



# Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District

Office of the Superintendent  
306 Main Street, Spencer, Massachusetts 01562  
Telephone (508) 885-8500 \* Fax (508) 885-8504

Paul S. Haughey, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

## School Building Committee Meeting Minutes December 19, 2019

**School Building Committee Members present:** Paul Haughey, Jason Monette, Elizabeth York, Mary Braney, Mark Carpentier, David Joyce, Anne Gobi (by conference call), Heather Messier, Mike Ethier, Matt Bolduc, David Darrin and Kara Westerman

**Others present:** Steve Hemman and Jay Barry

### I. Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

### II. Approve Minutes

*Motion to move that the School Building Committee vote to approve the meeting minutes of 10/17/19 was made by Mr. Monette and seconded by Mr. Carpentier. All Voting Members present agreed.*

### III. Approve bills and orders

Nothing to approve at this time.

### IV. Report from OPM

- Update from MSBA - Some School Building Committee members met with the MSBA team on December 18, 2019 in Boston to review the regional agreement status and how enrollment numbers were determined for a new project. Members also discussed the 107 new building permits in Spencer since October 2019.

### V. Report from Architects

No report at this time.

## VI. Old Business

- Report on Town Meeting voting feasibility funding – both towns approved the feasibility funding at their meetings.
- Review Module 1 Deliverables – Certification of enrollment to be done. Once completed, then on to Module II.

## VII. New Business

- Dr. Haughey summarized the meeting held at MSBA on December 19, 2019. Enrollment options provided by the MSBA were discussed. The MSBA estimated projections for a grades 9-12 configuration of 225 students and could not provide a number for grades 8-12 without taking into consideration the Chapter 74 programs and the 107 building permits provided at the meeting.

Dr. Haughey informed the MSBA that the district was anticipating 100 students per grade in the 9-12 configuration, plus students returning from charter and school choice.

Mr. Hemman stated Mr. Buckley from the MSBA was going to go back and review the numbers based upon the new information provided at the meeting.

Dr. Haughey stated it's down to two scenarios a grades 9-12 configuration or a grades 8-12 configuration; both with Chapter 74 programs and pre-K. Mr. Hemman stated the district can request MSBA to run both scenarios and reminded members that the percentage reimbursed from MSBA will be on "eligible costs."

Mr. Monette asked if a number was provided to build to capacity. Mr. Hemman replied no. Ms. Messier asked if the district could go with the grades 9-12 configuration and then add 8<sup>th</sup> grade later. Mr. Hemman recommended against this scenario as MSBA provides funding for a grades 9-12 project.

Mr. Hemman cautioned if options include all scenarios, the money for the feasibility study will be spent down quicker. Mr. Barry stated if the scope is expanded, then the feasibility gets muddier.

Mr. Hemman suggested asking the MSBA for numbers for both a 9-12 and 8-12 configuration and to request that the MSBA take into consideration that school choice numbers out are declining.

Ms. Braney asked if there were still areas needed regardless of enrollment numbers (library, auditorium, etc.) Mr. Ethier replied these areas would still be included but the cost per pupil will increase.

***Motion to move that the School Building Committee vote to request the MSBA to proceed with both 9-12 and 8-12 scenarios was made by Mr. Suter and seconded by Mr. Carpentier. All voting members present agreed.***

**VIII. Other Business to come before the Building Committee**

N/A

**IX. Next meeting date(s)**

The following meetings have been tentatively scheduled. Meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Innovation Lab at the high school.

- January 16, 2020
- February 27, 2020
- March 26, 2020

**X. Executive Session**

No executive session at this meeting.

**XI. Adjourn**

*Motion to adjourn at 7:13 p.m. was made by Mr. Carpentier and seconded by Mr. Monette. All Members approved.*

Respectfully submitted by: Melissa Farrow