

The Concord Middle School Building Committee Report

Committee Reconvenes to Resume Work on Feasibility Study

The Concord Middle School Building Committee (CMSBC) met on December 10 and January 7 to resume their work on the Feasibility Study approved by Concord Town Meeting. The CMSBC is charged by the Select Board to undertake a feasibility study that explores the construction of a single new middle school building at the Sanborn site to replace the two existing facilities. The Committee will begin the schematic design process for a new school building based on the findings of the feasibility study. Completing the feasibility analysis and a schematic design will give residents the information necessary to make an informed decision on funding the middle school construction project at a future Town Meeting.

The Committee used the meetings to review the work completed prior to the COVID related pause as well as the project goals. These goals include:

- An aspiration budget of approximately \$100 million; with construction cost of approximately \$80 million
- Consolidate Peabody and Sanborn Middle Schools on Sanborn Middle School site
- Design enrollment 700 Students; Grades 6-8
- Team Teaching Model
- Consider sizing Gymnasium for more than Middle School use
- Consider including Auditorium for more than Middle School use
- Design for Netzero Ready; consider ultra-low energy design

Committee members also discussed the process, tasks, schedule, and how to garner community input for key decisions necessary for the completion of the feasibility study. The current schedule calls for completing the feasibility study in May.

During the next several weeks, the Committee members will be focused on several aspects of the proposed building including the education plan, the building mass/size, building materials, the approach to sustainability, and program elements such as the auditorium and gymnasium while being cognizant of the project budget. As part of the process to analyze these projects elements, the Committee will host public forums and Committee members encourage interested individuals to participate in the process by attending the forums as well as Committee and subcommittee meetings to offer input.

When completed, the Feasibility Study will include the important information such as the education plan, enrollment projection, the program and square-footage of the building, site conditions and constraints, building materials and massing, a preferred construction delivery method and a budget for both construction and soft costs.

New Co-Chair

Committee members voted to have Pat Nelson serve as Co-Chair of the Concord Middle School Building Committee. Pat has previous experience serving on a building committee for the Willard School. She was elected Co-Chair to serve along with Co-Chair Dawn Guarriello after Tim Hult announced that he would be stepping back from the role. Pat had been serving as the Committee's Vice-Chair.

Upcoming Meetings:

Sustainability Subcommittee: January 13, 2:30 pm via remote participation

Design Subcommittee: January 15, 2:30 pm via remote participation

Community Forum: January 25, 5:00 pm via remote participation

Concord Middle School Building Committee: February 11, 7:30 am via remote participation

All meetings are available via Zoom to the public and interested individuals are encouraged to participate remotely.

Concord Middle School Building Committee Contact Information

Interested individuals can find all relevant materials regarding the Concord Middle School Building Committee including meeting dates, agendas and minutes as well as reports that led to the Town Meeting Warrant Article at www.concordps.org/cms-building-project. For questions and comments, individuals can email the Committee at msbc@concordps.org or utilize the form on the aforementioned web page, <https://www.concordps.org/cms-building-project/email-the-cms-building-committee/>.