

1 Joint Facilities Advisory Committee Meeting

2 Thursday, August 12th, 2021

3 Meeting Minutes- Approved 10 07 2021

4 Attendees:

5 Administrative Team: Adam Steel- Superintendent, Amy Facey- SAU #39 Business
6 Administrator and Roger Preston- Director of Facilities.

7 Committee Members: Shannon Gascoyne- JFAC Chair, Pim Grondstra- SCSB Member,
8 Christine Grayson, Amherst NH, John Bowkett, Amherst NH, Terri Behm- ASB Member,
9 Stephanie Grund- SCSB Member, Lisa Eastland- Amherst NH, and John D'Angelo- Amherst
10 NH,

11 Meeting Minutes: Danae A. Marotta

12 Public: Brad Prescott, Banwell Architects, Lebanon NH

13 I. Call to Order

14 **Chair of the Joint Facilities Advisory Committee, Ms. Shannon Gascoyne, called the**
15 **meeting to order at 6:00PM.**

16 She noted that she will be moving the enrollment discussion for later on in the agenda.

17 II. Approval of Minutes

18 **Ms. Stephanie Grund motioned to approve the June 10th, 2021 Minutes. Ms. Christine**
19 **Grayson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, motion passed. Ms. Gascoyne**
20 **abstained.**

21 **Ms. Grayson motioned to approve the July 8th, 2021 minutes. Mr. John Bowkett seconded**
22 **the motion. The vote was unanimous, motion passed.**

23 III. Subcommittee Updates

24 Ms. Gascoyne noted that they met with three construction firms and they are expecting two
25 presentations tonight.

- 26 • PR Subcommittee

27 She added that they posted their second update to their JFAC Facebook page and will be going
28 out via Nixle. They put a pause on the meetings and will resume their meetings next week.

- 29 • Souhegan 2.0.

30 Ms. Grund added that the lockers have been ordered and will be installed during some break,
31 when time is available. Mr. Preston is working with Mr. Lance Whitehead, Lavallee Brensinger,
32 regarding the Main Entrance and they are still working on the science labs.

33 • Finance

34 Ms. Facey noted that they are working with a financial advisor, PFM. They are going to be
35 running some numbers for them for public sale, private sale and the USDA. They will run the
36 numbers and see what makes the most financial sense.

37 Mr. Bowkett asked where is the money coming from.

38 Mr. Steel replied Bond Counsel.

39 Ms. Facey added that they are willing to put in the work for them and not charge us at this point

40 Mr. Bowkett suggested that when the money comes that it gets split between the two school
41 districts.

42 He noted that he has been selected to represent this board to the Planning Board and the Historic
43 Commission. He added that they are still not sure if they are having in person meetings or by
44 Zoom. He cannot do any presentations until he gets a presentation.

45 The committee thanked Mr. Bowkett.

46 Ms. Gascoyne noted that she hopes that everyone had time to review the materials. It was helpful
47 for preparing for tonight.

48 IV. Non-Public Session

49 **Mr. John Bowkett motioned to enter into Non-Public Session RSA 91 A:3 II (c) at 6:10PM**

50 **Mr. Pim Grondstra seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, motion passed.**

51 **Ms. Gascoyne called a roll call: Behm-Yes, Grondstra- Yes, Gascoyne- Yes, Eastland- Yes,
52 Grayson- Yes, Grund-Yes and Bowkett-Yes.**

53 Other persons present during non-public session: Superintendent Steel, Ms. Facey, Mr. Preston.

54 Matters discussed and final decisions made: Construction company interviews

55 V. Resume Public Session

56 **Ms. Lisa Eastland motioned to exit non-public session at 8:17pm. Mr. John Bowkett**

57 **seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, motion passed.**

58 **Ms. Gascoyne called a roll call: Behm-Yes, Grondstra- Yes, Gascoyne- Yes, Eastland- Yes,
59 Grayson- Yes, Grund-Yes and Bowkett-Yes.**

60 **Ms. Gascoyne motioned to seal the minutes as it would adversely affect the reputation of**
61 **someone other than a school board member. Ms. Grund seconded the motion. The vote was**
62 **unanimous, motion passed.**

63 **Ms. Gascoyne called a roll call: Behm-Yes, Grondstra- Yes, Gascoyne- Yes, Eastland- Yes,
64 Grayson- Yes, Grund-Yes and Bowkett-Yes.**

65 Ms. Gascoyne noted that they just interviewed construction management firms.

66 **Ms. Shannon Gascoyne motioned to make a recommendation to the Amherst School Board**
67 **to hire DEW Construction for the projects in the ASD. Mr. John Bowkett seconded the**
68 **motion. The vote was unanimous, motion passed.**

69 **Ms. Gascoyne called a roll call: Behm-Yes, Grondstra- Yes, Gascoyne- Yes, Eastland- Yes,**
70 **Grayson- Yes, Grund-Yes and Bowkett-Yes.**

71 VI. Enrollment Discussion

72 Ms. Gascoyne added that Ms. Facey has put together a presentation on enrollment.

73 Ms. Facey shared her screen on enrollment projections. They took a second look at enrollment
74 projections. The first slide looks at the elementary, with actual numbers taking out Preschool.
75 These are actual numbers of 765. They had a variety of classrooms.

