



Dear Horace Mann Families,

In February of this year, we shared with you a summary report of both the short-term work that has been completed and the preliminary conceptual long-term plans proposed for Horace Mann. Previously, in November 2020, we shared that the Horace Mann building project had been added to the City of Newton's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP.)

As you know from following this process, the City of Newton updates its CIP twice a year. **We are pleased to report the good news that in the May 12, 2021 CIP update, the Horace Mann project now has a proposed timeline for design and construction and will be moving forward.** This is tremendous progress toward our goal of ensuring faculty, staff, and students at Horace Mann have sufficient and functional teaching and learning spaces. Additionally, the CIP includes \$250,000 for playground improvements. The playground is tentatively planned to be completed during the summer of 2022, but final timing will depend on a review of site considerations and coordination with the facility project to ensure there are no conflicts.

Planning for the project is scheduled to begin next year such that the project schedule will align with potential construction funding availability. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in 2025. We look forward to working with the City as we move into the design phase in which the project scope and budget will be further refined.

As part of this process there will be meaningful opportunities for family, faculty, staff and community to provide input through community forums and public meetings. There will also be opportunities to serve on a committee devoted to this project. Information will be shared regularly through building project emails, website, and school communications.

We are deeply committed to ensuring the Horace Mann school provides our staff and students with an excellent space in which to teach and learn. We look forward to working with principal Mark Nardelli and the staff, parents, and community to complete this project.

Sincerely,
David Fleishman
Superintendent of Schools