

September 25, 2015

Dear ELPS Parents/Guardians:

Recently our Elementary Design Steering Committee and Board of Education listened to an update from the elementary project architect who shared information pertaining to the renovation of Niantic Center School and construction of a new Flanders School. The architect spoke about the continued plan discussions and progress that had occurred over the summer months, as well as recent work on space needs and adjustments to the footprint of both newly proposed buildings. We wanted to keep you abreast of planned next steps regarding this renovation process:

1. Final cost estimates for both buildings will be completed by mid-October. That information will then be presented to the Board of Education.
2. A timeline of forums and meeting dates are being created as the final cost estimate and design plans will be shared with staff, parents, and our community.
3. Forums and meetings will take place during late October, November, and December and information will also be brought before the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance to keep them apprised.
4. The target date for referendum is this coming **March 3, 2016**.

This continues to be a complex undertaking with many steps in the process. We are committed to the board's decision to renovate Niantic Center School and build a new Flanders School. Our goal remains to be as transparent as possible, and ensure everyone is kept up to date on the continued work of the Elementary Steering Committee, scope of work, cost, and the timeline (which may have adjustments as we proceed forward). Information and meeting minutes remain readily accessible on our website at [www.eastlymeschools.org](http://www.eastlymeschools.org). Please feel free to contact any of the elementary principals or myself if you have questions, and we hope to soon publish dates of upcoming forums and meetings.

Sincerely,

*Jeffrey R. Newton*  
Jeffrey R. Newton  
Superintendent of Schools

*Timothy Hagen*  
Dr. Timothy Hagen  
Chairman of the Board of Education

Cf: ELPS Staff  
EL BOE