

East Lyme Board of Education
East Lyme Elementary Schools Design Steering Committee Meeting
November 1, 2016
4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Members Present: Dr. Tim Hagen, Mr. Jeffrey Newton, Linda Anania, Eric Bauman, Melissa DeLoreto, Bill Derry, Gil Gallant, First Selectman Mark Nickerson, Ray O'Connor, Lisa Picarazzi, Jeffrey Provost, John Rhodes

Others Present: Al Jacunski from Jacunski Humes Architects

Members Absent: John Arnold, Linda Johansen, Marc Salerno, Maria Whalen, Dr. John Whritner

Community Members Present: Philip Russell

The meeting began at 4:00 p.m.

Further Review of Elementary School Facilities

Dr. Timothy Hagen reviewed the East Lyme Public Schools Enrollment Update PowerPoint presentation dated 10/31/16 and highlighted:

- Projected K-4 enrollment differences from the initial NESDEC report;
- Reasons why building new, or renovating-as-new, the elementary facilities is not fiscally prudent at this time;
- An alternate, affordable plan to upgrade the elementary facilities is needed;
- Non-negotiable items include ensuring equality in educational settings, ensuring best opportunities for staff to educate students, balance educational needs with fiscal responsibility, and ensure community input;
- Alteration requirements include security and safety, upgrade handicap facilities, maintain class sizes that are consistent with current practices and BOE guidelines, improve air quality systems, provide balanced schools in size and support services, and enhance internal and external building finishes.

Al Jacunski presented draft conceptual estimates for each elementary facility dated November 1, 2017 for minimum required renovations, with no space adjustments, totaling \$10,901,562.00.

Flanders School:	\$1,926,311.00
Lillie B. Haynes School:	\$5,543,409.00
Niantic Center School:	\$3,431,842.00

Al Jacunski reported that the items eligible for State reimbursement would include the window replacements, air conditioning units, and security upgrades. Only 30% of the eligible items would be considered for reimbursement since the current elementary facilities have more square footage than what the State's space needs standards allow.

The committee discussed adding additional items to the conceptual cost estimates that is essential to maintaining best educational practices and environments for both staff and students that include: flooring, lighting, technology, boilers, and paint. Al Jacunski suggested that the committee may want to consider reconfiguring some of the small square footage classrooms currently at Lillie B. Haynes Schools.

Dr. Hagen reported that the Board of Education will begin initial discussion regarding redistricting on November 7, 2017 and that Don Kennedy from NESDEC will be giving an updated K-4 enrollment report to the Board of Education at the Committee of the Whole meeting on November 10, 2017. The initial NESDEC K-4 enrollment projections in 2014 was 725-800 students for 2019-2015. NESDEC's current K-4 enrollment projections have increased to 950-1,000 students for the same period.

The committee discussed the necessity of educating the community on the rationale of maintaining three elementary schools with NESDEC's new, higher enrollment figures in order to maintain optimal school and class sizes that are educationally best for our students.

A referendum for March or April 2017 is still expected. If the referendum passes, the renovation items will go out to bid through the spring of 2018 with renovations beginning the summer of 2018.

Next Steps

- Board of Education initial redistricting discussion on November 7, 2016.
- NESDEC updated enrollment projections to Committee of the Whole on November 10, 2016.
- A walk-through of each elementary facility to identify priority items.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Timothy Hagen
Timothy Hagen, Ph.D.
Steering Committee Chair

Mr. Jeffrey Newton
Mr. Jeffrey R. Newton
Superintendent of Schools