

Adams 14 awarded BEST Grant to build new facility for Alsup Elementary

Adams 14 School District was approved for a Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) Lease/Purchase grant from the Colorado Department of Education, whereas the district will have \$ 33,879,541.00 to spend on the building of a new facility for Alsup Elementary School.

“This is great news for Adams 14” said Superintendent Dr. Javier Abrego, “This is another example of the direction the district moving to provide the best education for our students.” This is the last cycle in which BEST will fund large expensive projects such as the building of a new school. The total funds include a \$14.2 million dollar match from the district.

What is the Best Grant?

- The Colorado legislature created a building fund for districts with the greatest need for updated facilities. The fund and grant opportunity is called the Building Excellent Schools Today, or BEST, grant.
- The BEST grant primarily helps districts with major building needs to address health, life and safety needs with things like new roofs and heating boilers. In cases like Adams 14, it will help us make major renovations or replacement schools where current ones are outdated and hazardous.
- The BEST grant goal is to provide first-class, high-performing 21st century facilities and to help alleviate health and safety concerns.
- BEST grant funding comes from state land trust dollars, marijuana excise taxes, state lottery funds and interest.
- For more information, log onto <http://bit.ly/2BKjVhT>

Why is the BEST grant a good fit for Adams 14?

- Most Adams 14 schools were built in the 1950s with little to no renovations to update them.
- The district continues to patch and repair schools, but it’s not enough to keep up with the normal aging process of facilities.
- Adams 14 schools are well-beyond their life expectancy and are no longer acceptable learning environments for today’s learning expectations.
- Adams 14 has an opportunity to rebuild schools to provide 21st century learning environments through the BEST grant which could pay over half the cost for us. Additionally, the district is pursuing ways such as a bond to help rebuild or repair our schools.

Who benefits?

The BEST grant would benefit Adams 14 students and families

- Adams 14 taxpayers
- Community stakeholders
- Homeowners
- Adams County current and future residents