

RIVERSIDE SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Organizational Meeting

Wednesday, March 11th, 2026 | 7:30 AM ET

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Attendee	Position	Present	Absent
Officers			
Stephan Pezdek	Chair	In Person	
Luigi Ghilardi	Vice-Chair	In Person	
Bryan Finkel	Secretary	Zoom	
Voting Members			
Paul Cappiali	BOE Member	Absent	
Ben Chynsky	Regular Member	Zoom	
Louis Contadino	Regular Member	In person	
Andy Duus	Regular Member	In Person	
Doug Fenton	BET Member	In Person	
Christina Lyndon	Regular Member	In Person	
Ex-Officio / Non-Voting Members			
Veronica Chiavaroli	First Selectman's Advisory Advocacy Committee for People with Disabilities	Zoom	
Julian De La Rosa	BOE Facilities	Zoom	
Christina Downey	RTM Representative	In Person	
Nicholas Macri	P&Z Representative	Zoom	
Jason Martin	Riverside School Principal		Absent
Lauren Rabin	BOS Representative	Zoom	
Sheel Spina	DPW Representative		Absent
Guests			
Chris Cykley		In Person	
Chris Mitchell		Zoom	
James Waters		In Person	
Stephen Walko		In Person	
Lisa Yates		Zoom	

MEETING MINUTES

Item	Topic	Description
1.00	Call to Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting called to order at 7:34 AM ET
2.00	Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As noted above
3.00	Housekeeping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chris Cykley and Andy Duus have been appointed to the committee as Regular members
4.00	Approval of Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motion to approve prior meeting minutes approved by unanimous consent
5.00	Matters Raised at Prior Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The scope of the Architect RFP, which was discussed in Executive Session during the March 4th meeting, was brought for a formal vote. Apart from one nit raised by Mr. Contadino, which will be addressed in the final form, the scope was approved with unanimous consent
6.00	New Matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion with Other Building Committee Chairs: The Committee was joined by James Watters (Chair, Old Greenwich School Building Committee) and Stephen Walko (Chair, New Lebanon School Building Committee). The two detailed lessons learned and best practices developed during their respective experiences, including: communication with the public; intensity and urgency of advancing the process; ensuring an adequate contingency for unforeseen issues; streamlining of sourcing of materials; appropriately questioning decisions/suggestions offered by professionals involved in the project; suggested optimal skillset for Owner's Representative; and leveraging the recent experiences of other of the Town's school building committees. Ms. Chiavarolli noted that Mr. Macri's deep experience navigating the Town's processes will prove invaluable in the committee's efforts going forward
7.00	Open Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No additional topics raised
8.00	Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motion to adjourn approved by unanimous consent at 8:20 AM ET