grants awarded during the previous fiscal year, including the grant amount, grant recipient, a description of the project for which the grant was awarded and any progress on completion of the project."

Any questions may be directed to Jessica Leitz via email at Jessica.Leitz@mass.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pedro Martinez", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Pedro Martinez
Commissioner

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Introduction

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) respectfully submits this Report to the Legislature: *fiscal year 2026 Annual Report to the Legislature on the Progress of Green School Works Program* pursuant to Outside Section 35 of the fiscal year 2024 GAA Budget, which amended Chapter 69 by adding Section 37(c):

SECTION 35

Section 35 Green School Works

Said Chapter 69 is hereby further amended by adding the following section:

Section 37. (a)(1) There shall be a competitive grant program, known as Green School Works, to provide financial support to eligible K-12 public schools or districts for projects to install or maintain clean energy infrastructure. The program shall be administered by the department, in consultation with the Massachusetts Clean Energy Technology Center, established by Section 2 of Chapter 23J. Grants shall be made available to address the costs of installation, operation, or upgrades of clean energy infrastructure that improves energy efficiency, reduces carbon emissions, or mitigates impacts of climate change, including school rooftop construction or repair costs necessary for a clean energy infrastructure project to be safely installed; provided, that such installation, operation or upgrades shall be conducted in compliance with any relevant procurement laws, including, but not limited to, Chapter 149 and all state and local building codes.

(2) Grants awarded by the department shall maximize the total number of projects that shall be undertaken by public schools or districts.

(b) The department, in consultation with the Massachusetts Clean Energy Technology Center, shall establish eligibility and selection criteria for the program. The department may give preference to grant applications from schools serving low-income and environmental justice populations.

(c) Annually, not later than July 15, the commissioner shall report to the clerks of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Joint Committee on Education, the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy, and the House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means on the grants awarded during the previous fiscal year, including the grant amount, grant recipient, a description of the project for which the grant was awarded and any progress on completion of the project.

(d) The department, in consultation with the Massachusetts Clean Energy Technology Center and the Massachusetts School Building Authority, established by section 1A of Chapter 70B, shall promulgate regulations to implement this section.

Created as part of the state's fiscal year 2024 budget, the goal of the Green School Works program (the "Program") is to provide financial support to "K-12 public schools or

districts for projects to install or maintain clean energy infrastructure.” The program is meant to address “the costs of installation, operation, or upgrades of clean energy infrastructure that improves energy efficiency, reduces carbon emissions, or mitigates the impacts of climate change, including school rooftop construction or repair costs necessary for a clean energy infrastructure project to be safely installed.” The enabling legislation additionally sets as objectives maximizing the total number of projects undertaken by public schools or districts and giving preference to projects for schools serving low-income and environmental justice populations.

As noted in previous legislative reports, based on the input of a working group of clean energy and school building experts from across state government, DESE contracted with the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) to run the program, while DESE maintains oversight for the program (reporting, regulating, etc.) as specified in the budget language.

Implementation Grants

Green School Works Implementation Grants provide eligible schools, districts, and collaboratives with funding to implement projects that improve energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions, or mitigate the impacts of climate change. The funding opportunity is intentionally broad and flexible to support a range of project types from a small project involving a single technology to a full school decarbonization project.

Prior Rounds

An initial round of awards of \$52M was issued in June 2025. This round awarded 18 projects from a pool of 54 projects seeking \$160M in funding. With such strong interest in the program, selection focused on equity, sustainability and impact for the schools and their students. Development of these projects is currently underway, see Appendix A for more about the initial awardees.

This Year

Following additional funding through the FY25 Supplemental Budget and FY26 Budget, DESE and MassCEC issued a \$19M Request for Proposals (“RFP”) for a second round of awards in December 2025. The approach and criteria for Round 2 were largely the same as the first tranche, with two primary adjustments.

First, while in Round 1, eligibility was limited to schools with 40% of students from low-income families, in Round 2 eligibility was broadened to all schools, while income demographics of the student population became a scoring criteria. This made the program more accessible and flexible, while also ensuring equity remained a significant component of the program and that opportunities for cleaner air, lower energy bills, and healthier learning environments reached the communities that need them most.

