

Hampton Falls School District

Thursday, September 27, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Community Forum Minutes

Lincoln Akerman School – Library

8 Exeter Road, Hampton Falls

www.sau21.org

School Board Members present: Mark Lane; Chair, Pamela Miller, and John Bailly.
Administration present: Dr. Ronna Cadarette; Assistant Superintendent.
Absent: Greg Parish; Vice-chair, and Greg Marrow, Dr. William Lupini; Superintendent, Matt Ferreira; Business Administrator, Principal Beth Raucci, and Alan Lajoie; Facilities Manager.

At 6:00 p.m., Mark Lane called the Community Forum to **order** for the purpose of showing the renditions of what the new building will look like inside and outside, reviewing the building process and next steps.

The recording secretary arrived at the meeting at 6:40 p.m. Information was reviewed on the school recorded video to report the information presented from 6:00 p.m. to 6:40 p.m.

2. Building Project Update

The discussion began with the **first floor** of the new addition classroom space, music room, a boy's bathroom, a girl's bathroom, a single occupancy bathroom, and storage space.

To date, the project is currently under-budget by \$280,000. It is hoped that we can continue to come under budget throughout the entire project.

The Music Program is busy with 45 chorus students which include a Junior Chorus and a Lower Grade Chorus. There is a school band for the younger students and the older students.

Second Floor involves the corridor, stairwell, windows, stairwell exterior, and classrooms.

Additional school space will be used for additional enrichment classes, Smart boards will be included and can also be used as white boards. The roof is flat with internal drains, oil heat will be used, the bus pick-up and drop off will be in the same location.

Hallway colors are yellow and gold that are well-balanced and neutral with bulletin boards and white boards along the walls.

1. There is an elevator in the school that is controlled by a key.
2. Enrollment has decreased from 285 (a few years ago) to 218 (current) students.
3. Playground, parking lots are handicap accessible.
4. Special Education will utilize additional spaces.

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5. Competency Learning happens when students move forward when they are ready, enrichment opportunities for music, art, health, gym, flipped classrooms, additional needs and flexibility will benefit from additional space availability.
6. Class sizes are 15 – 17 students, and sixth grade students work together with fifth grade and seventh grade students.
7. Scheduled changes can be made to accommodate times that the music room is used or empty.
8. Maker Space is not in the current budget but is currently practiced in the Library.

Next Steps – CIP report

Gymnasium space is a phase included on the CIP report. Year one is to finish the gym space to include two bathrooms. We are looking to have a space that we need according to our budget.

A dedicated **cafeteria** space which will be large enough to hold some small performances and we have the old stage that can be used, and additional storage space for musical equipment. The Winnacunnet Auditorium is used for larger performances.

- ✚ Suggestions included to utilize a design professional who can look at what it takes to turn the classrooms into the cafeteria by proposing a specific floor, they know the products available and what is a good fit for the addition, walking flow, furniture placement, windows, doors, sinks, and can determine the scope of the project in the dining area.
- ✚ The School Board still needs to determine what the real cost of the space will be and to identify what the scope of the project is, how much space we need, what the state requirements are, and what makes the most sense for the school in combination with the budget.

Led lighting has been presented in the CIP report. (Capital Improvement Plan).

The Town will be presenting healthy expenses for culverts in March 2019.

Questions?

1. What is the time line for finishing the 11,000 square feet project before September 2019 school year?
2. If a warrant article for the gymnasium / cafeteria renovations fails at the 2019 March vote, is it possible to still move forward with a gymnasium / cafeteria using other funds in 2019? Does “no” mean “no” until the next 2020 March vote?

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3. Is it possible to save the \$400,000 contingency to pay for the cafeteria and the gymnasium to avoid a warrant article?

If the School Board agrees to present the gymnasium and cafeteria renovation warrant article and it passes, then it is probable that there is time between the March vote and school starting by September 2019 with project completion. Bids need to be in place.

The Board would prefer not to go ahead with another warrant article, and another option is to use under-budget renovation funds, and budgetary funds. Other suggestions were to maintain the \$400,000 contingency funds.

Other CIP report plans include parking lot renovations, after that, windows.

Playground renovations would include the site-work and site availability. The equipment is old. The idea is that some of the newer equipment can be placed at the Governor Weare Field, and to purchase new playground equipment for the school.

- ❖ Looking for volunteer efforts for fundraising, it would be ideal if a group of citizens would organize themselves for the purpose of a playground.
- ❖ The scope of the playground, the kind of equipment, how big of a play area, cost effectiveness, need to be determined.
- ❖ Maintaining the stone wall in the area of the new proposed playground site.
- ❖ Looking for people in town who could help out. Yes, there is additional land beyond the old playground for a new playground.

Landscaping plans are bare bones with no plans for landscaping. Looking for volunteers to assist with landscaping, and work within the baseball field. It was recommended to have the students help to shovel mulch.

The School Board will continue to be transparent and to have more public forums and work sessions.

The Board agreed to have a work session to discuss the scope of the next steps projects.

Nine constituents were present in the audience during the Public Forum.

Motion: Mark Lane adjourned the Community Forum at 7:24 p.m. Second: Pamela Miller. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted, Maureen Hastings: Recording Secretary (Approved October 11, 2018)