

School Facilities Study Committee

Minutes

Monday, June 27, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Present:

School Facilities Study Committee: Lou Pear, Eileen Moynihan, Kerry Darby, Scott Nicol, Meg Scata, David Murphy

Others Present: Charles Britton (Superintendent of Schools), Carl Johnson (Director of Buildings & Grounds), Ryan Walstrom (Principal-Gildersleeve School) Michael Sorano (Friar Architecture)

Absent: Michael Hernandez, Robert Hetrick & Peter Filanda

1. Call to Order

Lou Pear called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

2. Review Agenda

Motion to accept the agenda made by Meg Scata, seconded by Kerry Darby, unanimously approved, motion carried.

3. Accept the Minutes of May 9, 2022 Meeting

Motion to accept the minutes from the May 9th meeting made by David Murphy, seconded by Scott Nicol, unanimously approved, motion carried.

4. Review Focus Group Thoughts

- Notes were provided from the focus groups that Lou Pear and Charles Britton met with. At the time of this meeting they had met with 6 focus groups including staff from all the schools, and a joint PTO group.
- The consensus of the groups includes: reduce elementary schools to one or two, sell Gildersleeve School, one school is too large, grade configuration varies among the groups, and these groups were mixed as to where to place grade 6. Parents like that 6th grade has recess.
- At each focus group meeting the consensus is that whichever model is selected that a structured separation of 5& 6th grade students from Pre-K to 3 students occur. Any facility modification should create high quality academic space, contribute to a positive school climate, prioritize the health & safety of students & staff, improve air quality(HVAC), energy efficient, include capacity for enrollment increases, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant, to name a few. These will be addressed in the Ed Spec that will be completed during this process.
- Charles Britton explained that he asked the Board of Selectmen for an extension for the committee report that is due June 30, 2022 and received the extension to October, 2022.
- Further discussion followed

5. Upcoming Focus Groups/Meetings

- 6 more focus group meetings have been scheduled in July and there will be a presentation at the Board of Education meeting in August
- The committee suggested that focus group meetings be held at Bartlett Hill, Quarry heights, Grandview Terrace and with the Lions/Exchange clubs

6. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Scott Nicol, seconded by Eileen Moynihan, unanimously approved, motion carried, meeting adjourned at 8:21pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Paternostro, Recording Clerk