Second, as a complement to traditional grants, new to Round 2 was the option for applicants to request funds as a “recoverable grant” to enable projects to take advantage of the federal Investment Tax Credit (“ITC”). This recoverable grant option facilitates projects and supports applicants in leveraging the federal ITC while allowing the Commonwealth to explore the potential to recycle funding so as to achieve greater overall funding coverage and impact across Massachusetts communities. Though the 30% ITC is being phased out for many technologies such as solar, some technologies that Massachusetts schools are exploring (namely ground-source heat pumps (“GSHPs”) and battery energy storage systems) are eligible through the early 2030s. The recoverable grants address initial capital challenges and provide schools with the upfront funds needed to implement their clean energy projects with the expectation that funds are repaid to the Commonwealth upon a grantee’s receipt of the tax credit and can then be recycled into future decarbonization projects.

MassCEC accepted applications to the RFP for two months, from December 1, 2025, through February 13, 2026. Interest from school districts was once again strong; MassCEC received 61 grant requests totaling \$138 million.

On May 14, 2026, MassCEC announced the nine awarded districts to be issued funding, to a total of \$19 million, as follows:

Table 1 Green School Works Round 2 Funding Awards

School Name	Town/City	Project Supported by Green School Works Funding	Non-Recoverable Grant	Recoverable Grant
Hardy Elementary School	Arlington	Full decarbonization of an elementary school through GSHP braided with Mass School Building Association (“MSBA”) Accelerated Repair Program (“ARP”).		\$2,000,000
Falmouth Public Schools	Falmouth	Partial funding in support of a new ground-source heat pump system, to be installed during retrofit of one of two schools, final decision on which one pending.	\$2,600,000	\$2,400,000
Lawrence High School	Lawrence	Core weatherization and load reduction measures to ensure efficient sizing of a future ground-source heat pump system.	\$100,000	
Ferryway School	Malden	A retrofit cascading air-to-water heat pump.	\$1,950,000	
Donald P. Timony Grammar School	Methuen	First phase of an electrification retrofit, including new Air-Handler Unit (“AHU”) and Roof Top Unit (“RTU”) recovery, electrification of the school water heating, and new controls ahead of boiler replacement.	\$1,700,000	
Keith, Normandin, and Roosevelt Middle Schools	New Bedford	HVAC upgrades and heat pump RTUs on three schools.	\$1,200,000	
Northampton High School	Northampton	Partial funding in support of a new GSHP system.	\$500,000	\$3,500,000
Truro Central School	Truro	Construction of a solar carport, with a recoverable portion for the solar ITC.	\$210,000	\$110,000
City View Discovery School	Worcester	Conversion to low temperature hydronic distribution and a new partial air-to-water heat pump system.	\$2,730,000	
Total			\$10,990,000	\$8,010,000

Technical Assistance

On June 30, 2025, MassCEC opened the Green School Works (GSW) technical assistance (TA) offering to eligible schools, districts, and collaboratives. MassCEC prequalified 16 vendors to provide technical assistance and began making awards to provide technical assistance in fiscal year 2026. With up to \$5 million available for Technical Assistance, \$165,819 has been awarded to date, with \$4,834,181 remaining as potentially available. This reflects approximately 3.3% of funds committed. Though GSW Implementation Grant Round 2 expanded eligibility to include schools with less than 40% low-income student populations, the Technical Assistance program continues to use this 40% threshold in its eligibility criteria.

Green School Works Technical Assistance budget Snapshot

Potential total budget: \$5,000,000

Amount Awarded: \$165,819

Potential Remaining Budget: \$4,834,181

Technical Assistance offers an excellent opportunity for eligible schools, districts, and collaboratives to receive low- or no-cost support for decarbonization planning that focuses on modern, energy efficient school buildings and facilities. The Green School Works technical assistance offerings described below were designed to align with Mass Save® offerings, so that Mass Save-eligible schools, districts, and collaboratives could stack Green School Works funding on top of Mass Save funding. This maximizes impact by leveraging Mass Save funding, focusing on reducing copays, enabling services for Mass Save Ineligible communities, or adding complimentary components like renewable energy analyses. The Program also works closely with the Mass Save team to streamline the district experience and utilize single vendors where feasible. The Green School Works technical assistance services (matching Mass Save offerings) include a:

