



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1438

1. Project Title Taylor County School District Facility Needs

2. Senate Sponsor Corey Simon

3. Date of Request 10/30/2025

4. Project/Program Description

The purpose of this project is to repair, renovate, and strengthen school facilities that sustained significant damage from recent hurricanes, including Hurricane Idalia. Many school buildings suffered roof leaks, water intrusion, HVAC damage, and infrastructure deterioration as a result of storm impact and prolonged exposure to high moisture and wind conditions. These issues have created unsafe and inefficient learning environments, disrupting educational continuity and increasing maintenance demands. By restoring and upgrading these facilities, the district will ensure that students and staff return to a safe, functional, and storm-hardened environment. The project supports the district's mission to provide uninterrupted, high-quality education and safeguards the community's investment in public infrastructure by reducing future storm-related repair costs.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Education

State Agency contacted? No

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	2,715,000
Total State Funds Requested	2,715,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	2,715,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	2,715,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? No

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.



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Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

10. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

☐ Planning ☒ Design ☐ Construction ☐ N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

07/01/2026

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/01/2026

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

The school district will maintain and operate.

11. List the owners of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.

Taylor County School District

12. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Fence and gate replacement across the District New doors at Middle & High School Update fire alarm system at Elementary School Four new air handlers at High School New flooring Re-wire Middle School Covered walkway at Primary School Replace lights at softball field Student desks & chairs	2,715,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		2,715,000

13. Program Performance

a. What specific purpose or goal will be achieved by the funds requested?



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The funds will be used to address critical facility needs, including the repair, renovation, and modernization of aging school infrastructure. The goal is to ensure that all facilities provide safe, efficient, and conducive learning environments for students and staff while meeting health, safety, and accessibility standards.

b. What activities and services will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?

Project activities include HVAC replacements, plumbing and electrical upgrades, and renovations to classrooms, restrooms, and common areas. Funds will also support safety enhancements such as security systems, lighting upgrades, and emergency preparedness infrastructure improvements.

c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?

This project will directly benefit students, teachers, and community members by ensuring school facilities are safe, functional, and welcoming environments. Citizens will also benefit through improved access to community-use spaces such as auditoriums, athletic facilities, and meeting areas, supporting broader civic engagement and wellness initiatives.

d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?

The target population includes approximately 2300 students and 403 total staff members who utilize the facilities for educational, recreational, and civic activities annually.

e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?

Expected outcomes include improved building safety and energy efficiency, reduced maintenance costs, and enhanced learning and working conditions. Success will be measured by facility inspection reports, maintenance cost reductions, stakeholder surveys, and compliance with updated safety and accessibility standards.

f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for in the contract?

Withholding payments until project milestones are met or reduction of final payment if deliverables are not completed to the standards outlined in the contract.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster?

a. If Yes, what phase best describes the project?

- ☐ Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)
- ☐ Response (addressing the immediate and short-term effects of a natural disaster)
- ☒ Recovery (assisting communities return to normal operations, including rebuilding damaged infrastructure)

b. Name of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):

Hurricanes Idalia and Helene

15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?

- ☐ Yes, Applied
- ☐ Yes, Received
- ☒ No
- ☐ No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:



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b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:

16. Has the entity applied for or received state assistance for this project (other than this request)?

- ☐ Yes, Applied
- ☐ Yes, Received
- ☒ No
- ☐ No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, specify the program and state agency (ex. Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan, Department of Commerce):

17. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

18. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County

c. Organization Type

- ☐ For Profit Entity
- ☐ Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- ☐ Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- ☒ Local Entity
- ☐ University or College
- ☐ Other (please specify)

d. First Name Last Name

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number Ext.

19. Lobbyist Contact Information



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a. Name	<input type="text" value="Patrick E. Bell"/>
b. Firm Name	<input type="text" value="Capitol Solutions LLC"/>
c. E-mail Address	<input type="text" value="pbell@capitolsolutions.biz"/>
d. Phone Number	<input type="text" value="(850)544-0784"/>

The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.