

Superintendent Presentation

School Building Closure Discussion & Decision



Board Of Education Meeting
May 8, 2024

How The Building Reduction Discussion Began

The Board of Education looked at:

1. The September 2019 New England School Development Council Best Use Of School Facilities Study.
2. Fiscal oversight and responsibility to the taxpayer based on building capacity.
3. Concern over the SMART Start Grant and the new kindergarten admission date.

Were We Ready To Make A Decision To Close A School?

Necessary Steps -

1. Data and Research
2. Plan to Close the Building
3. Timeline
4. Grade Level Reconfiguration



Community
Input
&
Feedback

**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION RESCINDED ITS VOTE TO CLOSE
HARRY S. FISHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

What Is Next?

To discuss how the Board of Education would like to move forward with the possibility of a future building reduction.



Board Of Education's Three Options

OPTION #1

DECIDE NOT TO ENTERTAIN THE DISCUSSION TO CLOSE A BUILDING

There would be no further Board of Education discussion on the possibility of closing one of our schools.

OPTION #2

TABLE THE DISCUSSION FOR A LATER DATE

The Board of Education would decide on a date to discuss the possibility of a future school closure.
No further discussion on the topic would take place until that date.

OPTION #3

FURTHER PURSUE THE POSSIBLE REDUCTION OF A SCHOOL BUILDING BY ORDERING THAT ANOTHER FACILITY STUDY BE COMPLETED BY A QUALIFIED OUTSIDE ORGANIZATION

The Board of Education would acquire the services of a qualified outside organization to gather data and research our current building configurations and the possibility of closing a school building.

Why A Facility Study?

With Option #3 (obtaining a new facility study), the following questions would need to be answered by the Board of Education:

1. With the information acquired from the new facility study, **are we going to close a school building?**
2. If yes, what would be the **timeline** for a building closure?
3. If yes, which **grade level configuration** would be most appropriate with a three school configuration?

Important Notes:

- Each conversation and decision would be made in open Board of Education sessions.
- The community would be properly informed of all of the information received from a facility study.
- There would be opportunities for the community to provide feedback and input to the Board throughout the process.

Board of Education Discussion and Direction

The Board will have the opportunity to discuss these three options during the new business portion of this evening's meeting.

- **Option #1:** Decide not to entertain the discussion to close a building.
- **Option #2:** Table the discussion for a later date.
- **Option #3:** Further pursue the possible reduction of a school building by ordering that another facility study be completed by a qualified outside organization.