

Name of Committee: Brookline School Population and Capacity Exploration (B-SPACE)

Meeting Date: June 17, 2013

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Town Hall,
School Committee Room

Committee Members - present marked with "x"			
Betsy DeWitt	x	Philip Kramer	x
Alan Morse	x	Bill Lupini	
George Cole	x	Michael Sandman	x
Katherine Craven	x	Rebecca Stone	
Lisa Crossley		Fred Wang	
Ken Goldstein	x	Neil Wishinsky	x
Mel Kleckner	x		

Staff Present: Peter Rowe, Deputy Superintendent of Schools

Topic: Approval of minutes

Minutes of the 6/10/13 meeting approved with several changes per Selectman Goldstein. 6/3 minutes not yet approved because submissions from Committee not yet received.

Topic: **Public Hearing Format.**

CoChairs DeWitt and Morse presented draft outline of hearing format, created by the team of Kramer, Wishinsky, DeWitt and Morse, for discussion. The idea is to attempt to create more of a dialogue, and to enable attendees to consider and compare the advantages and challenges of the various options. Upon entering hearing room each attendee would be handed a list of questions (see below) and two sets of color cards one for question responses, and one for questions to the Committee.

- Proposal outlined is to spend 30 minutes reviewing the main options for K-8 solutions and BHS expansion solutions, including rough preliminary cost estimates. Need to add full list of alternatives considered and rejected. While Concept School alternative has been rejected, several emails to Committee have requested reconsideration. Reasons for rejection need to be articulated.
- Committee felt that the decision-making “factors” should not be displayed until it is time for the questions. Then the hearing attendees should be asked as one of the questions to comment on our factors and their priority.
- After discussion it was agreed to present a sense of the tax effect regarding an override. Messrs. Goldstein and Sandman, volunteered to work with Messrs. Cronin, Rowe and McCabe to produce this image.
- Committee to present several questions (which were considered and revised-see revised list below) to which the attendees to consider and would be invited to respond. These questions would be divided in to the two basic issues, namely K-8 alternative solutions and BHS expansion alternative solutions, and posed in a manner to ask attendees for preferences between the alternatives being considered with the advantages and challenges for each option having been articulated as part of the question(s) Including the collection and collation of response cards, this section was estimated to take 1 hour, more than half of this to be spent on the K-8 options; Last 30 minutes would be devoted to responding to questions posed by attendees to the Committee, said questions already having been collated by general subject.

Possible Questions to Pose at Hearing (Revised 6/17)

K - 8. Any choice involves tradeoffs. We would like feedback on how you evaluate the 4 options below and balance the major tradeoffs. What is your view on each of these options:

1. Northeast (Possibly Amory) K-8

- Loss of Greenspace
- Minimizes Redistricting
- Location in population growth

2. Old Lincoln School K-8

- Proximity to Route 9 site not ideal for young children
- Site is constrained
- Minimizes Redistricting
- Location in population growth
- Loss of swing space

3. Baldwin K-8

- Easiest site to build on
- Maximizes redistricting
- Changes neighborhood model

4. Additions to existing K-8 Schools

- Potentially Minimizes Redistricting
- Potentially located in population growth
- Common Space (cafeteria, auditorium, etc.) needs may not be met
- Disruption during construction

Which do you prefer:

a. "Eight K-8s" Neighborhood School Option. **Cost estimated at least \$42 million**

Characteristics: requires additions/renovations to all existing schools; may crowd common spaces (cafeteria, library, fields/playgrounds, etc.); requires minimal redistricting. More dislocation during construction. May not actually be feasible due to timetable and MSBA financing requirements.

b. "Nine K-8s" One New School. **Cost estimated at least \$56 million**

Characteristics: at OLS or elsewhere; requires extensive redistricting (varies with potential site). Less construction dislocation. Assumes Town controls site

High School Questions

Note: BHS is currently at 1700 students and is projected to grow to 2500 in 2022, has a capacity of 2100 **IF** non-related uses (BEEP, Adult Ed and other programs) are moved to another location

a. 2500 students on one campus. **Cost estimated at least \$40 million**

Characteristics: large high school population/concerns about kids feeling "lost"; worsened parking and traffic; potential loss of Schluntz Gym or Tappan Street Gym/athletic facility.

b. Expanded BHS to include OLS. **Cost estimated at least \$20 million**

Characteristics: "satellite" campus, could be a concept program. May not be feasible due to distance, scheduling, staffing.

c. New 800 student HS at another site. **Cost estimated at least \$72 million** Characteristics: some joint programs, with shuttle buses; mostly separate school; may be good lab for innovation.

d. Change in scheduling/building use.

