South Hadley Elementary School Building Project
Community Meeting Recap Handout
February 5, 2026

This document is a summary only of the February 5, 2026, Community Meeting.
Discussions of the preferred design solution are still ongoing.

Community Meeting Summary – February 5, 2026

The South Hadley Elementary School Building Committee hosted a Community Meeting on Thursday, February 5, 2026, to provide project updates and gather community input. The School Building Committee has now hosted three community meetings as part of the Feasibility Study process.

The evening began with a guided tour of the existing Mosier Elementary School, giving attendees the opportunity to observe current building conditions firsthand. The tour was followed by a presentation outlining the project's partnership with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), the educational vision guiding the work, existing facility challenges, and preliminary design options under consideration.

As part of the Feasibility Study, seven potential design approaches are being evaluated. At its January 2026 meeting, after reviewing the advantages and trade-offs of each, the School Building Committee voted to continue refining two leading options for further study:

- **Alternative 4:** New construction on the Mosier site serving Grades 2–4 (approximately 360 students), maintaining the current grade configuration.
- **Alternative 5:** New construction on the Mosier site serving Grades 1–5 (approximately 590 students), reflecting a consolidated elementary configuration.

During the February 5, 2026, presentation, community members participated in a live Mentimeter survey, allowing both in-person and virtual attendees to provide real-time feedback on project priorities. This interactive format supported transparent discussion and ensured community perspectives were incorporated into the Feasibility Study process.

There were a total of 12 participants (combination of in-person and online via Zoom).

Mentimeter survey results as well as a summary of the Q&As are provided on the following pages. The meeting recording as well as a copy of the meeting presentation are available on the project website.

Community members are encouraged to visit the project website to view materials, read FAQs, and sign up for project updates.

Scan the QR code to access the project website!

February 5, 2026, Community Meeting Survey Results

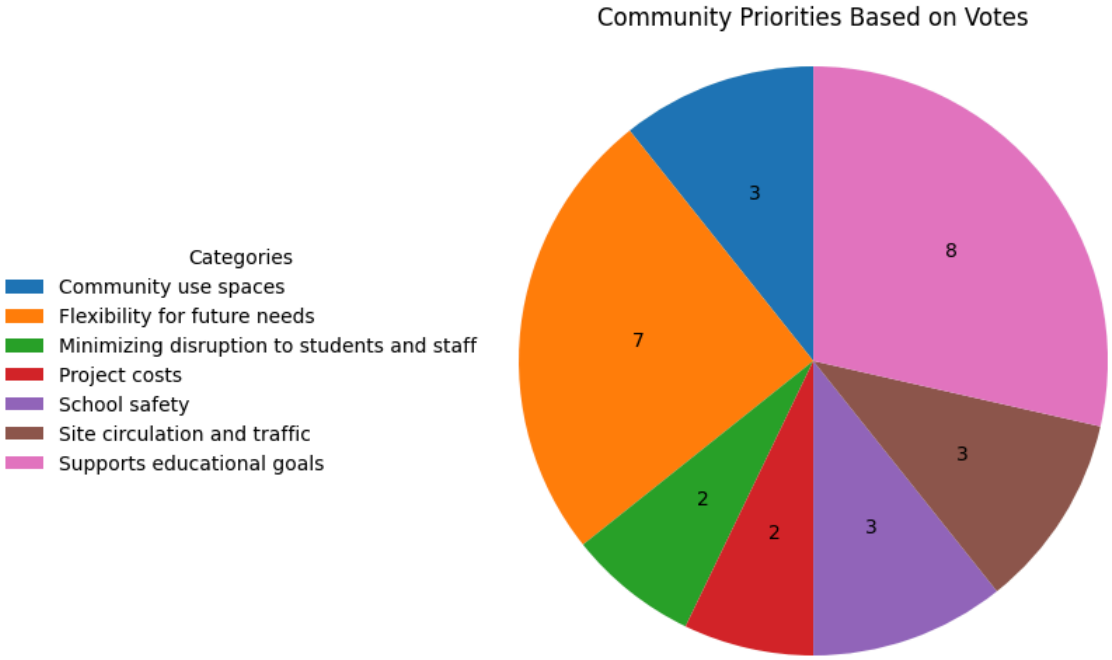
As part of the presentation, community members were invited to participate in a series of live Mentimeter questions. The survey was accessible to both in-person and virtual attendees through a QR code, allowing real-time participation during the meeting. Paper copies of the survey were also made available for those who preferred a written format. A summary of all responses is provided below.

