



OFFICE OF THE COVENTRY TOWN COUNCIL
1717 Main Street
Coventry, CT 06238

January 26, 2021

Senator Daniel Champagne
Legislative Office Building
300 Capitol Avenue
Room 2705
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Dear Senator Champagne,

The Coventry Town Council is requesting that you assist the Town in the appropriate State allocation of recent COVID relief funds. We are aware that \$444 million in new ESSER aid has been allocated toward education aid, and we would like to recommend, to the degree legally possible, that funds be fairly shared to all communities.

In Coventry, our schools are older and have poor ventilation systems, which are not fully capable of addressing air quality concerns in this age of COVID concern. Most classrooms use unit ventilators which inadequately filter the air and greatly exceed noise standards, particularly when operating at full capacity. Our District has been able to mostly remain open, which incurs additional expenses, compared to closed districts which may actually have savings being closed such as reduced busing expenses. These expenses include additional staffing required by COVID for teaching, special needs care, additional cleaning staff, equipment and supplies.

The Federal funds specifically state the funds can be used for ventilation improvements, so any assistance in getting some of these funds to also assist smaller towns would be greatly appreciated.

Additionally, we request that State School Construction Grants be expanded to cover the necessary changes for enhanced air treatment in schools. Failure to do so may result in a surge of new construction for schools, as evidenced by New Haven's recent abandonment of two schools due to ventilation concerns.

We request your assistance in assuring a fair allocation of ESSER funds based on needs.

Sincerely,

Julie Blanchard, Chairwoman
Coventry Town Council

Cc: Governor Ned Lamont
Coventry Town Council
COST, CCM, CRCOG, CABE, CAPS



OFFICE OF THE COVENTRY TOWN COUNCIL
1717 Main Street
Coventry, CT 06238

January 26, 2021

Representative Tim Ackert
House Republican Office
Legislative Office Building
300 Capitol Avenue
Room 4200
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Representative Ackert,

The Coventry Town Council is requesting that you assist the Town in the appropriate State allocation of recent COVID relief funds. We are aware that \$444 million in new ESSER aid has been allocated toward education aid, and we would like to recommend, to the degree legally possible, that funds be fairly shared to all communities.

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