



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

Senator Stan Rosenberg, President Pro Tem
Hampshire and Franklin District
Room 320
617.722-1532
Fax: 617.722.1062

District Office
1 Prince St.
Northampton, MA 01060
413.584.1649
Fax: 413.582.0113

Stan.Rosenberg@state.ma.us

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CONTACT: Tom Mitchell
413-587-6289

**ROSENBERG ANNOUNCES \$45,000 GRANT FOR
FRANKLIN COUNTY SCHOOL STUDY GROUP**

State Senator Stan Rosenberg (D-Amherst) announced that the state Department of Education has awarded \$45,000 to the ad hoc Franklin County School Study Group to help it begin implementing some of its cost-saving proposals.

The Franklin County School Study Group, composed of the Franklin County legislative delegation, the county's superintendents and municipal officials, including the Greenfield Mayor and various selectboard members, and representatives from Greenfield Community College and the Franklin Regional Council of Governments, have been working for the last several months to devise a strategy to address the financial issues that affect Franklin County schools.

The money from the Department of Education will enable the group to start implementing cost-saving measures in such areas as transportation and cooperative purchasing.

"This money will enable us to continue our work as we pursue our ultimate goal -- a long-term strategic vision and educational model that creates schools and districts in Franklin County that are economically viable and efficient while still delivering quality education programs and services to all students," Rosenberg said. "This is challenging, and it's gratifying to know that the Department of Education is supportive of our efforts."