

**WEST SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS**

DATE: March 23, 2018

TO: Members of the School Committee
Michael J. Richard, Superintendent of Schools

FROM: Kevin McQuillan, Acting Assistant Superintendent

RE: Coburn School Project: Feasibility Study/Schematic Design Phase
Designer Selection Update and Next Steps

As reported on March 12, 2018, **TSKP Studio**, the design architects for the new Coburn School project, met with the PCC and presented initial considerations for the site layout. As part of the Feasibility Study they are obliged by the MSBA to determine whether the existing school building can be renovated and modified or whether a new building would be the better solution. At the March 20 PCC meeting they presented additional site issues to be considered if a two-story or three-story design were selected. They also reviewed potential alternative sites for the school but we were not able to identify another site that met the criteria of being town-owned and being in or even close to the Coburn School district.

On March 16, 2018 we had the third and final day of the visioning conference of selected stakeholders run by TSKP's educational planning consultant, Dr. Frank Locker. Approximately 40 people, including many Coburn teachers, students and staff, participated and the day was spent in considering different sample school designs and classroom layouts as well as options for room use, grade clustering, adjacent spaces, and the implications of all these for a new Coburn School. Dr. Locker recorded the preferences of the participants and will present a report of the conference to TSKP to incorporate in their planning. There will be additional opportunities to meet with the Coburn staff as the process continues.

On March 19, 2018 a small group, including the Superintendent, Mrs. Garbacik, Mr. Mattoon and me, visited three recent TSKP-designed schools in Connecticut to see samples of their work. The tour was very interesting and a description of it is attached. On April 10 we will visit three recent Massachusetts schools that were all projects that NV5, our Owner Project Managers (OPM), worked on.

