
HPS Enrollment Committee

— History, Purpose and Progress —

History

- **Fall 2023:** increasing enrollment and its impact are discussed; board comes to the conclusion that a committee is needed to investigate the situation and collectively arrive at solutions
- **Dec 2023:** HSB votes on forming the committee; authorized from Jan 2023-June 2023; Anne W-D named Chair; Board discusses ideas for mission and composition
- **Jan 3, 2024:** Enrollment Committee Mission and Charge is presented to the Board for approval
- **Jan 8:** Anne first discusses Committee with Hollis BudCom
- **Jan 9:** Anne presents committee information at [HEPTA meeting](#) and requests parent volunteers
- **Jan 12:** HPS Newsletter announces formation of the committee and requests parent volunteers; provides Anne's contact information
- **Jan 2024:** Principals announce committee to their respective staffs and ask for volunteers
- **Feb 6:** Mike Leavitt of Hollis BudCom is appointed to Enrollment Committee
- **March 12:** First Committee Meeting
- **April 9 and May 14:** Anne and Raphael each give Enrollment Committee reports to Hollis BudCom at their regular meetings, respectively

Members

Anne Wake-DePasquale, HSB Committee Chair

Andrew Corey, Superintendent

Paula Izbicki, HPS Principal

Stephanie Sayer, HPS Senior Secretary

Alana Cote, HPS PreK Director

Ellen Roos-Unger, HPS Teacher

Julia Piskorski, HPS/HUES Parent Representative

Amy Kellner, Community Member

Mike Leavitt, Hollis Budget Committee and Hollis Planning Board Representative

Raphael Zack, HSB Enrollment Alternate Representative and Hollis BudCom

Meeting Summaries to Date

- **March 12:** Introductions; review of Mission and Charge; tour of HPS building (Mrs. Izbicki); Identification of problems/impacts caused by increased enrollment
- **April 16:** tour of HUES (Fowler); discussion of HUES enrollment and class sizes and space availability; decision to prioritize 3-classroom need for FY25; brainstorm session; creation of working document for discussion
- **May 7:** Guest: Hollis Fire Inspector Jen Govostes; Learning Commons Decision
- **June 4:** Guest: Architectural Consultant Dave Ely; discussion of problems regarding classroom needs, dedicated gym, place for specialists, storage, office space; decision for Dave to draft a Master Plan for review at August 21st meeting.

Learning Commons Decision

Background:

- Changes in town population trends reflected in Hollis schools (i.e. younger families than in previous years)
- HPS has been bearing the brunt of this change for a period of years
- Enrollment this year was 21 students above what was predicted by the NESDEC (New England School Development Council) Projection Report
- Class size limits per district policy: K-1, 18 students; Grades 2-3, 20
- Ancillary benefit: class sizes will *decrease* with this solution (e.g. first grade)

Meeting an Immediate Need to Preserve Class Sizes

- 3 classrooms needed for FY 25 (1 PreK, 1 First Grade, 1 Third Grade)
- Discussed a range of options; this made the least impact on students and teachers while also working within the constraints of current space available and current budget
- LC will move to Mrs. Young's current classroom (near carpool exit); students will still have their library and technology specials
- Temporary solution
 - Requesting folding partitions and temporary walls and ramp tonight
 - Construction of a separate building or addition would be made with the library space in mind, as well as all specialists
 - Master Plan is intended to address a host of challenges facing HPS currently and for the next 15-20 years or more; this will take time and an additional team of experts to assist
- Alternative could include increasing class sizes

How Can You Stay Informed of Progress?

- Access the [Enrollment Committee Page](#)
- Attend HEPTA Meetings
- Attend HSB Meetings or read HSB Agendas and Minutes on Board Docs
 - [HPS Website—School Board](#)
- Attend Hollis Town Budget Committee meetings (2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, Town Hall) OR have [Hollis BudCom](#) Agendas and Minutes sent right to your inbox!
- Email Anne with questions or concerns anytime!
anne.wake-depasquale@sau41.org