



**School Facility Utilization Task Force**  
**7:00 PM on Thursday, February 19, 2026**  
**New Hartford Elementary Gymnasium**  
**Agenda**

Virtual link: <https://meet.google.com/dqr-xshg-bbq>  
Or dial: (US) +1 760-933-7617 PIN: 227 509 648#

- A. Communications to the School Facility Utilization Task Force**
- B. School Facility Utilization Task Force Chair's Report**
  - a. Presentation and Discussion of Procedures for School Facility Utilization Task Force Meetings
- C. Routine Business**
  - a. Timeline Check In
  - b. Review of official informational outlets on task force business
- D. New Business**
  - a. Silver Petrucelli & Associates preliminary update on facility conditions
- E. Public Comment - (For Agenda Items Only)**
- F. Action steps for next meeting w/ date, location and time**
  - a. March 11, 2026 at 7 pm at Bakerville Consolidated School - SPA shares Facility Conditions Presentation
- G. Adjournment**

Dedicated email for the task for is [NHTaskForce@newhtfd.org](mailto:NHTaskForce@newhtfd.org)

Dedicated webpage is <https://www.newhtfd.org/board-of-education/school-facility-utilization-task-force>

Sign up for e-mail alerts from the School Facility Utilization Task Force on the town website:

<https://www.newhartfordct.gov/subscribe>



Sara Voghel <voghels@newhtfd.org>

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**[NHTaskForce] Task force**

1 message

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'eden Tyciensi' via **School Facility Utilization Task Force** <NHTaskForce@newhtfd.org>

Fri, Jan 23, 2026 at 2:17 PM

Reply-To: eden Tyciensi <eden.tyciensi@yahoo.com>

To: NHTaskForce@newhtfd.org

I'm writing to request that future school town meetings be held at 5:00 PM rather than 7:00 PM. The later time makes it difficult for many families to attend.

Thank you for your consideration.

Eden Tyciensi

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

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Sara Voghel <voghels@newhtfd.org>

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**[NHTaskForce] Article from the Lakeville Journal written on Feb 12, 2016 Re: Previous Planned Closure of Bakerville School**

1 message

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**Theresa Campanelli** <tcampanelli@cantonschools.org>  
To: NHTaskForce@newhtfd.org

Fri, Feb 6, 2026 at 1:52 PM

<https://lakevillejournal.com/controversy-over-planned-closure>

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Teri Campanelli

*Special Education Paraprofessional, Canton Middle School*

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Home

## Controversy over planned closure

By **Lakeville Journal**

Feb 12, 2016



NEW HARTFORD — A group of residents is criticizing the planned closure of Bakerville School at 51 Cedar Lane, which was established in 1941.

According to the Bakerville School's website, the school offers pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, first and second grades.

According to meeting minutes available on town's website, the decision to close the school was made by the Board of Education in a unanimous decision at a meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 8.

At the same meeting, the board also voted to unanimously for the town's Board of Education to relinquish control over the school's building by Sept. 1.

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At a subsequent special Board of Selectmen's meeting on Jan. 28 at Ann Antolini School, information was presented concerning the school's closing.

The information presented is part of the meeting minutes which are available on the town's website.

The meeting was also recorded on video and is available for viewing at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=vXR7jqJ-dkw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vXR7jqJ-dkw).

According to town officials, closing the school would save the town \$248,231.

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Closing the school would mean laying off a full-time nurse for \$36,000 in savings, a custodian for \$46,000 in savings and an instructional assistant for \$17,000 in savings.

Savings would also be realized through a cut in health insurance for \$8,000, plowing for \$2,100, computer licenses for \$6,100 and various maintenance supplies, expenses and repairs for a total of \$103,031 in savings.

Other savings will include costs of heating oil and utilities.

When Bakerville School is closed, pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and first grade will move to New Hartford Elementary School.

Second-grade classes will be moved to Ann Antolini School, where currently third- through sixth-grade classes are taught.

Costs in the transition will include \$13,310 in one-time moving costs and an upgrade in wiring in New Hartford Elementary School's teachers workroom for \$3,000.

