



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
John
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Roth
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.  
Rep. Bill G. Schuette
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
Traverse Area Public Schools (TCAPS), Midland Education Service Agency (MESA)
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
TCAPS- 1009 S. Oak Street Traverse City, MI 49684, MESA- 3917 Jefferson Ave  
Midland, MI 48640
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:  
This joint appropriations requests will result in two locations; one in Grand Traverse and one in Midland county.
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:  
Betsy Coffia 103, Bill Schuette 95
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution. Grand Traverse and Midland Counties. These facilities will serve local school districts and surrounding communities by providing year-round indoor space for after school programming, student programming, and other public events such as trade shows, conventions, concerts, and festivals while generating significant economic return — an estimated \$8.2 million in annual impact combined. These projects enhance access to safe,

modern athletic space while boosting regional tourism, supporting local businesses, and creating long-term taxpayer value. This is a constitutionally appropriate public investment in infrastructure that supports education, community health, and economic growth. A win-win-win for Michigan by enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

9. Attach documents here if needed:

Attachments added to the end of this file.

10. The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.

20000000

11. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.

["Private"]

12. Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:

Non-profit organization

13. For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?

Yes

14. For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?

Yes

15. For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?

Yes

16. For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'

TCAPS Board of Education: 1. Scott Newman-Bale, President 2. Erica Moon Mohr, Vice President 3. Josey Ballenger 4. Scott Hardy 5. Beth Peck 6. Ty Schmidt MESA Board of Education: 1. Judy Gunderson, President 2. Jeffrey Wagner 3. Kimberlee Baczewski 4. Kevin Heye 5. David Sommer, Trustee 6. Gina Wilson, Trustee 7. Bill Leibfritz, Trustee

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

10/2025-12/2027

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes

## House Budget Request Form

Representative John Roth  
Representative Bill G Schuette

**Name of the spending item's recipient:**

Traverse Area Public Schools (TCAPS)  
Midland Education Service Agency (MESA)

**Physical address of the recipient:**

TCAPS- 1009 S. Oak Street Traverse City, MI 49684  
MESA- 3917 Jefferson Ave Midland, MI 48640

**If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:**

This joint appropriations requests will result in two locations; one in Grand Traverse and one in Midland county.

**Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:**

Representative John Roth, District 104  
Representative Bill G Schuette, District 95

**Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution.**

This request supports the development of two multi-purpose educational infrastructure facilities in Grand Traverse and Midland Counties. These facilities will serve local school districts and surrounding communities by providing year-round indoor space for after school programming, student programming, and other public events such as trade shows, conventions, concerts, and festivals while generating significant economic return — an estimated \$8.2 million in annual impact combined. These projects enhance access to safe, modern athletic space while boosting regional tourism, supporting local businesses, and creating long-term taxpayer value. This is a constitutionally appropriate public investment in infrastructure that supports education, community health, and economic growth. A win-win-win for Michigan by enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

**The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item:**

This is a joint appropriations request of \$20 million. This will be evenly split between Traverse City (\$10m) Public Schools and Midland Education Service Agency (\$10m).

**Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.**

Federal  
State  
Local  
**Private**  
None

**Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:**

- For-profit organization
- Non-profit organization**- Public School Districts
- Local unit government
- University/College

**For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?**

- Yes**
- No
- Not applicable

**For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?**

- Yes**
- No
- Not applicable

**For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?**

- Yes**- Board of Education
- No
- Not applicable

**For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'**

TCAPS Board of Education:

1. Scott Newman-Bale, President
2. Erica Moon Mohr, Vice President
3. Josey Ballenger
4. Scott Hardy
5. Beth Peck
6. Ty Schmidt

MESA Board of Education:

1. Judy Gunderson, President
2. Jeffrey Wagner
3. Kimberlee Baczewski
4. Kevin Heye
5. David Sommer, Trustee
6. Gina Wilson, Trustee
7. Bill Leibfritz, Trustee

**"I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."**

**Yes, this is correct**

**Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:**

The construction of these unique facilities is a community-driven effort, engaging local business, community, and government leaders. They signify a long-term investment in the community's health, well-being, and economy, with both projects slated for completion by 2027.