76 Mr. Steve Frades has projected out of FY 26. If you look at those enrollment numbers, they are
77 higher but not by a huge amount. They want to look at either 7 classrooms or 8 classrooms and
78 what that would do to class size.

79 The next set of numbers is based on the current design, using the max class size and using 8
80 classes. That is the current design that they are using right now. Those are the projected
81 enrollment numbers and achieving the max class size set by the ASB. They met with the
82 principals and senior leadership. They came up with a few scenarios. In one scenario they have
83 three flex spaces. They added three flex spaces in the first scenario and one in the second. In the
84 first scenario they are looking at enrollment of 952 and second, 910.

85 In the first scenario, there are 7 rooms per grade, 3 project-based learning rooms with a total of
86 45 rooms. They are building to a design capacity of 952, a core design of 107.9. The square
87 footage difference between the current design and the scenario one is 7,710. If you use \$350 per
88 square foot, they will save about \$2.7m.

89 Scenario two is based on the max class size again, one project-based learning room for a total of
90 43 rooms. There would be a lower design capacity of 910, same core design capacity and a
91 square footage difference of 10,280 for a cost saving of about \$3.6m.

92 Ms. Eastland inquired about the project-based rooms.

93 Ms. Facey replied they are the rooms that Banwell had designed.

94 Mr. Brad Preston, Banwell Architects, replied that the project-based rooms can have a couple of
95 functions. In the short term they can be used as breakout instructional spaces, for students to
96 literally work on projects maybe between classrooms for groups of 6-25. They like to use them
97 as class grade bubbles. If you end up with a year with extra children in one grade, they are
98 available. They also allow for flexibility for bubble years but also special education.

99 Ms. Gascoyne noted that it could be used for enrichment.

100 Ms. Facey remarked that they need to revisit and look carefully and move forward.

101 Ms. Grund asked about the actuals and projections.

- 102 Ms. Facey replied that they will be updated in October.
- 103 Ms. Gascoyne suggested that they look back historically.
- 104 Ms. Eastland noted that Mr. Frades is probably considering the new construction.
- 105 Ms. Facey added that Mr. Frades numbers were coming in a bit low when she was doing a grade
106 by grade comparison.
- 107 Ms. Grayson asked what option are the principals comfortable with.
- 108 Mr. Steel replied Option A.
- 109 Ms. Eastland gave her preference for option 1.
- 110 Ms. Gascoyne asked if they need to make a motion for a recommendation. It is everyone's first
111 time seeing this. They are both options for 7 classrooms, 952 vs. 910. She asked Mr. Prescott if
112 he could shade the project-based learning rooms.
- 113 Mr. Prescott replied that a common theme they need to think about is development from
114 migration from the south. It is not always captured in the enrollment analysis.
- 115 Mr. Steel commented on a list of items to be flexible. They have flexibility and there are
116 unknown things.
- 117 Ms. Grund asked if there is extra project-based learning space.
- 118 Mr. Steel replied that he is not sure, they are providing flexibility in their design.
- 119 Ms. Gascoyne inquired if they need to make a motion for a recommendation.
- 120 Mr. Bowkett added that they need to look at housing with larger families.
- 121 Ms. Facey noted that they can show a range of enrollment.
- 122 Ms. Grayson asked if there was consideration space for social distancing.
- 123 Mr. Steel added that there is human infrastructure bill that was going through congress and
124 passed by the Senate for universal 3- and 4-year-old preschool.
- 125 Ms. Facey mentioned that they are building for 4 preschool classes.
- 126 Mr. Bowkett asked about the enrollment.
- 127 Ms. Eastland replied option 1 for 889 with the 3 flex spaces, which can boost it to 952.
- 128 Ms. Gascoyne added that they will not make any decisions at this point.
- 129 Ms. Behm noted that they can inform the public that they have increased the SAU by 100
130 students.
- 131 Mr. Steel commented that they need to keep an eye on the preschool issue.

132 Mr. Preston commented that preschool classes are larger than regular classrooms and offer more
133 room for social distancing.

134 Ms. Gascoyne noted that their first public forum is scheduled for September 23rd.

135 VII. Meeting Adjourned

136 **Ms. Gascoyne adjourned the meeting at 8:50pm**

137

138