At the beginning of the Jan. 28 meeting, First Selectman Dan Jerram acknowledged the receipt of a petition signed by residents against the decision to close Bakerville School.

The petition drive was organized by resident Thomas Buzzi, who was at the meeting.

Jerram said the letter accompanying the petition indicated that 411 residents signed the petition.

He read the letter accompanying the petition to the audience at the beginning of the meeting.

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"This decision adversely affects every elementary school student," Jerram read. "It will unnecessarily crowd the schools, increase bus times and otherwise diminish the elementary school experience for all of our children."

Jerram said that, while the petition was acknowledged by Town Clerk Donna LaPlante, she rejected the petition in a letter to Buzzi.

LaPlante wrote that the petition was not prepared according to state statutes.

She wrote that each page of the petition needed to have signatures attested to by the circulator of the petition and that the petition lacked a request for a formal town meeting or referendum.

Despite the lack of conforming to state statutes, LaPlante verified 299 signatures on the petition.

"This is still a strong showing," LaPlante said. "It's a lot of names, and that is part of the reason why the selectmen are here tonight. We are always willing to discuss petitions, even if we were to disqualify an action or a request."

Jerram said the petition has signatures from residents from throughout the town.

“It has signatures from residents as far northwest as Pioneer Drive, to the area around Cedar Lane,” Jerram said. “It’s far-reaching.”

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“I don’t think we can move forward without hearing from the people of this town,” Selectman Laura Garay said. “We are here to hear from the people in this town.”

The meeting lasted for three hours and included 31 residents speaking during public comment.

The vast majority of the residents who spoke at the meeting pled with the board to not close Bakerville School.

The first resident to speak Buzzi, told the selectmen he could get a legal petition to the board with enough signatures to call for a special town meeting and referendum.

“Whether the petition is legal or not, there is a lot of people who are upset,” Buzzi said. “I do have a child in the school. But if he wasn’t in there, I would still be here because I feel very strongly that the school needs to be part of the town, for the same reasons that I want it for my child. People have come to this town for that school. It would not hurt the town if the school remained open.”

Buzzi said there is “a lot of frustration” with the way the Board of Education handled the decision to close the school.

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“All of these people want a voice,” he said. “I don’t know what anybody is afraid of. There is a lot of anxiety in this town. I know that it’s the Board of Education wants the school to close, which the lawyers say they have a right to do. But all we want is a say. I’m asking for a vote from the town for this school.”

“The Board of Education members are all volunteers and they all try very hard,” Jerram said in response. “I asked Superintendent [Brian Murphy] how many times was the proposed closure on the agenda over the past year. He said six times. In support of the Board of Education, I think it needs to be said that they had numerous meetings on this.”

The next speaker, Kate D’Angelo Radano, said she is a parent of a current Bakerville School student and she herself grew up in town.

“The closure would have a critical impact on our children’s development,” Radano said. “The cost of keeping our school open should be balanced against the broader costs to children and families. Our attempts to appeal to the Board of Education’s humanity have failed pretty miserably. Although I fundamentally disagree with the idea of running governments as businesses, it is obvious to me that this decision was made without any regard to practicality and instead was solely made instead for financial purposes.”

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Toward the end of the meeting, the board unanimously approved an advisory referendum on whether or not the school would be closed.

The referendum, which is only advisory and has no legal authority on any decisions on the school, is scheduled to be held on or before March 15.

In the meantime, Buzzi has started a Save Bakerville School group.

Buzzi’s Facebook page for the group is [www.facebook.com/Save-Bakerville-School-557330697758035](https://www.facebook.com/Save-Bakerville-School-557330697758035).

“Our opinion is that we don’t feel that saving \$100,000 is worth closing an entire school and displacing those students,” Buzzi said in an interview with The Winsted Journal on Friday, Feb. 5. “There are many residents who live on the edges of town with young first graders. It would take these students an hour to get to school if Bakerville closed. This is a concern for a lot of people. There is no room for expansion in New Hartford Elementary School.”

Buzzi claims that the estimate in savings for closing the school is incorrect, which is why he said the town will save \$100,000 instead of the \$248,231 estimate given by town officials.

