

**Communication Committee
Meeting Minutes July 18, 2017**

Present: Holly J. P. Kopp, Ryan Palmer, Brad Smith, Donna Brunette

The following topics will be future updates to be posted as noted.

Update 1:

Construction Financing Reimburses Early Project Costs (By MSAD #75 Business Manager Mark Conrad)

Over the last two fiscal years the District's operating budget has included a total of \$550,000 to provide initial funding to plan for a new high school, establish a project budget, and bring it forward to the voters at referendum. With the approval of the project by the voters at the March 7, 2017 referendum the District can now move in obtaining the financing necessary to pay for the costs of construction.

As a first step in this process the District has now received a "bond anticipation note" which included funds to reimburse the District for the initial \$550,000 budgeted through the recent annual operating budgets. Those funds will now be available over time to fund District programs and services and/or minimize future increases in tax assessments to our four towns.

In the spring of 2019 the District will be able to issue a twenty-year bond for the full cost of the project. The annual cost of debt service (principal and interest payments) on the bond will be supported with both state and local funds, but will not have an impact on the District's operating budget for another two years.

Please note that this update could link to the FAQs as *1.3 How are pre-referendum costs reimbursed to the District?*, as suggested by Donna.

Please approve the above update for immediate posting.

Update 2:

Bid Opening for Early Site Work Delayed: In an effort to confirm information from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, the bids will open for early site work on the Mt. Ararat Athletic fields located adjacent the Mt. Ararat Middle School on July 20, 2017 with anticipated construction to begin in early August.

Please approve the above asap so we can post as an update to the prior posting about the bid timeframe.

Update 3:

Stay Connected to Design Updates for the New Mt. Ararat High School:

This topic will be a future update as soon as Brad receives sketches from PDT for the areas that are currently well developed (The Learning Commons, Main Offices, Band and Chorus, Science and Art are now close to their final form.) Once we have sketches, Ryan will write up a paragraph about the Learning Commons / Technology and we will post the sketch for the Learning Commons.

Currently, other design changes are in draft form only. Brad will ask PDT about the ability to post a virtual tour of interior spaces so that we are able to keep our community informed about the design of interior and exterior spaces.

Ryan's update about the design of the Learning Commons could appear in the FAQs as *2.4 What is the process for developing interior spaces? OR as an item in section 5 Learning Commons/Technology.*

As our FAQ's increase, we may need to change the format or structure so that the FAQs are not too overwhelming. Donna suggested that we could organize the FAQs into categories such as pre-construction, construction, post construction.

Also noted is the option for having the Clerk of the Works or a PDT representative post a weekly update about the project.

Update 4:

Percent Art Committee Announced for Mt. Ararat High School Project

The Building Committee needs to determine whether the two District representatives for the Percent for Art Committee will be representatives from staff only or representatives from staff and the larger community. The State will appoint local artists to the Committee. Once the Building Committee solicits and determines membership for the Percent for Art Committee, the Communication Committee can make the above announcement.

We may need to link this item to a FAQ section or place under misc.

Update 5:

Commissioning Agent Named for Mt. Ararat High School Project

Once the Commissioning Agent is named we will post an update/announcement.

This item could be linked to FAQ section 7 Sustainability/Building Systems?

Update 6:

Bid Awarded for Early Site Work on Mt. Ararat Athletic Fields

Once the bid for early site work is awarded we will make this announcement and publicize that Brunswick Landing Ventures, LLC partnered with the District in resolving an issue with a sewer line. Brad noted wanting to invite Brunswick Landing Ventures, LLC to a School Board Meeting in August.

This update could be linked to FAQ section 4 Athletics/PE

Update 7:

Publicize the easement agreement for the property line running adjacent to Route 201: This is not yet finalized and we will discuss publicizing the agreement when it is final.

The next meeting of the Communication Committee will be two weeks after the next Building Committee meeting, not the usual one week, due to scheduling conflicts. That said, we have several updates that can be posted in the coming weeks once information is finalized. Holly will continually

follow up on the status of **Updates 4-7**. **Updates 1 & 2** should be posted asap with **Update 3** to follow shortly once we have sketches and Ryan's Learning Commons piece.

Next Meeting: Tuesday August 17 at 10am