Post Office Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48909  
517-373-0152  
BillSchuette@house.mi.gov

Representative Bill G. Schuette  
Michigan House of Representatives  
District 95

Committees  
Rules  
Finance  
Insurance  
Judiciary

Chair Bollin,

I am writing to express my strong support for the development of the new Multi-Purpose Educational Infrastructures in Mid-Michigan and Northwest Michigan. Given the significant benefits this project will bring to our communities, I am pleased to support the pursuit of a state enhancement grant to help fund the development and realization of this important initiative.

I believe that securing this grant will provide the essential resources needed to ensure the project's completion and fully realize the potential for economic growth and community enrichment. This funding represents a critical step in bringing the vision for these facilities to life—enhancing quality of life for residents and positioning our cities as premier destinations for youth programming.

I am committed to contributing to the grant application process and advocating for the support that these projects deserve. I look forward to working with state and local stakeholders to secure the funding necessary to make this transformative vision a reality.

Investing in these projects promises long-term benefits, including:

1. **Economic Growth:** Increased foot traffic, tourism, and local spending, which will benefit surrounding businesses and generate tax revenue for the region.
2. **Attraction & Retention:** The creation of both temporary and permanent jobs, from construction roles to facility operations.
3. **Youth Engagement and Community Health:** A safe, welcoming space for local youth to be active and engaged, encouraging healthy lifestyles and positive development.
4. **Regional Pride and Unity:** A shared venue where residents can come together to celebrate and strengthen community connections.

I am proud to stand in support of this initiative and encourage other stakeholders, community members, and investors to join in bringing this vision to life.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill G. Schuette".

Representative Bill G. Schuette  
Member  
95<sup>th</sup> District  
Michigan House of Representatives



104TH DISTRICT  
STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 30014  
LANSING, MI 48909-7514

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**JOHN R. ROTH**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

PHONE: (517) 373-1766  
FAX: (517) 373-9420  
JohnRoth@house.mi.gov

April 22, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for an enhancement grant to develop new multi-purpose infrastructure facilities in Northwest and Mid-Michigan.

These facilities will play a vital role in fostering strong community identities and bringing people together. By investing in these projects, we will not only stimulate economic growth—particularly through increased tourism, community development, and local revenue—but also create immediate construction jobs and long-term employment opportunities.

More importantly, these facilities will contribute to generational wellness by promoting healthy, active lifestyles and enhancing the overall quality of life in our communities.

As we consider the Michigan we hope to pass on to future generations, strategic investments like these are essential. They lay the foundation for a stronger, more connected, and prosperous Michigan for all.

Sincerely,

John Roth  
State Representative  
104<sup>TH</sup> District





April 15, 2025

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

RE: Support for Multi-Purpose Educational Infrastructures in Mid-Michigan and Northwest Michigan

On behalf of Traverse Connect, I am writing to express our strong support for the development of the new Multi-Purpose Educational Infrastructures in Mid-Michigan and Northwest Michigan. Given the significant benefits this project will bring to our communities, I am pleased to support the pursuit of a state enhancement grant to help fund the development and realization of this important initiative.

Traverse Connect is the regional economic development organization for the Grand Traverse area and we are dedicated to supporting area business growth while attracting, retaining, and developing a talented workforce. We believe that securing this grant will provide the essential resources needed to ensure the project's completion and fully realize the potential for economic growth and community enrichment. This funding represents a critical step in bringing the vision for these facilities to life—enhancing quality of life for residents and positioning our cities as premier destinations for youth programming.

We are committed to contributing to the grant application process and advocating for the support that these projects deserve. Traverse Connect looks forward to working with state and local stakeholders to secure the funding necessary to make this transformative vision a reality.

Investing in these projects promises long-term benefits, including:

1. **Economic Growth:** Increased foot traffic, tourism, and local spending, which will benefit surrounding businesses and generate tax revenue for the region.
2. **Attraction & Retention:** The creation of both temporary and permanent jobs, from construction roles to facility operations.
3. **Youth Engagement and Community Health:** A safe, welcoming space for local youth to be active and engaged, encouraging healthy lifestyles and positive development.
4. **Regional Pride and Unity:** A shared venue where residents can come together to celebrate and strengthen community connections.

