

EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EASTON, MA

EASTON SCHOOL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 20, 2017

Minutes of School Planning Committee Meeting, September 20, 2017, Richardson Olmsted School, 101 Lothrop Street, Professional Development Room, convened at 6:10 p.m. Present: Dr. Cabral, Jane Martin, David Twombly, Ann Weintrob, Ben Hampton, Caroline O'Neill, Connor Read, David Field, Rebecca Tellyer and Thomas Brussard.

Call Meeting to Order:

Jane Martin called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Minutes 8/16/2017:

On a motion by Mr. Brussard, second by Dr. Cabral, with an 8-0 vote, the School Planning Committee approved the 8/16/2017 minutes with changes.

MSBA Updates:

Chair Martin said that Mr. Twombly, Theresa Skinner, Stephanie Danielson and Dr. Cabral attended a meeting on September 14th at the MSBA to discuss enrollment updates, confirm the District's progress and project status, and understand and confirm the next steps.

Dr. Cabral said the feasibility portion of the project will determine what's feasible in terms of the site and the building itself, such as the grades in it and the projected number of students.

Throughout the feasibility phase, The School Planning Committee will work with the OPM to ensure that we involve educators and the community to develop a configuration proposal(s). This phase will include architects and engineers who will investigate the configurations and determine the feasibility of alternative configurations. She continued that when the district turned in the application for the eligibility period, they had submitted four configurations, which came from the Visioning Committee's work that was done in November of 2014 through Dore and Whittier. MSBA accepted the four configurations but asked the District to limit the configurations because going forward, it would be too costly to study the feasibility on four options and multiple sites. MSBA prefers that the district comes up with one or two building configurations and one or two sites.

The four configurations recommended in our submittal to the MSBA are:

1. Three Schools PK-2 (new Center, Parkview and Moreau Hall as is)
2. One district-wide School PK-2 (maintaining small communities with the possibility of two schools – PK-K and Grades 1 and 2 within one building)
3. Two Schools PK-2 (renovated Center; Parkview as is and Moreau Hall offline)
4. Two Schools (new Center grades 1 and 2, Parkview as is with grades PK and K, Moreau Hall offline)

The Committee discussed the four options, the challenges and benefits of each.

Next Steps in Light of MSBA Updates:

It is necessary for Dr. Cabral to respond to the MSBA within the next three weeks. This response must indicate the grade configuration options and site options that School Planning will recommend exploring through the feasibility phase of the project.

On a motion by Mr. Read, seconded by Mr. Brussard, the School Planning Committee agreed to advance two options to the MSBA for feasibility consideration. The two options are a new PK-2 Center School with the existing population and the other option is one PK-2 building with the configuration to be determined, vote passed 8-0.

Dr. Cabral said that she is meeting with David Twombly and David Fields tomorrow to discuss the sites. She said she will update the Committee on the status of that meeting at the next School Planning Meeting.

On a motion by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. O'Neill, with an 8-0 vote, the School Planning Committee is proposing that they forward the current Center School site and the current Parkview School site as the two possible sites to put forth to the MSBA for the project pending successful review of the sites at the meeting tomorrow.

Chair Martin said that the School Planning Committee will have two meetings before the Town Meeting. The first is scheduled for October 18th (our regularly scheduled meeting) which will be held at 6:00 PM in the Professional Development Room at Richardson Olmsted School. The School Planning Committee can also add a meeting prior to town meeting if necessary.

Dr. Cabral said that she has a joint staff meeting with all the PK-2 schools on September 26th and will update them on the School Planning Committee's work to date. She said at that meeting she will explain the four choices and why it was voted down to two choices.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Ms. Tellyer, seconded by Mr. Hampton, with an 8-0 vote, the School Planning Committee meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Jane Martin
Secretary