- ***Comprehensive Building Assessment:*** A scoping study to assess the current conditions at a building and identify energy-saving and carbon emissions reducing opportunities, including weatherization and building electrification. Additional scope can be added to include the context of local ordinances such as BERDO (Building Emissions Reduction and Disclosure Ordinance) and BEUDO (Building Energy Use Disclosure Ordinance).
- ***Portfolio Decarbonization Roadmap:*** An in-depth, high-rigor assessment of the strategies a school district or collaborative would need to employ to meet specific decarbonization targets for a portfolio of buildings (e.g. multiple buildings on one campus or multiple buildings across a school district). In addition to weatherization, building electrification, and energy efficiency, this study may also address other impacts such as motor vehicle fleets, maintenance equipment, and the embodied carbon of construction materials.

- *Focused Study*: A detailed study investigating the economic and energy impacts of implementing a measure or specific set of measures. These are often needed when submitting a Mass Save application for custom projects where an estimate of energy savings and cost is required.

Schools can complement these offerings with a renewable energy feasibility analysis and/or consideration of Renewable Energy Certificate options fully funded by Green School Works. Schools may also request other study types, which MassCEC may approve on a case-by-case basis. For example, although it is not a defined scope under the program, the Technical Assistance offering has seen increased interest in Ground Source Heat Pump feasibility assessments and is currently engaged with 6 schools considering that support. MassCEC anticipates that the technical assistance budget use rate will accelerate as interest in Ground Source Heat Pump feasibility studies continues to grow.

The technical assistance offering is rolling and has received 52 enrollments to date (Summarized in Appendix A: Table B). Seven schools enrolled and later withdrew and/or opted not to move forward, which was typically related to eligibility limitations, shifts in district priorities, and determinations that alternative programs available via Mass Save were a better match for school goals.

Green School Works Technical Assistance Enrollments by Study Type

Renewable Energy Analysis: 35
 Enrollment Discontinued: 7
 Geothermal Heat Pump Feasibility: 6
 Pending study selection: 4
 Grand Total: 52

During the enrollment process, schools select a preferred vendor from the prequalified list – most frequently a vendor they are already engaging through Mass Save. The table below summarizes enrollments by vendor.

Green School Works Technical Assistance Enrollments by Vendor Name

The RISE Group: 23
 B2Q Associates: 11
 Frontier Energy: 6
 PowerOptions: 1
 Pending Vendor Selection: 4
 Enrollment Discontinued: 7
 Grand Total: 52

Appendix A: Table B details all school enrollments in the Technical Assistance program.

Fiscal Year 2027 Activities

As stated above, in FY27 MassCEC intends to contract with all of the Round 2 grantees listed above and begin dispersing funding as projects move forward. MassCEC will continue to engage Round 1 awardees on their projects, assessing project deliverables, and paying milestone-based grant disbursements. The first projects from Round 1 are due to finish construction and be commissioned during summer 2026. MassCEC will also continue to enroll eligible schools, districts, and collaboratives in the technical assistance services described above – with a particular focused expansion on technical assistance resources for schools considering Ground Source Heat Pump solutions.

Appendix A: Implementation Grant Awards and Technical Assistance Enrollments

Table A: Implementation Grants

Under the Green School Works implementation grant, MassCEC has awarded:

- June 2025: \$52.5M for 18 projects
- June 2026: \$19M for 9 projects (as above)