I am proud to stand in support of this initiative and encourage other stakeholders, community members, and investors to join in bringing this vision to life.

Sincerely,

Warren M. Call  
President & CEO



April 22, 2025

To whom it may concern,

This letter expresses our support for Midland and Traverse City's joint proposal to establish multipurpose educational infrastructure facilities to receive a Michigan Enhancement Grant. These facilities will significantly enrich the communities of Midland and Traverse City, and securing this grant would dramatically enhance their impact.

The multipurpose educational infrastructure facilities are essential for promoting health, fitness, and wellness in these communities. These facilities will offer various programs for individuals of all ages, including youth sports leagues, fitness classes for adults, and special programs for seniors. These initiatives foster physical health while encouraging social interaction and community engagement.

In addition to their community programs, these facilities also play a critical role in local economies. Each facility attracts regional sports tournaments and events that draw in visitors, stimulate local businesses, and boost the economy. The Michigan Enhancement Grant would allow each facility to expand these activities, upgrade equipment, and enhance its services, thereby enriching the lives of even more residents and visitors.

Your support through this grant would benefit the immediate facility and reverberate throughout the community. The funding would allow the multiple-purpose educational infrastructure to continue fulfilling its mission of fostering a healthier, more active, and engaged community.

Thank you for considering this important request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tony Stamas'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Tony Stamas**  
President and CEO  
Midland Business Alliance

## Great Lakes Bay Regional Convention & Visitors Bureau

515 N. WASHINGTON AVENUE, SECOND FLOOR, SAGINAW, MI 48607  
989.752.7164 • 800.444.9979 • GOGREAT.COM



facebook.com/GoGreatLakesBay



@GoGreatLakesBay

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

April 15, 2025

This letter expresses my wholehearted support for Midland and Traverse City's joint proposal to establish multipurpose educational infrastructure facilities to receive a Michigan Enhancement Grant. These facilities will significantly enrich the communities of Midland and Traverse City, and securing this grant would dramatically enhance their impact.

The multipurpose educational infrastructure facilities are essential for promoting health, fitness, and wellness in these communities. These facilities will offer various programs for individuals of all ages, including youth sports leagues, fitness classes for adults, and special programs for seniors. These initiatives foster physical health while encouraging social interaction and community engagement.

In addition to their community programs, these facilities also play a critical role in local economies. Each facility attracts regional sports tournaments and events that draw in visitors, stimulate local businesses, and boost the economy. The Michigan Enhancement Grant would allow each facility to expand these activities, upgrade equipment, and enhance its services, thereby enriching the lives of even more residents and visitors.

Your support through this grant would benefit the immediate facility and reverberate throughout the community. The funding would allow the multiple-purpose educational infrastructure to continue fulfilling its mission of fostering a healthier, more active, and engaged community.

Thank you for considering this important request.

Sincerely,

Annette M. Rummel  
President/CEO





Administration  
400 Boardman Ave. Suite #305  
Traverse City, MI 49684  
231-922-4780

April 21, 2025

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I am writing to express my strong support for the development of the new Multi-Purpose Educational Infrastructures in Mid-Michigan and Northwest Michigan. Given the significant benefits this project will bring to our communities, I am pleased to support the pursuit of a state enhancement grant to help fund the development and realization of this important initiative.

I believe that securing this grant will provide the essential resources needed to ensure the project's completion and fully realize the potential for economic growth and community enrichment. This funding represents a critical step in bringing the vision for these facilities to life—enhancing quality of life for residents and positioning our cities as premier destinations for youth programming.

I am committed to contributing to the grant application process and advocating for the support that these projects deserve. I look forward to working with state and local stakeholders to secure the funding necessary to make this transformative vision a reality.

Investing in these projects promises long-term benefits, including:

1. Economic Growth: Increased foot traffic, tourism, and local spending, which will benefit surrounding businesses and generate tax revenue for the region.
2. Attraction & Retention: The creation of both temporary and permanent jobs, from construction roles to facility operations.
3. Youth Engagement and Community Health: A safe, welcoming space for local youth to be active and engaged, encouraging healthy lifestyles and positive development.
4. Regional Pride and Unity: A shared venue where residents can come together to celebrate and strengthen community connections.

