

**MINUTES**  
**B-SPACE MEETING MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2013**  
**Selectmen's Hearing Room, Town Hall**

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

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of the July 29, 2013 meeting were approved unanimously.

Latest Redistricting Results

Mr. Goldstein, Ms. Stone and Mr. Wishinsky updated Committee on their findings of their redistricting re-examination last week. Redistricting impacts were reviewed using data based on the school attended, rather than home address of the student. Although the absolute numbers changed, the relative impact regarding Baldwin, OLS and Northeast site was the same, with Baldwin remaining most difficult. However in each case the result showed some improvement in the redistricting numbers. The subcommittee then examined the redistricting implications of the HMFH three K-8 renovations, Driscoll, Lawrence and Heath, plus one high school. They were disappointed to find that expanding at Heath created redistricting problems very similar to the Baldwin results.

This led to the subcommittee to de-emphasize Heath. Instead the review turned to the possibility of increasing the size of Devotion by up to 5 sections, and by concentrating on expansions at Driscoll up to 12 new sections, Lawrence or Pierce, and possible modular classrooms at Heath. Results of this plan showed a significant decrease in redistricting issues. Options considered include the possibility that a few modulars at Heath might take some pressure off Baker, combined with the possible shifting of some special school wide programs from the Northeast schools to Heath.

Discussion

The Committee then began a broad discussion covering possible second high school sites at Larz Anderson Park and the municipal golf course at Putterham, OLS as a K-8 site as a last resort, and a query as to the specific timeline for the above mentioned new 3 K-8 + 1 mix. The possibility of renovation or expansion at the Pierce School was mentioned as an additional option.

Committee Votes

Following this discussion, Co-Chairmen DeWitt and Morse proposed a series of proposed motions designed to formally narrow or eliminate the number of sites and the education configurations different from K-8 that have been considered by the Committee. After considerable discussion, the following motions passed:

## DRAFT

- I. **Moved** that the B-SPACE committee removes from consideration the following sites Amory Park, MAB, Worthington, Dummer Street, Lynch due to the private sites being unavailable for purchase or swap, and the public sites being unbuildable (according to HMFH and Town Counsel).

Motion to amend to add Dummer Street and to remove Larz Anderson from consideration.

Discussion: Has there been a full evaluation of Larz Anderson? It needs the same review as other park sites. It is one of very few sites where a high school could be built.

Agreed to hold a decision on Larz Anderson for more information.

Unanimous Favorable vote 8- 0

- II. **Moved** that the B-SPACE committee removes from consideration as a site for a new K-8 school both the Baldwin site and OLS based on the findings of the K-8 Subcommittee for the Baldwin site and the need to retain OLS as flexible space for other potential town and school needs.

Motion to amend to delete OLS. 4 yes and 4 no (failed for lack of majority)

Committee agreed to Hold the Motion until after additional discussion about retaining the option of having a K-8 at OLS.

- III. **Moved** that the B-SPACE committee acknowledges the educational and logistical challenges noted during exploration of the following options, and removes them from consideration as recommendations for a permanent change to the PSB:

1. 8-9 School
2. 8th grade or 6th grade single-grade school
3. Super K-8 using OLS as a second site for one larger K-8

Unanimous Favorable vote 8- 0

- IV. **Moved** Options for further discussion toward recommendations in priority order:

1. Expand at some K-8s (3+HS option) Favorable vote 8- 0
2. Two 7-12 high school(s) on sites to be determined. Favorable vote 8- 0
3. Expand a single 9-12 high school. Favorable vote 8- 0
4. Establish Early Childhood Centers. Favorable vote 8- 0
5. New K-8 School if other options are not feasible. Favorable vote 8-0
6. K-8 Concept school @ Baldwin site. Opposed vote 8- 0

Moved to reconsider Motion II

Passed unanimously

- V. **Moved** to amend that the B-SPACE committee remove from consideration as a site for a new K-8 school the Baldwin site.

Unanimous Favorable vote 8- 0

- VI. **Moved** that OLS be considered as a site only if all other options fail.

Unanimous Favorable vote 8- 0

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In summary, the committee agreed to further consideration of the following options:

- 1) Possible expansion at K-8 sites plus expansion at BHS
  - Devotion
  - Lawrence
  - Pierce
  - Driscoll
  - Lincoln
  - Heath
- 2) Possible construction of a new 7-12 high school plus renovation for 7-12 at the BHS campus
- 3) Possible expansion for grades 9-12 at BHS
- 4) Establishing Early Childhood Centers for Pre-K and Kindergarten
- 5) A new K-8 school if no other option is feasible

Sites that may be investigated and assessed for use for any of the options include:

- 1) Existing K-8 property
- 2) Baldwin/Soule for a high school
- 3) Larz Anderson Park for a high school
- 4) Old Lincoln School for high school expansion
- 5) Old Lincoln School for a K-8 school if all other options fail

Next Meeting

The Committee agreed to meet on next Monday August 12 at 5:30 PM with the objective of voting specific recommendations to be passed on the School Committee.