Round	School Name	District	Project Summary	Grant Amount	Status
1	Alfred Glickman Elementary School	Springfield Public Schools	Springfield Public Schools will use the funding to install air source heat pumps and ventilation upgrades at Alfred Glickman Elementary School, serving pre-K through 5th grades.	\$5,000,000	Ongoing – Design and Development
1	Barnstable United Elementary School	Barnstable Public Schools	Barnstable Public Schools will use the funding to install heat pumps at Barnstable United Elementary School, serving kindergarten through 5th grades.	\$2,732,994	Ongoing – Design and Development
1	Excel Academy Charter High School	Excel Academy Charter	Excel Academy Charter will use the funding to double their rooftop solar capacity at Excel Academy Charter High School, which serves grades 9th through 12th.	\$173,841	Ongoing - Construction
1	Greylock Elementary School	North Adams Public Schools	North Adams Public Schools will use the funding to help cover the cost difference between ground-source heat pumps and conventional HVAC at their newly built Greylock Elementary School, serving pre-K through 2nd grades.	\$300,000	Ongoing – Design and Development
1	Horace Mann Laboratory School	Salem Public Schools	Salem Public Schools will use the funding to install air source heat pumps and ventilation at the Horace Mann Laboratory School, serving grades Kindergarten through 5 th .	\$5,000,000	Ongoing – Design and Development

1	Jeanne D'Arc School	Lowell Public Schools	Lowell Public Schools will use the funding to install air source heat pumps and complete weatherization and energy efficiency work at the recently purchased Jeanne D'Arc School, which will serve students with autism in grades pre-K through 12th.	\$5,000,000	Ongoing – Design and Development
1	Lt. Elmer J McMahon Elementary	Holyoke Public Schools	Holyoke Public Schools will use the funding to install air source heat pumps at Lt. Elmer J McMahon Elementary School, serving grades pre-K through 5th.	\$3,969,000	Ongoing – Design and Development
1	Lynn Vocational Technical Institute	Lynn Public Schools	Lynn Public Schools will use the funding for heat pump water heaters, electric service upgrades, and distribution service upgrades at Lynn Vocational Technical Institute, serving grades 9th through 12th.	\$4,883,200	Ongoing – Design and Development
1	Otis Elementary School	Boston Public Schools	Boston Public Schools will use the funding to install air source heat pumps and ventilation upgrades at the Otis Elementary School, serving grades kindergarten through 5th.	\$1,519,383	Ongoing - Construction

1	Plouffe Middle School	Brockton Public Schools	Brockton Public Schools will use the funding to install air source heat pumps and a building management system at the Plouffe Middle School, serving grades 6th through 8th.	\$4,030,494	Ongoing – Design and Development
1	Ralph C. Mahar Regional School	Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District	The Ralph C Mahar Regional School District will use the funding to install air source heat pumps, ventilation system upgrades, and heat pump water heaters at the Ralph C Mahar Regional School, serving grades 7th through 12th.	\$524,000	Ongoing - Construction
1	Reingold Elementary School	Fitchburg Public Schools	Fitchburg Public Schools will use the funding to install air source heat pumps, ventilation upgrades, and electric system upgrades at Reingold Elementary School, serving grades 1st through 5th.	\$2,850,000	Ongoing – Design and Development
1	Richard L. Wilkins Elementary School	Stoughton Public Schools	Stoughton Public Schools will use the funding to install air source heat pumps, a heat pump water heater, electrical service upgrades, and a building management system at the Richard L. Wilkins Elementary School, serving grades pre-K through 5th.	\$2,709,820	Ongoing - Construction

1	Samoset Middle School	Leominster Public Schools	Leominster Public Schools will use the funding to install air source heat pumps, ventilation upgrades, a building management system, and weatherization at Samoset Middle School, serving grades 6th through 8th.	\$729,133	Ongoing - Construction
1	Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School	Northampton-Smith Vocational Agricultural	Northampton-Smith Vocational Agricultural will use the funding to install heat pump water heaters at Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School, serving grades 9th through 12th.	\$668,820	Ongoing – Design and Development
1	Snug Harbor Elementary School	Quincy Public Schools	Quincy Public Schools will use the funding to install air source heat pumps, ventilation upgrades, electric service upgrades, a building management system, and LED lighting at Snug Harbor Elementary School, serving grades pre-K through 5th.	\$4,500,000	Ongoing – Design and Development
1	William S. Greene Elementary School	Fall River Public Schools	Fall River Public Schools will use funds to install air source heat pumps and a building management system at William S. Greene Elementary School, serving grades pre-K through 5th.	\$2,090,315	Ongoing – Design and Development

