

Re-envisioning our School Facilities

Minutes

March 28, 2023

1. Attendance: Jean Wall (JW); Elizabeth Deneeve (ED), Glenn Johnson-Moussad (GJM) Jake Waldsmith (JaW); Karin Patenaude (KP); Christine DeBarge (CD)

Members of the public were in attendance

2. Review of transportation for Option 1

- a. JaW shared the following:

- i. Option 1 –

1. May need extra buses
2. May need staggered drop off/pick up windows to allow various scenarios for pick up and drop off structures
 - a. If all schools start at the same time, we may need more buses
 - b. Bus company may or may not have added buses if needed
 - c. District could accommodate additional staff to supervise during arrival and dismissal but would require additional funding
3. Consideration of in-town routes such as previous walkers and now need to ride or the other way
4. Could work around these creatively likely but may need to work on these options
5. School Committee policy for riders/walkers should be reviewed
 - a. Reviewed SC policy briefly for discussion
6. Some areas in town may result in crowded buses
7. Some routing may cause added time to bus ride
8. Longer bus rides may result in some behavioral concerns

Some discussion about possible next steps for data gathering:

- Discuss with unions regarding potential changes
- Consider cost for before and after school supervision
- Explore possible availability for added bus

3. Added Option (redistrict and grade 5)
 - a. Move Leyden Woods into Four Corners area
 - b. Move Oak Courts to Federal Street area

- c. Greenfield Gardens remain at Newton
 - i. Based on current year enrollment
 - ii. 289 at FC; 211 NS; 241 at FSS
 - iii. Planned Operating Capacity per NESDEC for Four Corners was 261
 - iv. The numbers used for this current projection were current year. If the SC is interested we can explore greater
 - v. Possible impact on Intradistrict Choice in future due to change in building enrollment

ED have we considered having some buildings K – 5 and some K – 4. Not sure if this is an option but just sharing ideas.

JW shared at some point our students will have a change in what they know and current system.

GJM shared that when we are faced with choices that are balanced with pros/cons it may be an indication that we just need to make a choice.

Do we rank the problems we are trying to address to ensure we address the greatest priorities as a full Committee?

Subcommittee moves to have the Superintendent continue to investigate both of these options: Option 1 and Option 2B.

- 4. Superintendent shared some information with building option from discussion with MSBA
- 5. Superintendent has information about Green River MSBA project and is still reading. She will provide an update at the next School Committee meeting
- 6. Next steps:

Superintendent will continue to investigate options 1 an 2B

We will have another subcommittee meeting to review the update

Supt will share options with staff for feedback

Present into to full Committee in May

- 7. Public Comment
 - a. No public comment
- 8. Motion to adjourn
 - a. ED – yes; GJM – yes; ED - yes