



News from
State Representative Franco Coladipietro

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 11, 2008

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**Coladipietro Advances Legislation Releasing
Promised School Construction Dollars**

Bloomington ... With the unanimous passage of House Bill 4130, the House is one step closer in fulfilling a promise the state had given to Community Consolidated School District 93 along with 22 other school districts across this state on funding their school construction program.

“It has been five years since the state promised these school districts their grants. Hopefully, this will be the last action needed to release these dollars. I can only hope that the Senate will quickly pass this legislation so these schools can finally complete or in some cases start their infrastructure projects,” said State Representative Franco Coladipietro (R-Bloomington).

Community Consolidated School District 93 has yet to receive a single penny of the \$1,554,822 in school construction grants it was promised back in FY2002. Back in August, House Republicans were instrumental in getting \$150 million included in the supplemental appropriation bill to pay for the school construction grants. However after the bill signing, the Governor announced that the school districts would not be receiving the funding because they failed to submit updated paperwork.

“These school districts have done nothing wrong. It’s completely unacceptable that the Governor would pull funding because of a perceived technicality,” Coladipietro said. “The sad thing is that you have a whole generation of kids that have already gone through these elementary schools – unable to experience larger or new classrooms or even a new addition that could have been used for a new library or gymnasium.”

Community Consolidated School District 93 received letters of entitlement from the State Board of Education and Capitol Development Board indicating their grant award from the state. Coladipietro stated that back in August the House Republicans had sent a letter to the Governor calling on him to reconsider his decision and fund the \$150 million school construction grant program.

House Bill 4130 unanimously passed the House and now advances to the Senate for further consideration. For additional information, Rep. Coladipietro can be contacted at (630) 582-0045.

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