

OLD COLONY REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

**476 North Avenue
Rochester, MA 02770**

**Wednesday
February 19, 2025**

SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Present: Mrs. Maureen Townsend, Mr. Robert Gomes, Mrs. Shirley Bourque, Mrs. Debbie Quin, Mr. Christopher Plonka, Mr. Robert Marshall, Mr. Stephen Lombard, Mr. Scott Weigel, Mr. David Hughes, Mr. Aaron Polansky, Superintendent-Director; Mr. Gary Linehan, Principal; Mrs. Sarah Griffith, Business Manager, Mr. Robert Souza, Facilities Director

Absent: Mr. Michael Lorenzo, Mr. Mark Townsend, Mr. Brian Day, Mrs. Elizabeth Sulger, Mr. Eldaro Amaral, Mr. David Wojnar, Mr. Robert Field, Mr. Neil Regis

Also: PMA Consultants: Mr. Chad Crittenden, Mr. Walter Hartley Jr., Mr. Mark Adrean
HMFH Architects: Mr. Bobby Williams, Ms. Suni Dillard, Ms. Tina Stanislaski

Mrs. Bourque called the meeting to order at 6:23 p.m.

Mrs. Bourque stated due to the lack of a quorum the meeting would be informational in nature and no votes could be made unless other members of the School Building Committee arrived.

Mrs. Bourque turned the meeting over to Mr. Hartley.

Mr. Hartley gave an update on the cashflow and stated the project is still on track and reviewed the MSBA Process Timeline showing the project entering the Schematic Design Phase.

Mr. Hartley stated the Board of Directors Meeting for the project is scheduled for Wednesday, February 26, 2025 via zoom and stated it is part of the process and a formality.

Mr. Hartley turned the meeting over to Ms. Dillard to provide the Designer update to the Committee.

Ms. Dillard reviewed the Designer Workplan – Schematic Design schedule with the Committee and upcoming meetings.

Ms. Dillard reported the preliminary planning of multiple outdoor spaces to be utilized by the staff, students and community have started.

Ms. Dillard reviewed the overall shape, size and three-dimensional form of the building, floor plans and slight changes, roofing shape and other physical aspects of the building.

Mr. Marshall inquired about the water conversation with the Town of Middleboro and the status.

Mr. Hartley stated the MOA is with the Town and he has not heard any concerns but will reach out to get an update and share out at the March meeting.

Ms. Dillard stated a conversation will be had with the Rochester Town Planner to discuss the curb cut within the next month.

Ms. Dillard reviewed the 3-d model of the building which included the shape, roof dimensions, exterior siding as well as interior colors, natural light etc.

Mr. Souza requested the use of wood as an exterior option be minimized due to the cost of maintenance over time.

Ms. Dillard stated there will be more conversations regarding the exterior and interior features of the building as the process continues along with internet and cellular access. Ms. Stanislaski stated they will meet with Police and Fire Departments to have discussion regarding their needs when it comes to the building project including radio coverage and access.

Ms. Dillard reviewed the changes in the floor plan which are listed below:

- **Angle of construction wing**
- **Courtyards**
- **Carpentry moved to end of construction wing**
- **Related classrooms moved to exterior wall for light access**
- **Music moved to back of stage**
- **Teacher planning space more central**
- **Front entrance shifted to avoid walking into cafeteria**

- **Superintendent and Business offices moved to athletic wing**

Mr. Weigel entered the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Ms. Dillard stated the second floor hasn't changed significantly besides the addition of a stairwell from the athletic area to the health and wellness wing.

Ms. Dillard stated the first Sustainability Workshop went very well and shared the focus areas that were created by the groups in that meeting which are as follows:

- **Change & Discovery**
- **Water & Ecosystems**
- **Equitable Communities & Wellbeing**
- **Energy & Integration**
- **Resources & Economy**

Ms. Dillard stated goals were created which spanned across all categories and at the next workshop the focus will be on creating strategies to obtain those goals

Ms. Dillard reviewed other schools and how they incorporated their goals set in their Sustainability Workshops into their building projects

The meeting was turned back over to Mrs. Bourque to conduct the votes.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Robert Marshall and seconded by Mr. David Hughes, it was unanimously

Voted: To approve the January 13, 2025 School Building Committee minutes

7 – Yes

2 – Abstain (D. Quin, M. Townsend)

**8 – Absent (M. Lorenzo, Mark. Townsend, B. Day, D. Wojnar, E. Sulger,
E. Amaral, N. Regis, R. Field)**

On a motion duly made by Mr. Robert Gomes and seconded by Mr. Mark Townsend, it was unanimously

Voted: To approve outstanding invoices.

7 – Yes

2 – Abstain (D. Quin, M. Townsend)

8 – Absent (M. Lorenzo, Mark. Townsend, B. Day, D. Wojnar, E. Sulger, E. Amaral, N. Regis, R. Field)

The below funding options were reviewed with the Committee:

- **M.G.L c71 s16(d) – School Committee votes to incur debt**
- **M.G.L. c71 s16(n) – School Committee calls for district-wide election**

Each option was reviewed with the Committee and it was stated that debt exclusions still require a vote in each community where applicable to fund their portion of an approved project with both options.

Mr. Polansky stated s16(d) is a town by town vote whereas s16(n) is a 51% majority vote by the towns and both the school and debt exclusion vote will be on one ballot.

There was discussion regarding the importance of educating the townspeople on the method of funding chosen which will be part of the road show.

Mrs. Bourque asked if the funding option chosen is 16(n) would it require a town meeting.

Mr. Hartley stated it would not require a town meeting and would go straight to a ballot.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Robert Marshall and seconded by Mr. David Hughes, it was unanimously

Voted: To recommend M.G.L c71 s16(n) as the vote for the funding mechanism for the building project to the School Committee.

Mr. Hartley reviewed next steps with the Committee.

Mr. Polansky invited PMA and HMFH to the school committee meeting on Wednesday, February 26, 2025 to give an update.

There was a discussion regarding the full PD day on March 5th and visits to schools.

Mr. Polansky stated a google form would be created with multiple visit dates and list of schools.

The next School Building meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Library.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Mrs. Jolene Costa
District Secretary**

Mrs. Shirley Bourque, Chairperson

Date