

# East Bridgewater High School Building Committee



## Meeting No. 14

Date & Time: 7:00 pm Monday 6 December 2010

Location: EBHS Library

### Attended (✓) Name, Affiliation

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#### East Bridgewater High School Building Committee

- ✓ David Floeck, Co-Chair
- ✓ Ryon Pratt, Co-Chair
- ✓ Patricia Coppola-Lugo
- ✓ Susan T. Cote
- ✓ Martin Crowley
- ✓ Domenic DeAngelo
- ✓ John Haines
- ✓ Thomas Hamilton

- ✓ Elizabeth Hayes
- ✓ George McCabe
- ✓ Theresa McNulty
- ✓ Cheryl Pooler
- ✓ Peter Spagone
- ✓ Paul Vieira
- George Samia

#### Finance Committee

- ✓ Bill Butts
- ✓ Martin Crowley
- ✓ Dave Foley
- ✓ Bill Jacques
- ✓ Kathryn Lane
- ✓ Nancy Smith
- ✓ Glenn Tattrie

#### Capital Needs Committee

- ✓ Gordon Hatfield
- ✓ Kathryn Lane
- ✓ George McCabe
- ✓ Cheryl Pooler
- ✓ Glenn Tattrie

#### RFWalsh Collaborative Partners:

- ✓ Joe Naughton
- Paul Kalous
- ✓ Allyson Toner
- Inger Hamre-Foley

#### Ai3:

- ✓ Scott Dunlap
  - Jim Jordan
  - Troy Randall
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The purpose of this meeting was to present the proposed New East Bridgewater 7-12 School to the Finance Committee and the Capital Needs Committee.

1. The meeting was called to order by Co-chair Ryon Pratt at 7:03PM.
2. Chief Pratt gave an overview for the Finance Committee and the Capital Needs Committee of why the town needs the new school and why this is a great opportunity for the Town of East Bridgewater. He explained what the HSBC has done to date and the events that will be occurring in the near future (i.e. Schematic Design Submittal, MSBA board meeting, Town Meeting, and Town Vote). Chief Pratt handed out the budget fact sheet and discussed project cost with participation of the MSBA and how the cost will impact the Town of East Bridgewater. If the town does not vote for approval of the proposed new school and issues at the current high school are not dealt with, East Bridgewater High School will lose NEASC accreditation. Chief Pratt also explained why the new school is a great solution to many of the town's issues including drainage and sewage of not just the high school, but of the surrounding town buildings.
3. RFWCP handed out the MSBA 3011 budget form. Joe Naughton discussed the project budget and the individual line items.

4. Gordon Hatfield from the Capital Needs Committee asked how the HSBC arrived at the town's share for the new school.
  - a. Scott Dunlap indicated that the construction cost of the school is based on a detailed cost estimate. The town's share was calculated based on MSBA's commitment to East Bridgewater. The reimbursement rate has been directly discussed with the MSBA and should not fluctuate more than ½%.
5. George McCabe explained what the new school will do for East Bridgewater's school system and the community. Full day kindergarten will soon be mandated at Central School and there is no space currently to accommodate these additional classrooms, the middle school is at capacity, and the high school is about to lose NEASC accreditation. The new school will allow Central School to accommodate pre-k through grade 2, the middle school will then accommodate grades 3-6, and the 7 & 8 grades will move to the new school with grades 9-12. Susan Cote indicated that there is not enough space for SPED classrooms and students are currently being sent to other districts at a high cost. The new school will provide special education students with appropriate classroom space. The new school will also allow for more flexibility in the school program for changing needs in the future. The 7 & 8 will still remain separated within the new school with separate entrances and separate classroom floors. Superintendent Cote also mentioned that East Bridgewater's NEASC accreditation has moved from warning to probation. NEASC is pending accreditation loss until the town vote for the new school, and if the new school is not approved then East Bridgewater will lose their accreditation. This will put students at a disadvantage when it comes time to apply for colleges. Many colleges and universities will not accept students from a school that is not accredited. The problems of the current high school are behind the walls of the building. The HVAC system is poor which greatly affects the air circulation, ventilation, and heating throughout the school. Electrical outlets are at maximum capacity especially in computer labs because there are so few in each classroom. This is a major safety issue that needs to be dealt with. Students deserve to be in a healthy and safe environment for learning and the current high school is not providing that.
6. Chief Pratt indicated the importance in recognizing the safety issues with the current high school. There have been numerous calls to the Fire Department that would have shut the school down if they had not occurred on a weekend or holiday. The Fire Department has had to work overtime just to get the school open in time so the students could return to school. It is only a matter of time before something occurs in the building where it will not be safe for the students to return.
7. Scott Dunlap indicated that some towns choose to invite the MSBA to their town meeting. If East Bridgewater decides to do so, the MSBA will discuss the model school program and why EB was selected to be a part of the program. The decision is based on the needs of the town and the available land. They also explain that if the town decides not to approve the project, the money will go to the next town on the list. Currently East Bridgewater is at the top of the list and the funds are readily available upon approval of the new school. The town has 120 days after the MSBA sends out the official agreement.
8. Site improvements are based on a detailed cost estimate and include anything 10 feet outside of the building itself. The waste water treatment plant is considered an alternate which means it is ineligible to be reimbursed by the MSBA, however, because it is being combined with the new school project, the cost is lower than if it were not.
9. Turf fields were discussed. Scott Dunlap indicated that all model schools have had the debate of whether or not to have synthetic turf fields. After discussing pros and cons, other model schools elected to go with turf fields based on hours of use. David Floeck indicated that turf fields are more practical because they can handle weather better than grass fields and can be used all winter long because they do not freeze, they are easier to maintain, and they provide an opportunity to be rented out to other towns and organizations which will generate funds for maintenance. The turf fields now have a 20 year warrantee and are a major community resource due to their value, multi-use, and ability to be used all day long. Cheryl Pooler indicated that the HSBC did a cost analysis' on turf vs. natural grass on the new school site and found that savings from reconstructing the fields

as grass fields rather than turf did not have significant savings. Because the turf field is an alternate, it can be easily adjusted later on if the committee decides to go with natural grass fields.

