

The Public Schools of
NORTHBOROUGH and SOUTHBOROUGH

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
53 PARKERVILLE ROAD – SOUTHBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS 01772
TELEPHONE (508) 486-5115 FAX (508) 486-5123 www.nsboro.k12.ma.us

GREGORY L. MARTINEAU
Superintendent of Schools

KEITH T. LAVOIE
Assistant Superintendent of Operations

STEFANIE K. REINHORN, Ed.D
Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

June 8, 2021

Dear Members of the Southborough Community:


Over the past decade, the Town and School District have had many discussions about school building use in light of the need to make long-term plans for capital expenditures. In the fall of 2020, the Town of Southborough's Capital Planning Committee - School Research Subcommittee was formed. The Subcommittee is comprised of members from the Town's Capital Planning Committee and the Southborough School Committee. Its purpose is to take a collaborative approach to evaluating municipal and school facility needs.

Since the Subcommittee was formed, several steps have been taken. A student enrollment projection study was completed by an education-planning non-profit firm, the New England School Development Council (NESDEC). Given the importance of enrollment projections, a comparative study from an independent demography firm has been commissioned. A full facilities assessment survey of the Neary school has been completed in light of that building's significant short-term capital investment needs. The School District also is in the process of reviewing school building use and grade configurations using current and projected student enrollment levels, while the Town has conducted a preliminary analysis of the suitability of the Neary and Woodward school buildings for other municipal purposes.

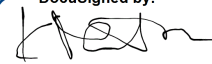
In addition, as enrollment projections and school building needs are being evaluated, the District is also submitting a Statement of Interest (SOI) to the Massachusetts School Building Authority's (MSBA) Core Building Program in connection with the Neary school building. The MSBA Core Building Program is a non-entitlement, competitive program, and grants are distributed based on need and urgency. (Recently, the boiler at the Finn school was updated through MSBA's similar Accelerated Repair Program.) The MSBA Core Building Program process occurs over multiple years and includes several phases. In order to be considered for the initial phase, Eligibility, the District's SOI will articulate the Neary school building's current and upcoming needs (i.e., roof, windows, electrical system, heating, and cooling, etc.). If the District is accepted into the Program, a complete assessment of the District's operations - including current and proposed educational facilities, teaching methodology, grade configurations, and program offerings - will occur over the following nine months. The analysis includes a broad scope of options, including renovating, designing new, and consolidating schools.

As this work and analysis occur over the upcoming months and years, all meetings of the Subcommittee are open to the public for those interested in keeping apprised of progress or providing feedback. We assure members of the Southborough community that as plans or options become more defined, there will be ample opportunity for the public to vet the options and the pro/cons associated with each, including any potential financial cost.


Respectfully Submitted,

DocuSigned by:


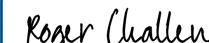
Jason Malinowski, Chair
Southborough Capital Planning Committee-
School Research Subcommittee

DocuSigned by:


Keturah Martin, Member
Southborough Capital Planning Committee-
School Research Subcommittee

DocuSigned by:


Kathryn Cook, Member
Southborough Capital Planning Committee
School Research Subcommittee

DocuSigned by:



Roger Challen, Chair
Southborough School Committee

DocuSigned by:


Lisa Braccio, Chair
Southborough Board of Selectmen

DocuSigned by:


Gregory L. Martineau
Superintendent of Schools

DocuSigned by:


Mark Purple, Town Administrator
Town of Southborough