

Michael P. Collins, P.E., Commissioner of Public Services

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Tim Howland-Director Public Schools Division

Public Schools Division of DPS

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To Whom It May Concern:

Please let this letter serve as an unbiased testimony of support for Bay State Textiles. We initiated our program approximately five years ago amid speculation that there would be problems with the collection receptacles, issues of timely collection, and labor efforts by Beverly Public Schools staff to maintain and pick up of overflow.

I can without any equivocation state here that none of the initial concerns ever occurred. It has genuinely been a seamless transition from the start. We have a total of 14 collection boxes throughout the district that have collected approximately 550,000 pounds of unwanted clothing. This program generated revenues (\$28,000.00) since inception that replenish budgeted school line items throughout the district.

This one program bolsters Beverly's status as a "Green" community, and reinforces general student curriculum on sustainability initiatives.

Bay State Textiles has done an outstanding job maintaining our program, with absolutely no help from the public school staffing, union or management.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Howland

**Public Schools Division Director**