
PTO Meeting

Wednesday, 09.12.2018, 7:00 PM

South School Library

Attendees

PTO Board

Kathy Caren, Assistant Principal, South School

Rene Drueke & David Howard, Andover High School Facility Study Committee

Agenda and Discussion

- Introduction
- Andover Public Schools News
 - Rene Drueke & David Howard
 - High School Renovation Overview
- South School PTO
 - New Board & Volunteers
 - Communications
 - Kindergarten Welcome
 - Calendar
 - Budget
 - Fundraisers & Events
 - Curriculum Enrichment

Andover High School Facility Study Committee

Two members of the Andover High School (AHS) Facility Study Committee, Rene Drueke, a teacher at AHS, and David Howard, a mechanical engineer, presented an overview of the current state of AHS, the purpose of the committee, and the options being considered to the audience at the PTO meeting.

- Current State of AHS
 - AHS was built in 1966 for grades 10-12 with a capacity of 1200 students.
 - An addition was completed in 1995 which increased the capacity to 1500 students and allowed for the addition of 9th grade to the school.
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- Currently there are 1800 students and the building is at 117% capacity.
- Some of the problems include:
 - 80% of classrooms are too small and there are not enough of them.
 - The library is too small.
 - The cafe has 4 lunches, resulting in split classes which is not good for the students.
 - Half of high school lacks a fire system.
 - School now has a/c but not in classrooms. On the hot days in September, over 20 classrooms had temps over 85 degrees.
- Purpose of the Committee
 - The committee was formed to:
 - Study the overcrowding, safety, security and the traffic flow at AHS and,
 - Propose recommendations and solutions to the School Committee.
- Options being considered
 - 9 different options, 4 are the top options, 2 of them would actually address the goals of the committee.
 - Based on current needs and demands, the proposals assume the new school would be at 85% capacity with 1900 students. These are the numbers that will be given to the School Committee.
 - Top 2 options presented at the PTO meeting:
 - New School
 - Build a new school on the surrounding athletic fields.
 - Tear down the existing school except for the Collins Center and the gym.
 - Make a parking lot where the existing school is currently.
 - Estimated cost is \$200 million.
 - Renovate existing building plus a large addition
 - Build a facade around the existing building, then gut the existing building, build a new school inside new structure. This would save about \$125/sqft.
 - Build an addition on the front (where the sledding hill is) for a new wing with a cafeteria below and classrooms above. The addition would be connected to the older section via hallways and a courtyard.
 - Renovate wing by wing, putting students in the new wing first, then renovating the old wings.
 - Would have some a/c for entire building, similar to the a/c at Bancroft Elementary School.
 - Estimated cost is \$154 million.

- Timeline
 - Current 4th-5th graders would be at the high school while the renovation happens.
 - The project would be phased, regardless of which option is selected. Construction would probably coincide with the school semesters so that students are moved only at the beginning of each semester.
 - The Facility Study Committee will present its proposals to the School Committee who will then decide which proposal will be voted on by the town at Town Meeting.
- Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Funding
 - The MSBA may select this project for financial assistance. Andover will know if the project is selected by this December.
 - School Committee could decide to wait another year if Andover doesn't get MSBA funding this year. Waiting another year would let Andover re-apply to the MSBA for assistance.
 - If AHS is selected, the MSBA could cover 40% of the cost.
 - If the MSBA becomes involved with the project, the town would lose control of the solution and there could be up to a 2 year delay because the MSBA would repeat the process the AHS Renovation Committee is going through now.
- Open House and Community Meeting on **October 2nd**
 - On Oct 2nd at AHS, there will be student-led tours of the building starting at 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. At 7:00 p.m. there will be a presentation in the Collins Center by the AHS Facility Study Committee with the options and associated costs.
 - It is very important for the public to come on Oct 2nd and offer feedback on the different options.
- Additional Details
 - Please see the FAQ handout presented at the PTO meeting on the PTO website, www.southpto.com.
 - Please see a more detailed version of this FAQ on the district website at: www.aps1.net.

South School PTO

- Introductions
 - Tara Wilson, PTO co-president, introduced the new assistant principal, Kathy Caron, and then introduced the PTO Board members and the current PTO volunteers.

- General Information
 - Open volunteer positions
 - There are still open volunteer positions available. Please see the PTO website for a complete list, www.southpto.com.
 - Communications
 - PTO website: www.southpto.com
 - Facebook, listserv weekly emails, Champion Update, quarterly newsletters
 - Kindergarten Welcome
 - Presented by Cailleen Bernardi, the PTO Kindergarten Liaison
 - Calendar of PTO events
 - Please see the PTO website for a complete list, www.southpto.com
- PTO 2018-2019 Budget
 - Presented by Mary Merrill, the PTO Treasurer.
 - Please see slide 10 of the September 12, 2018 PowerPoint presentation or see the PTO website www.southpto.com/budget for additional information.
 - The PTO expenses for the year match the fundraising goal of \$35,406.
 - This equates to about \$70 per student per school year or about \$7 per student per month for 10 months.
 - Companies can do a matching gift for the PTO Pledge Drive.
 - The PTO will be formalizing a receipt process this year.
 - The PTO's tax id number will be on the website this year for tax planning purposes.
- Curriculum Enrichment
 - Presented by Donna MacLean, the PTO Curriculum Enrichment Coordinator
 - CE programs are linked to the curriculum for each class.
 - 33 programs will be offered at different times throughout the year to match each grade's curriculum.
 - Please see slides 12-15 of the September 12, 2018 PowerPoint presentation for more details, or see the PTO website www.southpto.com/about-ce.

Next Meeting

The next PTO meeting will be on October 10, 2018, from 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.