

A large group of people, including children and adults, are gathered on a grassy field. They are arranged in a large heart shape, with their arms raised in some places. The background is a bright green lawn.

WBOE Ad Hoc Enrollment, Instructional Needs, & Space Planning Committee

Committee Report & Recommendations

Our Purpose

WBOE recognized the following challenges:

- ★ Current building capacity and current enrollment
 - ★ Projected enrollment growth
- ★ Increased Special Education capacity and requisite needs
- ★ Current curriculum & programmatic instructional needs

WBOE created the Ad Hoc Enrollment, Instructional Needs, and Space Planning Committee to:

The committee will review and address the physical, administrative, and instructional implications of increasing enrollment and student needs on the current physical space of Beecher Road School.

Committee Members

Vonda Tencza, Superintendent, Co-Chair

Maria Madonick, Vice-Chair WBOE, Co-Chair

Lynn Piascyk, Chair WBOE, Ex Officio

Jeff Hughes, WBOE

Brooke Hopkins, WBOE

Analisa Sherman, Principal

Donna Coonan, Director of Business
Services & Operations

Vito Esparo, Director of Facilities

Joe Crisco, Board of Selectmen

Susan Jacobs, Board of Finance

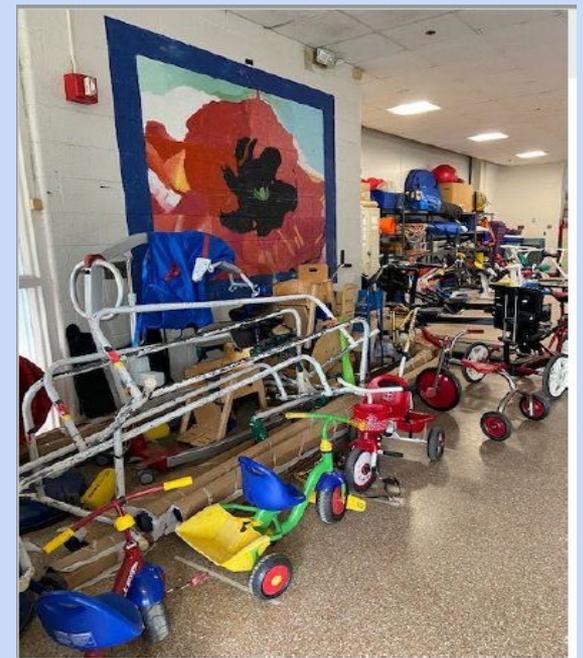
Allie Grabowski, Teacher Representative

Katie McCollom, Teacher Representative

Patti McKeon, Community Representative

Current Space Concerns

- ❖ Larger space/ repurposed space being shared simultaneously by multiple learner groups
- ❖ Lack of classroom space for specials
- ❖ Storage of archived files
- ❖ Storage (between uses) of SpEd equipment, maintenance equipment, gym equipment, etc.



Current Space Concerns

- ❖ To create space for every classroom- general education and SpEd- we would need **12- 15 more classrooms** for the start of school this year – August 2023

Beecher Road School Space Usage			Future Needs
current 2022-2023 school year - enrollment 866	# rooms	notes	projected 2031 - enrollment 991
pk	1	will need more space	PK will likely expand to 2 classrooms in near future, need at least 5 other classrooms to accommodate increased enrollment
k	6		
1	5		
2	5		
3	5		
4	5		
5	7		
6	6		
MAG	4		
Art	2		
PE	2	health on cart, third space of exercise is now SPED	add 1 health exercise equipment space and 1 music space
Music		one on cart	
Spanish	2		
MLL	1	windowless, part of library	add one room for this, not a large classroom