I am proud to stand in support of this initiative and encourage other stakeholders, community members, and investors to join in bringing this vision to life.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Alger".

Nate Alger, Administrator  
Grand Traverse County

**04/19/2025**

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

We are writing to express our strong support for the development of the new Multi-Purpose Educational Infrastructures in Northwest Michigan and Mid-Michigan. These projects promise significant benefits for our communities, and we are enthusiastic about pursuing a state enhancement grant to help fund their development and realization.

Our organization, Safer Kids, Safer Schools (SKSS), is dedicated to ensuring the safety of our children and schools from the tragic epidemic of mass shootings. Over the past three years, we have identified several key characteristics common among school shooters, with a lack of connection to peers and the community being important factors. The proposed multi-purpose field houses can address this issue by providing spaces where children can naturally gather, engage in activities, and build meaningful connections. Activities such as kickball, dodgeball, and flashlight tag offer endless possibilities for fostering a sense of belonging and community among our youth.

Securing this funding is a crucial step in bringing our vision to life—enhancing the quality of life for residents and positioning our cities as premier destinations for youth programming. We are committed to contributing to the grant application process and advocating for the support these projects deserve. We look forward to collaborating with state and local stakeholders to secure the necessary funding to make this transformative vision a reality.

Investing in these projects promises long-term benefits, including:

1. **Youth Engagement and Community Health:** Providing a safe, welcoming space for local youth to be active and engaged, encouraging healthy lifestyles and positive development.
2. **Economic Growth:** Increasing foot traffic, tourism, and local spending, benefiting surrounding businesses and generating tax revenue for the region.
3. **Attraction & Retention:** Creating both temporary and permanent jobs, from construction roles to facility operations.

We are proud to stand in support of this initiative and encourage other stakeholders, community members, and investors to join us in bringing this vision to life.

Thank you for considering the grant request from the Traverse City and Midland communities.

**Jay Berger**  
**Kathleen Guy**



April 21, 2025

To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of Traverse City Tourism to express strong support for the development of the new Multi-Purpose Educational Infrastructures in Mid-Michigan and Northwest Michigan. Given the significant benefits this project will bring to our communities, our organization enthusiastically supports the pursuit of a state enhancement grant to help fund the development and realization of this important initiative.

Traverse City Tourism is an independent, not-for-profit Destination Organization that promotes the region as a leisure and business destination. Our organization helps strengthen the local economy, supports a thriving entrepreneurial community, and serves as a dedicated community partner within Northwest Michigan. Among our objectives is a commitment to destination development. The infrastructure development project being proposed will enhance the quality of life for local residents and holds widespread appeal to visitors.

Securing this grant will provide the essential resources needed to ensure the completion of projects in both our region and Mid-Michigan, fostering economic growth and community enrichment. Our organization believes strongly in the vision for these facilities and recognizes their potential to drive economic development. The proposed investment will enable our communities to thrive as premier destinations for youth programming, creating new sustainable, year-round opportunities.

Traverse City Tourism is committed to contributing to the grant application process and advocating for the support that these projects deserve. I look forward to working with state and local stakeholders to secure the funding necessary to make this transformative vision a reality.

Investing in these projects promises long-term benefits, including:

1. **Economic Growth:** Increased foot traffic, tourism, and local spending, which will benefit surrounding businesses and generate tax revenue for the region.
2. **Attraction & Retention:** The creation of both temporary and permanent jobs, from construction roles to facility operations.

101 W GRANDVIEW PKWY, TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49684  
[TRAVERSECITY.COM](http://TRAVERSECITY.COM)



3. **Youth Engagement and Community Health:** A safe, welcoming space for local youth to be active and engaged, encouraging healthy lifestyles and positive development.
4. **Regional Pride and Unity:** A shared venue where residents can come together to celebrate and strengthen community connections.

Traverse City Tourism is highly supportive of this initiative and encourages other stakeholders, community members, and investors to join in bringing this vision to life.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trevor Tkach". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "T".

**Trevor Tkach**  
President & CEO, Traverse City Tourism