Characteristics: Double shifts, longer school day; could limit after-school programs/athletics

BHS. Which do you prefer:

- One 2500 student high school campus
- Expanded campus with OLS as satellite
- Two High Schools/locations:
 - 1 school with 1700 students,
 - 1 school with 800 students
- Would you be in favor of some form of scheduling or building use alternatives, such as 2 shifts at BHS, in order to reduce or eliminate building expansion costs.
- The cost of any expansion option would be subject to a Prop 2 ½ Override vote. Based on financial limitations, what options could most easily be eliminated?

Rank importance in order, with "1" being most important:

Model: K-8, 9-12

Model: K-7, 8-9, 10-12

Neighborhood schools (except BHS)

Minimize transitions

Topic: Compare and Evaluate Options Using CBA System:

Ms. Tsao was out of Town. Mr. Wishinsky had met with her in order to be able to facilitate this discussion. Under Mr. Wishinsky's leadership Committee was able to determine for which options and factors we had sufficient information to evaluate using our criteria ("YES"), for which the information gathering is in progress ("in progress"), and for which options we clearly did not have information ("no"). The results of this discussion are attached to these minutes.

6/24 B-SPACE PUBLIC HEARING PLANS

1. Introduction: Explain the agenda (Alan or Betsy)
 - 1.1. Brief description of CBA process. Incorporated in to our presentation below.
 - 1.2. List K-8 options to be discussed. Expansion at existing schools; OLS; Northeast; Baldwin each with redistricting map.
 - 1.2.1. Capital Cost expansion on 6 K-8 sites and for new school
 - 1.3. List k-8 options rejected. Lynch; Supermarket;
 - 1.4. Three BHS concepts plus New high school + capital costs. Single grade at OLS or 8/9 new building + costs.
 - 1.5. Financial Presentation
 - 1.6. Request for Responses to Our Questions
 - 1.7. Requests for questions to which B-SPACE committee will respond.
 - 1.8. Explain data still in process.
2. Detail, K-8 Options
 - 1.1. Expand on 6 K-8 sites; Lawrence, Pierce, Lincoln, Driscoll, Heath & Baker (Phillip)
 - 1.1.1. list pros and challenges. capital required, K-8 preserved vs time & MSBA support question
 - 1.1.2. Need 30 classrooms \$1.4 mil = \$42 mil by 2018x
 - 1.2. Sites, redistricting (Neil)
 - 1.2.1. OLS images HMFH + redist map
 - 1.2.2. Northeast/Amory. Image Pollak + redist map
 - 1.2.3. Baldwin. Image Pollak + redist map**
 - 1.2.4. Summary.
 - 1.2.4.1. Image map with all school sites highlighted**
 - 1.2.4.2. Image three redist maps side by side**
 - 1.2.4.3. Image redist graph for all options**
2. BHS Expansion (Phillip) **Image show BHS growth projections**
 - 2.1. Describe all three expansion concepts using one HMFH **image of the entire BHS campus.** Include the capital costs for each concept.
 - 2.2. New high School 800 students different from BHS capital cost \$72 mil
 - 2.3. OLS expansion for BHS
 - 2.4. 8/9 option 1300 students ??
3. Financial Summary (Peter, Sean) Note: all #s rounded to millions.
 - 3.1. Operating costs for student growth assuming 600 new K students each year annually, and total for the next 7 years
 - 3.2. capital cost **image listing the K-8 options in one column and the high school expansion options in the other, maybe then giving a range for the combination of both.** Entire concept needs to be designed by Peter/Sean in joint discussion
 - 3.3. Tax impact **Image, display tax impact**
Image, display all factors in order of priority

The Q & A section preparation

- Ask the public to write down their questions on the color cards and hand them in.
- Put our questions (**image needed**) up on the screen and ask people to be prepared to respond.

- Collect cards with questions to which responses are requested.
- Sort the cards so as to avoid duplication of questions.
- Ask public to address the questions on the screen. Estimate 10 questions would give us 6 minutes each to hear from our audience were we to allocate an hour to this.