

October 12, 2021

Dr. Nonie Lesaux Chair, Board of Early Education and Care Harvard Graduate School of Education Longfellow 101, 13 Appian Way Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Chair Lesaux and EEC Board members,

Thank you for including a review of the Early Education and Out of School Time (EEOST) Capital Fund regulations in today's agenda. We wanted to take the opportunity to update you on the Capital Fund.

As you may know, the Capital Fund was created in 2013 as a component of the Massachusetts Housing Bond Bill—the first time that capital funding for early education and out-of-school time facilities was included in a bill primarily focused on affordable and supportive housing. It was reauthorized in 2018 for an additional five years and is funded through the Commonwealth's capital budget, separate from the annual operating budget. EEC co-manages the Capital Fund alongside Children's Investment Fund and its affiliate, the Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation (CEDAC).

Over the past eight years, the Capital Fund has invested \$39M in 73 non-profit centers throughout the state, improving learning environments for over 9,000 children. Over 80% of the children served are receiving an EEC or Head Start subsidy. In September, we released the report *Building Quality: Transforming Early Learning Environments in Massachusetts*, which showcases the success of the grants. The report is available on our website (<a href="https://cedac.org/cif/publications/">https://cedac.org/cif/publications/</a>) and we encourage you to take a look.

We are ever grateful for the opportunity to co-manage the Capital Fund with EEC and are happy to share any additional information with you. We want to thank Commissioner Aigner-Treworgy in particular for her support of the program.

Sincerely,

Theresa Jordan

Director