10. Gordon Hatfield asked how large is the entire site is. The site is a total of approximately 40 acres.
11. George McCabe asked Scott Dunlap to explain the drainage issue and how it will be solved by this project. Scott indicated that after a full geotechnical survey was performed on the site, (a requirement by the MSBA at this stage) results proved that the reason for flooding was not because of a high water table on the site, it was because of the way the site was designed originally. Development of the new site will allow drainage to be controlled, solving this issue entirely.
12. Scott Dunlap indicated that the waste water treatment plant on this site is a complete solution for waste water for all town buildings, not just the new school. The WWT is designed so the water is processed through the small building located on the high school site, but then infiltrated at the middle school. The geotechnical survey proved that this is the most economical way to solve this issue. The DEP is requiring the town to deal with the waste water issue immediately and believe the proposed waste water treatment plant is a solution to this problem. The WWT will also serve the Fire Department, Central Elementary School, and the Town Hall. All sidewalks from the high school to the middle school will be dug up for the WWT and replaced. Since the water will be infiltrated under the middle school parking lot, the parking lot will also be re-done. All of the site work associated with the WWT is included in the budget presented.
13. Gordon Hatfield asked: Will the Council on Aging building be affected?
  - a. There will be no impact on the Council on Aging building.
14. Kathy Lane asked: Does the budget include demo and haz/mat removal of the existing building?
  - a. Yes.
15. Peter Spagone indicated that if the new school does not get approved education will continue but the school will not be accredited. This is going to create more problems for the town that are larger than any building committee or school committee will be able to handle. Losing accreditation will not only affect the school and the students, but also the value of homes in the town and the reputation of the town as a whole. Susan Cote indicated that two years ago 60 students chose not to attend EBHS and 75 students last year. If accreditation is lost, East Bridgewater will be one of only a handful of districts in the state that are not accredited. Susan also indicated that East Bridgewater students deserve the opportunity to compete in society and have a school that is not only accredited but also a healthy and safe environment to learn. David Floeck indicated that teaching staff need to have the proper tools in order to teach. At Whitman Hanson there is an extremely low staff turnover and an extremely large pool of applicants consisting of experienced teachers who are interested in teaching at WH because it provides them with the proper tools they need to teach students. As a community Whitman Hanson takes pride in the new school and East Bridgewater will be able to do the same.
16. Ryon Pratt explained to the two committees that being a part of the model school program means that the town is on an accelerated process in order to save time and money but the only way this project is going to be successful is if the town supports the project. It is important for the committees of the town to understand and support the new school project in order for the rest of the community to do the same.
17. Martin Crowley indicated that the numbers presented on the 3011 budget form are numbers that have been developed from all of the information the HSBC has to date. Minor adjustments will be made before the official project scope and budget agreement is issued by the MSBA.
18. The Capital Needs Committee voted to support the plan submitted by the High School Building Committee for the New East Bridgewater 7-12 School as it stands today, going out in a debt exclusion.

- a. Motion – Cheryl Pooler
- b. Second – Kathy Lane
- c. Vote – 5-0 (unanimous)

19. The Finance Committee voted to support the plan submitted by the High School Building Committee for the New East Bridgewater 7-12 School as it stands today.

- a. Motion – Bill Jacques
- b. Second – Glenn Tattrie
- c. Vote – 7-0 (unanimous)

20. The committee voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:00PM.

- a. Motion – Tom Hamilton
- b. Second – Cheryl Pooler
- c. Vote – Unanimous

**Future Meetings/Events:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Location</b>
7 Dec 10	7:30 PM	HSBC/Board of Selectmen	Selectman's Office
9 Dec 10	6:45 PM	Kiwanis	T.J. Smiths
<i>10 Dec 10</i>		<i>Schematic Design Package Submittal to MSBA</i>	
13 Dec 10	7:00 PM	EBHSBC	EBHS Library
14 Dec 10	7:00 PM	EB Community Television	
20 Dec 10	7:00 PM	EBHSBC	EBHS Library
3 Jan 11	7:00 PM	EBHSBC	EBHS Library
10 Jan 11	7:00 PM	EBHSBC	EBHS Library
12 Jan 11	10:00 AM	MSBA Board of Directors	MSBA - Boston
19 Jan 11	7:00 PM	EBHSBC	EBHS Library
24 Jan 11	7:00 PM	EBHSBC	EBHS Library
31 Jan 11	7:00 PM	EBHSBC	EBHS Library
<b>7 Feb 11</b>		<b><i>TOWN MEETING</i></b>	
8 Feb 11	7:00 PM	EBHSBC	EBHS Library
9 Feb 11	7:00 PM	EBHSBC	EBHS Library
<b>12 Feb 11</b>		<b><i>TOWN VOTE</i></b>	

*These notes will become part of the project record as written, unless corrections or additions are received in writing within 6 days of distribution.*