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BUILDING A FOUNDATION FOR LEARNING

The Medfield School Building Committee has been formed to create a plan to provide an updated elementary school for the children, community and elementary staff of Medfield. With representation from different town committees and demographics, the MSBC aims to put forth and execute on a plan to address the concerns with our current grade 4-5 building, the Dale Street School.

The Dale Street School was built in 1942 as a high school. It was called the Hannah Adams Paff High School. In 1961 a new high school was built on Pound Street and the Hannah Adams Paff High School became an elementary school called The Dale Street School. In 1963 a major addition was added onto the Dale Street School including a cafeteria and ten classrooms. Modulars were added in 2000 to accommodate an increase in the elementary school population.

Some of the current concerns with the Dale Street School are:

- Small classrooms
- Leaking roofs
- Outdated systems: heating, plumbing, electrical and kitchen equipment
- Inadequate spaces (meeting space, music classrooms, special education breakout space)
- Limited access for students with disabilities (not ADA compliant)
- Asbestos

Project Highlights

- ★ New committee was formed in February 2023. Participation to date includes 9 full School Building Committee meetings and 9 Communications Subcommittee meetings.
- ★ Reviewed materials and plans from former SBC to understand work completed for the first town proposal.
- ★ Partnered with the School Committee, Select Board and School Administration on a new Statement of Interest (SOI) to MSBA to request project funding
- ★ Sought input from the Warrant Committee chair to understand financial modeling associated with a potential project. See <https://tinyurl.com/Newdaleschool> to watch the presentation.
- ★ Received approval at town meeting for funding to support SBC progress and early feasibility study work
- ★ Formed communications subcommittee

- ★ Generated town wide survey to gather feedback on topics of importance and priorities
 - Received 1112 responses from the community
 - Most important considerations from citizens include: Educational Programs, Cost, Location, and MSBA Funding
 - See <https://tinyurl.com/NewDaleSurvey> for full survey results
- ★ Visited neighboring community school to see the outcome of a building project (Foxborough)
- ★ Discussed available land options to continue evaluating

Project Next Steps for 2023

- Introduce committee to the community at Medfield Day
- Hold initial community listening and information sessions
- Explore and discuss possible building locations (renovation or new construction yet to be determined)
- Prepare for MSBA response (December)
- Continued visitation of other projects including new Ashland school

Committee Membership

Kristin Simonini School Committee appointment School Committee member	Mike Weber (Co-Chair) Select Board appointment Permanent Building Committee	Mather Eldred Town Moderator appointment Warrant Committee member
Michelle Kirkby School Committee appointment School Committee member	Teresa James Select Board appointment Planning Board member	Robert Meaney Town Moderator appointment
Meredith Chamberland (Co-Chair) School Committee appointment	Anthony Papantonis Select Board appointment	William Werner Town Moderator appointment
Robert Worth School Committee appointment	* <i>Select Board looking for a new SBC member. Contact Brittney Franklin @ Town House</i>	Carolyn Casey Town Moderator appointment

Contact Us

For more information and to stay involved with this process, we invite you to visit our website. Here you can sign-up to be notified of meetings, view past agendas and minutes, see survey results, and access any content and materials related to the project. We would love to see you at an upcoming meeting and hear your thoughts and inputs on this important community project!

<https://www.town.medfield.net/2148/School-Building-Committee>