

Medford Public Schools

# School Committee Regular Meeting

November 17, 2025

Agenda Item V.3



# Results from May 20, 2025 Subcommittee Meeting



## Medford School Committee: Strategic & Capital Planning Subcommittee Meeting

Brooks School	McGlynn School
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Average of 4-5 sections/classrooms per grade level</li><li>2 classrooms used for Language Based Program</li><li>2 classrooms used for Learning Group Program</li><li>2 MEEP classrooms</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>With only 3 floors/levels, space is a premium</li><li>Average of 3-4 sections/classrooms per grade level</li><li>ACCESS program requires an additional class</li><li>Many Newcomer classrooms are not able to be housed in general education classrooms</li><li>No MEEP classrooms</li></ul>
Missituk School	Roberts School
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>There are no current space constraints</li><li>Average of 3 sections/classrooms per grade level</li><li>Newcomer classrooms are all housed in general education classroom spaces</li><li>3 classrooms used for TLP (Therapeutic Learning Program)</li><li>3 MEEP classrooms</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Average of 4-5 sections/classrooms per grade level</li><li>5 classrooms used for Connections Program</li><li>2 MEEP classrooms</li></ul>

Came about from ongoing conversations

### Short Term Solutions (Completed as of SY25-26) ✓

- ❖ Relocation of MEEP from RES to MSES
  - Which will require additional transportation costs
    - Further analysis is being conducted currently
- ❖ Additional teacher to provide inclusive arts classes at the Roberts to account for Specialist coverage
- ❖ Space Utilization Study for all schools K-8

### Long Term Solutions (as discussed during meeting)

- ❖ Move all kindergarten enrollment to a weighted lottery system
- ❖ Conduct feasibility study on the use of the Missituk
- ❖ Restructure grade spans at elementary and middle schools
  - Elementary: PreK-4, McGlynn Middle: 5-6, Andrews Middle: 7-8
  - Missituk: PreK-Grade 1, Brooks, McGlynn Elementary, Roberts: Grades 2-4 or 2-5
- ❖ Review placement of our Elementary Sub-Separate Special Education Programming throughout the district
- ❖ Engage in discussion regarding redistricting for all elementary schools with School Committee

# Space Utilization Study: HMFH



In the Summer of 2025, Medford Public Schools engaged HMFH Architects to study how spaces are currently used within Medford's elementary & middle schools and to provide possible scenarios to increase school capacity.

- ❖ HMFH visited the Brooks, Missituk, Roberts, McGlynn, & Andrews Schools and confirmed which spaces are currently used as classrooms.
- ❖ HMFH identified spaces within each school that could possibly be used as additional classrooms based on their size, windows, and proximity to circulation paths.
- ❖ HMFH provided scenarios to increase the capacity of these schools, especially Brooks and Roberts.



# HMFH Class Usage Findings for SY24-25



- ❖ HMFH visited the Brooks, Missituk, Roberts, McGlynn, & Andrews Schools and confirmed which spaces are currently used as classrooms.
  - **Chart below details the number of grade level core classrooms used last year**
  
- ❖ HMFH identified spaces (boxed in orange below) within each school that could possibly be used as additional classrooms based on their size, windows, and proximity to circulation paths.
  - **Sub-separate specialized classrooms are reflected in these numbers.**

3	Current Classroom Counts												POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL	
4		PRE-K	K	1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH	5TH	6TH	7TH	8TH	subtotals	additional	totals
5	BROOKS ELEMENTARY	2	4	5	4	5	4	4				28	6	34
6	MISSITUK ELEMENTARY	3	3	4	4	4	4	4				26	5	31
7	ROBERTS ELEMENTARY	2	5	5	4	5	4	4				29	5	34
8	McGLYNN ELEMENTARY / MIDDLE		4	6	4	5	5	4	8	10	10	56	7	63
9	ANDREWS MIDDLE								9	9	8	26	9	35
10	CLASSROOM TOTAL	7	16	20	16	19	17	16	17	19	18	165	32	197
11	CAPACITY AT AVERAGE - 22.64 PER CLASS	154	352	440	352	437	391	368	391	437	414	3,736	724	4,460
12	CAPACITY AT CBA -24.12 PER CLASS	154	352	440	384	475	425	400	425	475	450	3,980	772	4,752

# Classroom Usage During SY24-25: MPS



To build on the work HMFH did to identify spaces for further review, MPS conducted an internal walkthrough.

This revealed additional spaces not reviewed by HMFH due to their focus on traditional classroom areas.

- ❖ Several spaces are currently being used differently from their original intended purpose.
- ❖ These spaces warrant further review.
- ❖ Repurposing some of these areas may require varying levels of renovation or facility work.



HMFH Options for Increased Capacity	Renovations?	Redistricting?	Transportation?	Notes 
<p><b>Option 1</b> - All grades stay where they are. Additional space is located in three elementary schools for additional classrooms.</p>	Potentially	Potentially	Potentially	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Additional space is limited for multi-use and not evenly distributed across all 4 schools</li> <li>❖ Since the initial report, 2 Roberts MEEP classrooms were relocated to the Missituk for SY25-26.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Option 2</b> - McGlynn takes all of the 5th grade from Brooks, Missituk &amp; Roberts, and all of the 6th grade while retaining its elementary. All 7-8 go to Andrews</p>	Potentially	No	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Would create additional space in all 4 elementary schools</li> <li>❖ Would remove the need for middle school assignment process</li> </ul>
<p><b>Option 3</b> - McGlynn becomes entirely middle school &amp; K, Andrews takes all 5th grade from Brooks, Missituk, Roberts + 1-4 from McGlynn.</p>	Yes	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ New McGlynn playground access would not be adjacent to Andrews</li> </ul>
<p><b>Option 4</b> - McGlynn becomes PK plus all middle school grades, Andrews takes all 5th grade from Brooks, Missituk, Roberts + K-4 from McGlynn.</p>	Yes	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ New McGlynn playground access would not be adjacent to Andrews</li> </ul>

# Recommendation

Based on HMFH's Space Utilization Study and the needs of the district, we recommend a further review of Option 2. **Implementation will target the 27/28 school year.**

- ❖ Most effectively addresses both the immediate and long-term space needs of the district while minimizing disruption to students, families, and staff.
- ❖ Provides the most balanced, cost-effective, and operationally sound solution for the district's projected enrollment and facility needs.
- ❖ Allows the district to address additional needs to improve middle school programming:
  - Eliminates the lottery process for entry.
  - Addresses demographic disparities between middle schools
  - Eliminates school assignment based on programming; each school will have all programming





## Establish an MPS Task Force

- ❖ Further review Option 2 (identified as the most viable option)
- ❖ Partner with school teams to explore & identify actual capacity
- ❖ Create advisory deliverables to inform planning for school year 27–28

## Develop a Task Force Timeline

- ❖ Stakeholder interest gathering (Early January)
- ❖ Task Force meetings and work (Late January to April 2026)
- ❖ School Committee presentation (April/May)

## School Year 26-27

- ❖ Continued use of the lottery system to assign Grade 6 students to middle school for school year 26–27

Thank you



Medford Public Schools