

Neary Building Committee - Announcement

On August 12, 2024, the Neary Building Committee voted unanimously to submit a Preferred Schematic Design Report for a **new four-grade school (Grades 2-5)** to the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) later this month. The MSBA Board of Directors will vote on approval of the Report this fall. MSBA approval is required for the project to proceed into the Schematic Design Phase.

If approved by the MSBA, the NBC, in conjunction with the project's owner's project manager and designers, will work through the Schematic Design Phase with the intention of bringing an article forward to a Special Town Meeting in/around April 2025.

In reaching its recommendation, the NBC focused on the following:

- educational vision
- reduction of the number of student transitions, and
- the economy of scale with a four-grade school as compared to a two-grade school

It is critical that the public continue to engage in this process and provide feedback at regular intervals along the way.

The project cost has been a significant topic of conversation and will continue to be as the process moves forward. The estimated town share of this project is currently estimated at \$84M. ***This number continues to be an estimate that will be refined as the project work continues leading up to the town meeting vote.*** For the average home in Southborough (\$900K assessed value), the current estimated tax impact once the full project is fully bonded (FY29) is an increase of \$1,207 annually. As a point of comparison, for a \$600K assessed value, the current estimated tax impact once the full project is fully bonded (FY29) is an increase of \$811 annually. The estimated tax impact is for this project only.

We appreciate the feedback received to date and will work tirelessly as a Committee and school administration to bring forward responsible plans for consideration that will serve the community well for the next 50 years.

Jason Malinowski, Neary Building Committee Chair

Gregory Martineau, Superintendent of Schools