He said that the town will pay an estimated \$60,000 in unemployment and an estimated \$80,000 to maintain the school building once it is unoccupied.

“This is all a numbers game,” he said. “The board is just going to take money out of one pocket and put it into another.”

The Winsted Journal sought comments from First Selectman Jerram and Board of Education Chairman Sue Lundin, but neither responded to several phone calls.



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## Related Stories

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## Latest News

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### Salisbury ski jumpers put on show for students

By **C.E. Tripler**  
Feb 04, 2026

Gus Tripler prepares to jump from the new 36-meter jump.  
Margaret Banker

SALISBURY - With the Winter Olympics just weeks away, Olympic dreams felt a little closer to home for Salisbury Central School students on Feb. 4, when student ski jumpers from the Salisbury Winter Sports Association put on a live demonstration at the Satre Hill Ski Jumping Complex for more than 300 classmates and teachers.

With screams of delight, student-athletes soared through the air, showcasing years of training and focus for an audience of their peers. The atmosphere was electric as the jumpers soaked up the attention like local celebrities.

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SKI JUMPING



## Classifieds - February 5, 2026

By **Lakeville Journal**  
Feb 04, 2026

 **Classifieds - February 5, 2026**

# Help Wanted

**PART-TIME CARE-GIVER NEEDED:** possibly LIVE-IN. Bright private STUDIO on 10 acres. Queen Bed, En-Suite Bathroom, Kitchenette & Garage. SHARON 407-620-7777.

**The Scoville Memorial Library:** is seeking an experienced Development Coordinator to provide high-level support for our fundraising initiatives on a contract basis. This contractor will play a critical role in donor stewardship, database management, and the execution of seasonal appeals and events. The role is ideal for someone who is deeply connected to the local community and skilled at building authentic relationships that lead to meaningful support. For a full description of the role and to submit a letter of interest and resume, contact Library Director Karin Goodell, [kgoodell@scovillelibrary.org](mailto:kgoodell@scovillelibrary.org).

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## Legal Notices - February 5, 2026

By **Lakeville Journal**  
Feb 04, 2026

# Legal Notices - February 5, 2026

## Legal Notice

The Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury will hold a Public Hearing on Special Permit Application #2026-0307 by Amber Construction and Design Inc for vertical expansion of a nonconforming structure at 120 Wells Hill Road, Lakeville, Map 36, Lot 09 per Section 503.2 of the Salisbury Zoning Regulations. The Owners of the property are Joseph Edward Costa and Elyse Catherine Nelson. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 5:45 PM. There is no physical location for this meeting. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom where interested persons can listen to & speak on the matter. The application, agenda and meeting instructions will be listed at [www.salisburyct.us/agendas/](http://www.salisburyct.us/agendas/). The application materials will be listed at [www.salisburyct.us/planning-zoning-meeting-documents/](http://www.salisburyct.us/planning-zoning-meeting-documents/). Written comments may be submitted to the Land Use Office, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT or via email to [landuse@salisburyct.us](mailto:landuse@salisburyct.us). Paper copies of the agenda, meeting instructions, and application materials may be reviewed Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:00 AM and 3:30 PM at the Land Use Office, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, Salisbury CT.

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# Putting a stamp on Norfolk

By **Jennifer Almquist**

Feb 04, 2026

Antonio Alcalá  
Provided

As part of the Norfolk Economic Development Commission's campaign to celebrate the Norfolk Post Office and the three women who run it – Postmaster Michelle Veronesi and mother-and-daughter postal clerks Kathy Bascetta and Jenna Brown – the EDC has invited USPS art director and stamp designer Antonio Alcalá for a visit.

Postage stamps designed by Antonio Alcalá.  
Provided

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TALKS



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Sara Voghel <voghels@newhtfd.org>

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## [NHTaskForce] solar inquiry for Bakerville School team

2 messages

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**Emily Robertson** <emilyrobertson18@surny.info>  
To: nhtaskforce@newhtfd.org

Mon, Feb 2, 2026 at 12:09 PM

Bakerville School team - saw New Hartford Public Schools serves over 2,000 students across multiple campuses. Have you thought about how solar could support your sustainability goals?

