

October 2010

High School Building Committee Update

September was a very busy month for the HSBC. During the month, the committee met every Monday night (and frequently more often in sub-groups), making great progress in the design of both the inside and outside of the new building. The HSBC made these decisions with input from the community through two important and well-attended community events held in September.

On September 13, 2010, the HSBC held a forum at East Bridgewater High School, where the community was presented with the various benefits and challenges of the two potential sites for the new project – Leland Farms and the area behind the current high school. After much discussion with members of the community and the HSBC, the committee voted unanimously to locate the new school behind the current facility.

Many factors played a role in our decision, including:

- The ability to address long-standing septic issues of the “town complex” without the cost of designing and building two separate septic systems
- Appropriateness of the new project in the area of the town center
- Keeping the new school facility in close proximity to the other schools
- Revitalization of the area of the town center and its potential positive impact on the vitality and desirability of new industry and investment in the town of East Bridgewater

On September 30, 2010, the HSBC, as guests of the “A Better Community,” at the Commercial Club, presented its most up-to-date efforts. Approximately 300 people attended the event and the committee was presented with a conceptual version of the general direction of the project. The HSBC appreciated not only the overwhelming support expressed that evening, but also the many valuable comments and suggestions that were made. This input from the community has provided the HSBC with invaluable information, some of which has already resulted in changes in the overall design.

Moving forward, October and the months to follow will continue to be busy. As we get closer to the February town meeting and ballot vote, we have much work to complete.

We genuinely appreciate the community’s participation and enthusiasm as we proceed. It is vital for the HSBC to work *with* the community on this project and, therefore, your feedback is especially important. The committee encourages your continued communications and input.

Sincerely,
The HSBC