

TROY A. CARTER, SR.  
2ND DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & COMMERCE  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
HEALTH  
ENVIRONMENT  
COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY  
  
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS  
1ST VICE CHAIR

DEPUTY WHIP

DEMOCRATIC STEERING  
& POLICY COMMITTEE

May 2, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-305, the Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the "School-within-a-School" Project in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is Engaged Learning Strategies, located at 610 Belle Terre Blvd, LaPlace, LA 70068. The funding would be used to support a school-within-a-school program that is designed to re-engage at-risk and disengaged middle school students. Aligned with Louisiana state standards, the program delivers rigorous instruction in math, science, ELA, and social studies, using individualized support, collaborative learning, and real-world career connections. It includes full professional development for staff and provides all necessary classroom furniture, technology, curriculum materials, and consumable supplies. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it improves students outcomes in academics, workforce, and employability post graduation. Fostering growth in our youth decreases drop-out rates, while bolstering community stability, and ensures a pipeline of dedicated and educated Orleans Parish community members, diverting them from the criminal justice system.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) program, section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Troy A. Carter, Sr.  
Member of Congress