We help facilities in New Hartford lower energy bills with commercial solar installations.

Curious what your savings could look like? (on us)

Emily Robertson | Solar Systems Designer  
Solar Energy Innovations

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**Emily Robertson** <emilyrobertson18@surny.info>  
To: nhtaskforce@newhtfd.org

Wed, Feb 11, 2026 at 10:23 AM

Bakerville School team - am I speaking with the right person for this?

If not, any idea who I should reach out to? Just a name & email would be enough :)

P.S: I was wondering if you're facing any of these issues:

- Classroom temperature swings waste energy and distract students, making it hard for them to focus on learning.

- High lighting costs during evening events put pressure on school budgets, limiting resources for student programs.

If these resonate, would you be open to discussing solar options?

On Mon, Feb 2, 2026 at 5:09 PM Emily Robertson <emilyrobertson18@surny.info> wrote:

> Bakerville School team - saw New Hartford Public Schools serves over 2,000 students across multiple campuses. Have you thought about how solar could support your sustainability goals?

>

> We help facilities in New Hartford lower energy bills with commercial solar installations.

>

> Curious what your savings could look like? (on us)

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> Emily Robertson | Solar Systems Designer

> Solar Energy Innovations

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Sara Voghel <voghels@newhtfd.org>

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## [NHTaskForce] Meeting time

1 message

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'Sarah Hattan' via School Facility Utilization Task Force <NHTaskForce@newhtfd.org>

Wed, Feb 11, 2026 at 8:32 PM

Reply-To: Sarah Hattan <sarah\_hattan@yahoo.com>

To: NHTaskForce@newhtfd.org

Good evening,

A group of New Hartford mothers and I, all of whom have children at NHES and Bakerville, were discussing the task force. We all came to the consensus that it would be more convenient for parents if the meeting time was earlier in the evening, as we would all like to attend, however 7pm interferes with familial duties.

Please consider holding the meeting at an earlier time so that more of us can attend.

Best regards,

Sarah Allen

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

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## New Hartford Utilization Timeline StatusTracking

TASK	START	END
<b>Initiation</b>		
SP+A Award Kick-Off	12/16/25	12/16/25
Retrieve school construction drawings, reports and documentation	12/22/25	12/22/25
Kick-off with MP Planning	1/8/26	1/8/26
BOE Meeting—select Task Force	1/15/26	1/15/26
Kick-off with Task Force	1/22/26	1/22/26
Task Force to define goals	1/22/26	2/11/26
<b>Facility Conditions</b>		
School floor plan documentation	12/22/25	1/15/26
A/E Site Visit—Bakerville & New Hartford	1/16/26	1/16/26
A/E Site Visit—Ann Antolini	1/24/26	1/24/26
Develop narratives and Estimates	1/21/26	2/25/26
Presentation (tentative range)	3/2/26	3/11/26
<b>Enrollment &amp; Projections</b>		
Obtain School Enrollment Data	1/12/26	2/2/26
Obtain Town Development Data	1/17/26	2/7/26
Evaluation and analysis	2/8/26	3/10/26
Presentation (tentative range)	3/23/26	4/8/26
<b>Programming &amp; Capacity</b>		
Meet with Principals—review existing	2/2/26	2/6/26
Benchmarking with state & design standards/ recommendations	2/6/26	2/20/26
Meet with Admin Team - review program goals & objectives	2/23/26	3/9/26
Incorporate enrollment projections into capacity equations	3/10/26	3/24/26
Presentation - tentative -existing program, goals & capacity following Enrollment Projections	3/23/26	4/8/26
Refine program based on any new configurations during Master Plan options		
<b>Master Planning</b>		
SP+A present initial concepts for discussion and refinement	4/9/26	4/22/26
Develop viable concepts further based on Task Force meetings	4/23/26	5/13/26
Gather feedback (community meetings, surveys, presentations TBD)	5/12/26	5/27/26
Refine options - recommend to narrow down to 1-3 options	5/27/26	6/8/26
Presentation - tentative	6/10/26	
SP+A to develop a book of all documentation	6/10/26	8/9/26