Library/Media & Technology			current space being utilized for small group classrooms as well as L/M/T
Special Education		2 teachers share, 1 teacher in closet, 1 in room that does not lock	3-4 small group spaces
SPED related services (SLP, OT, psy, SW)		SLP and SRO share, OT in old PE room	need 1 calm down space, OT needs own space (currently in PE room)
Common/Flexible (caf, rotunda, etc)		rotunda not able to be used as teaching space	may be able to reconfigure rotunda for smaller spaces? One more large group space that is flexible is important. Currently south assembly location is very far from primary classrooms
SRBI/ Intervention			add a room for small group instruction- currently pre-algebra is taught in science room
small group SPED		2-3 resource rooms shared	2 new small classrooms (currently teachers share)
storage		SPED items in hall, custodial items in hall, PK items in kitchen, archived files all over	add storage for SPED, custodians - Zambonie, equipment and supplies, and archives, add storage for PE- nets and equipment in hallways, add storage for SPED- assistive equipment in hallways (bikes, etc)

Current Space Concerns

- ❖ Instructional needs requires that there are more learning spaces than enrollment numbers would indicate
- ❖ 22 students enrolled after 10/1/22
- ❖ Over WBOE Classroom size guidelines

ENROLLMENT DATA

SCHOOL YEAR	TOTAL ENROLLMENT	SPECIAL EDUCATION
2022/23	847	117
2021/22	846	104
2020/21	816	93
2019/20	838	88
2018/19	843	87
2017/18	830	88
2016/17	774	72
2015/16	771	63
2014/15	796	68
2013/14	766	60
2012/13	744	62
2011/12	736	66
2010/11	726	63
2009/10	733	71
2008/09	758	69
2007/08	793	72
2006/07	792	98
2005/06	825	87
2004/05	853	86

BRS ENROLLMENT

May 1, 2023

Grade/Teacher	Total
PreK	
DePalma	25
	25
Kindergarten	
Cadelina	18
Cofrancesco	18
Farnen	18
Grabowski	19
Ramia	18
Scalia	17
	108
Grade 1	
Calabrese	20
Demetro	20
Rakowski	21
Thompson	21
Wyman-Anctil	19
	101
Grade 2	
Almonte	20
Blinstrubas	19
DePalma	20
Esparo	20
Fanelli	20
	99
Grade 3	
Hutchinson	18
Meacham	19
Ngov	20
Triplett	19
Vincitorio	18
	94

Grade/Teacher	Total
Grade 4	
Lavigne	20
Marcellino	20
Mumford	21
Nolan	20
Shepard	20
	101
Grade 5	
Antonellis	18
Conroy	20
Guerra	20
Horvath	17
McHugh	20
Mulligan	19
Rourke	19
	133
Grade 6	
Campbell	21
Chase	21
Glennon	22
Irfan	21
Rogerson	20
Saunders	21
	126
M.A.G.	
Ahem	20
Gerber	19
Golden	20
Hart-Rooney	19
	78
BRS Enrollment	865
ODD	1
GRAND TOTAL	866

Projected Enrollment



Appendix A. Beecher Road School Enrollment by Grade Projected to 2031

School Year	Birth Year ¹	Births	K ²	1	2	3	4	5	6	PreK	Total
2011-12	2006	59	91	86	109	107	95	110	116	23	737
2012-13	2007	59	90	101	94	119	112	98	111	19	744
2013-14	2008	47	119	98	104	93	121	118	96	19	768
2014-15	2009	46	111	109	108	103	97	128	120	20	796
2015-16	2010	53	102	106	109	109	102	97	126	20	771
2016-17	2011	61	97	116	109	118	107	107	97	23	774
2017-18	2012	58	100	109	125	119	127	110	110	30	830
2018-19	2013	55	108	114	114	121	124	133	109	20	843
2019-20	2014	57	101	122	118	119	125	129	134	20	868
2020-21	2015	61	99	92	104	124	123	124	131	19	816
2021-22	2016	65	115	118	103	110	133	124	125	18	846
Projected											
2022-23	2017	70	118	125	120	108	116	135	126	17	865
2023-24	2018	59	108	128	126	126	113	118	137	19	875
2024-25	2019	60	105	117	129	132	132	115	120	21	871
2025-26	2020	67	112	114	118	135	138	134	117	21	889
2026-27	2021	76	126	122	115	124	141	140	136	20	924
2027-28	2022	68	121	137	123	121	130	143	142	21	938
2028-29	2023	71	120	132	138	129	127	132	145	21	944
2029-30	2024	73	124	130	133	145	135	129	134	20	950
2030-31	2025	71	126	135	131	140	152	137	131	20	972
2031-32	2026	69	121	137	136	137	147	154	139	20	991