1	95 G Street Building	Boston Public Schools	Boston Public Schools will use the funding to install air source heat pumps, ventilation upgrades, a building management system, electric service upgrades, and air filtration at the 95 G Street building, which will be home to a Boston Public Schools high school.	\$5,000,000	Ongoing – Design and Development
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Table B: Technical Assistance Enrollments

School District	School Name	Low Income Percentage	TA Scope
Boston Public Schools	-	-	Discontinued
Brockton Public Schools	Plouffe Middle School	83.4	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Centerville Elementary School	Centerville Elementary School	41	Geothermal Heat Pump Feasibility
City of Lawrence	South Lawrence East Elementary School	84	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Excel Academy Charter School	Excel Academy East Boston	63.4	Discontinued
Gloucester Public Schools	Gloucester High School	45.4	Geothermal Heat Pump Feasibility
Lawrence Public School	Lawrence High School	84	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Lawrence Public Schools	Gerard A Guilmette School	86	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Lawrence Public Schools	Edward Parthum School	84	Discontinued
Lawrence Public Schools	Arlington Middle School	90	Discontinued

School District	School Name	Low Income Percentage	TA Scope
Lawrence Public Schools	Spark Academy	87	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Leominster Public Schools	Samoset Middle School	52.7	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Lowell Community Charter Public School	Lowell Community Charter Public School	65.1	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Lowell Middlesex Academy Charter	Lowell Middlesex Academy Charter School	86	Discontinued
Lynn Public Schools	Lynn Vocational Technical Institute (LVTI)	68	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Lynn Public Schools	Lynn Classical High School	71	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Lynn Public Schools	Lynn English High School	75.3	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Lynn Public Schools	Thurgood Marshall Middle School	75	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Lynn Public Schools	Discovery Academy (LVTI Annex)	68	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Lynn Public Schools	Sisson Elementary School	61.2	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Lynn Public Schools	Ingalls Elementary School	83	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Lynn Public Schools	Harrington Elementary School	86	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Lynn Public Schools	Captain William G Shoemaker School	75.3	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Lynn Public Schools	Julia F. Callahan School	67.3	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis

School District	School Name	Low Income Percentage	TA Scope
Malden Public Schools	Ferryway School	62.5	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Medford Comprehensive High School	Medford High School	42.2	Geothermal Heat Pump Feasibility
Mohawk Trail Regional School District	Sanderson Academy	44.8	Discontinued
New Bedford Public Schools	New Bedford High School	77.6	Pending final study
New Bedford Public Schools	Normandin Middle School	68.8	Pending final study
New Bedford Public Schools	Roosevelt Middle School	83.6	Pending final study
New Bedford Public Schools	Keith Middle School	77.7	Pending final study
Quincy Public Schools	Snug Harbor Elementary School	73.9	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Quincy Public Schools	Lincoln-Hancock Community School	56.6	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Quincy Public Schools	Montclair Elementary School	51.2	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Quincy Public Schools	Atlantic Middle School	45.3	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Quincy Public Schools	Quincy High School	55.2	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Quincy Public Schools	Francis W Parker Elementary School	58.3	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Quincy Public Schools	South West Middle School	57.9	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Quincy Public Schools	Lincoln Hancock Community School	53.5	Pending final study
Ralph C Mahar Regional School District	Ralph C Mahar Regional School	58.5	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis

School District	School Name	Low Income Percentage	TA Scope
Randolph Public Schools	Randolph High School	64.1	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Randolph Public Schools	John F. Kennedy Elementary School	67.2	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Randolph Public Schools	Randolph Community Middle School	62.2	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Randolph Public Schools	Margaret L. Donovan Elementary School	63.8	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Randolph Public Schools	North Randolph Elementary School	51	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Randolph Public Schools	Martin E. Young Elementary School	66.6	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Salem Public Schools	Horace Mann Laboratory School	65	Geothermal Heat Pump Feasibility
Salem Public Schools	Salem High School	61.7	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Salem Public Schools	Horace Mann Laboratory School (HMLS)	64.8	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Springfield Public Schools	Mary Lynch School	88.9	Geothermal Heat Pump Feasibility
Triton Regional School District	Salisbury Elementary School	44.6	Stand-alone renewable energy analysis
Winchendon Public Schools	Murdock Middle/High School	52.7	Discontinued