

June 4, 2019 Special Public Meeting

Good evening.

This evening, the Methacton School District Board of School Directors are holding this Special Public Meeting for the purpose of presenting initial concept drawings of proposed construction and/or renovation for the Arrowhead Elementary School building.

This is not an action meeting and therefore no official actions will be made by the Board this evening.

The Board will be accepting public comment at the conclusion of the meeting.

In addition to the public comment this evening - There are comment cards and drop boxes located at the entrance to the gymnasium – you are welcome to provide comments or ask questions on these cards and place them in the comment box. You may also send comments or questions to our email address ArrowheadForward@methacton.org.

Lastly, the presentation and video of this meeting will be placed on the district web site along with access to a survey on the matter to collect additional public feedback.

Now to bring context to the purpose of this meeting:

In 2016, the Methacton Board of School Directors accepted a comprehensive facilities study of all district buildings in an effort to understand the brevity of matters in need. The study showed that there were about \$100M in needed projects over the next 10 years of which Arrowhead Elementary school accounted for approximately \$14M of that total. The needs for all district identified within the facilities study were organized into a master facilities plan projecting projects over time and by building. The Arrowhead Elementary school was to be addressed starting in the summer of 2020.

Again in 2016, the facilities study, student enrollment projections, and available classroom space within the district, became key factors for the Board of School Directors to determine the closure of Audubon Elementary school and redistrict students to the remaining 4 elementary schools.

As a sidebar note to tonight's meeting -The Audubon Elementary School will be a topic of conversation at the June 25, 2019 Board of School Directors meeting, as we have been asked by Lower Providence Township to allow them to present to the School Board, their recommendations for the use of that property. Again that meeting is scheduled for June 25, as part of our regularly scheduled business of the Board.

Work related to the needs outlined in the Master Facilities Plan have occurred in the summer of 2018 with the renovation of Arcola Intermediate School and the Methacton High School in the amount \$5.3Million. There is an estimated \$6.4Million in projects slated for this summer at the high school, Woodland, Worcester and Skyview/Arcola.

The Master Facilities Plan, the resulting school closure, and renovations completed within the master plan have led us to a discussion in 2018 regarding the future of Arrowhead Elementary school given the projected \$14M and the modest uptick in housing developments and projected enrollment. Given a review of the available information provided the Board and public over the last several months of 2018, the Board of School Directors passed a resolution in January of 2019 to continue operating Arrowhead Elementary school as a school.

The Board solicited bids from design professionals to assist the administration in determining options for consideration. The Board hired KCBA of Hatfield Pa to gather information from staff, assist with building tours and to assess the viability of options for consideration.

This evening is the initial result of that information gathering process.

Please welcome Mike Kelly and Jamie Ober from KCBA.