¹ 2006 to 2021 births were from the State Department of Public Health. Births in 2020 and 2021 are provisional. Births in 2022 to 2026 were based on the 2017 Connecticut State Data Center projections of women of child-bearing ages in Woodbridge and my estimate of 2020 fertility rates in communities like Woodbridge.

² Based on three-year averages of births five- and six- years ago plus 1-5 children in kindergarten such that total Open Choice enrollment remains at 18 students.

- Kindergarten enrollments are down by about 10% in 2020 in comparable DRG B schools. **MPS trend is slightly higher at an 12% decrease**
- Woodbridge is the only peer district that saw kindergarten enrollment increase this year

- ★ 125 more students by 2031
- ★ 24 more students by start of 2025... not including pre-school “bubble”
- ★ Does not account for new construction



Information Gathered and Discussed

- ❑ June 2022 Enrollment projections through 2031 (Peter M. Prowda, PhD)
- ❑ Current enrollment
- ❑ WBOE Classroom size guidelines
- ❑ Current Capital Projects: solar initiative, roof repair, Woodbridge Town Building Committee reports
- ❑ BOWA Portrait of a Graduate
- ❑ Beecher Road School Space Usage Report
- ❑ Beecher Road School Space Usage & Challenges Presentation (Analisa Sherman)



- ❑ Review of Region 20 formation process; Review of the *Region 20: Temporary Regional School Study Committee* report and presentation
- ❑ *Equity, Safety, and Health* (Dr. Michael Deitter): review of presentation from Bristol school system on their process of expanding space using existing town buildings
- ❑ Review of the process of school expansion in Guilford, CT starting with review of an Education Specification study. (Michael Ayles)
- ❑ Goals and vision formation for our district and town



Education Specification Study



- ❑ Educational specifications serve as the **link between the educational program and school facilities**, whether contemplating a new building, or assessing the educational adequacy of an existing building prior to renovation. The purpose of educational specifications is to clearly describe the various learning activities to be housed in the school, their spatial requirements, appropriate locations within the building or the site and any special requirements that a designer or a facility planner would need to consider.
- ❑ **The development of educational specifications is more a process of pre-design problem definition than a process of problem solving.** It is important that the educational specifications, as thoroughly as possible, describe the facility's anticipated uses and identify the specific physical characteristics that will be required to house and promote the proposed activities. **The educational specifications should provide detailed parameters to guide the design** professional's design, rather than describe how the facility is to be constructed.

Purpose of the Educational Specifications
Background
Vision for Elementary Schools
General Planning Considerations
Educational Technology
Safety and Security
Sustainability Criteria
Capacity Calculation
Space Requirements Square Footage Tables
Academic Core Space
Administrative Space
Health Suite Space
Maintenance/ Custodial Space
Media Center Space
Performing Arts Space

WBOE Ad Hoc Enrollment, Instructional Needs, & Space Planning



Recommendations

1. Continue formal discussions with BOWA Districts to explore shared services including grade level organization.
2. Recommend the WBOE hire a consultant for a feasibility study, specifically an Education Specification Study, to explore:
 - a. Repurposing current spaces within Beecher Road School
 - b. Evaluation of other spaces in town that could be repurposed for educational instruction.
 - c. Comprehensive evaluation of space utilization and instructional needs and our options for addressing those needs.