*Please note that not all participants voted on every option. There were a total of 12 participants (combination of in-person and online)

Question #1:
Community Priorities for the Mosier Project (Choose up to 3. List is alphabetical, not listed by importance)

- Community use spaces
- Flexibility for future needs
- Minimizing disruption to students and staff
- Project costs
- School safety
- Site circulation and traffic
- Supports educational goals
- Other

Question #1 Survey Results:

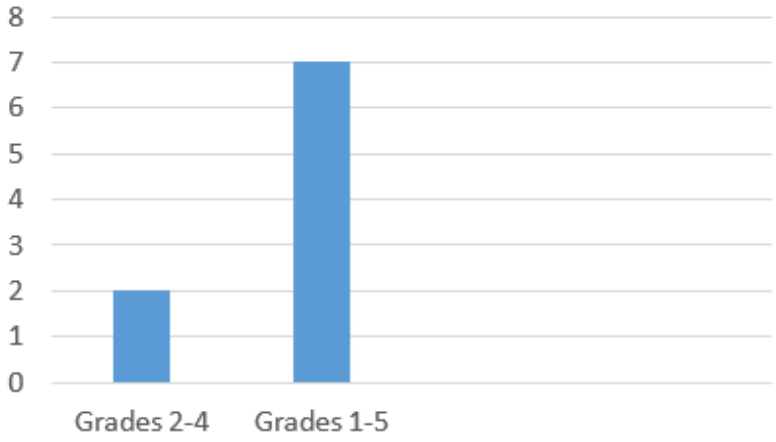


1. Supports educational goals (8 votes)
2. Flexibility for future needs (7 votes)
3. Community use spaces (4 votes)
4. School safety (3 votes)
5. Site circulation and traffic (3 votes)
6. Minimizing disruption to students and staff (2 votes)
7. Project costs (2 votes)
8. Other (0 votes)

Question #2:
Which grade configuration do you currently prefer, based on what you've heard tonight?

- 1-5 (approx. 590 students) grade configuration
- 2-4 (approx. 360 students) current grade configuration

Question #2 Survey Results:

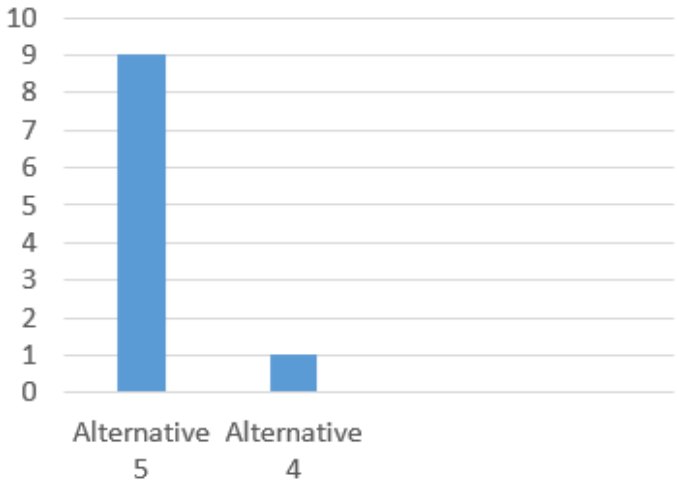


- 1-5 (approx. 590 students) grade configuration (7 votes)
- 2-4 (approx. 360 students) current grade configuration (2 votes)

Question #3:
Which design solution do you feel is most advantageous for the community, based on what you've seen tonight? (Alt. #4 and #5 are shortlisted by the SBC)

- Alternative 5 – New Construction – Existing Site (Grades 1-5) approx. 590 students
- Alternative 4 - New Construction – Existing Site (Grades 2-4) approx. 360 students

Question #3 Survey Results:



- Alternative 5 – New Construction – Existing Site (Grades 1-5) approx. 590 students (9 votes)
- Alternative 4 - New Construction – Existing Site (Grades 2-4) approx. 360 students (1 vote)

Community Questions and Answers

Q: Is the Town's financial position being fully considered as part of this project?

Response shared during the community meeting:
Yes. Town leadership, School District officials, and the project team are carefully evaluating the financial impacts of the project as part of the planning process. Current cost estimates include contingencies and escalation to address market uncertainty, and estimates will continue to be refined as the project advances through design.

The project also represents a significant opportunity through the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA). South Hadley was accepted into the MSBA program in 2023 after multiple prior submissions in 2012, 2018, and 2019, making Mosier Elementary one of nineteen schools statewide invited into the program that year. Through this partnership, the state is expected to reimburse tens of millions of dollars toward the cost of the project. Because the MSBA program is highly competitive, there is no guarantee the Town would be accepted again in the future.

The School Building Committee remains committed to transparency. Financial updates, project documents, and community meeting materials are regularly shared with the public, and all meetings are publicly posted and open to community participation.

Additional context provided by Town leadership following the meeting:
Town officials recognize that discussing a school building project during a time of broader budget pressures raises understandable concerns for residents, and these financial considerations are taken seriously.

At the same time, the proposed replacement of Mosier Elementary School has been under consideration for many years. The Town submitted multiple Statements of Interest to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in 2012, 2018, and 2019, and established a stabilization fund in 2018 to begin preparing for a future project. Acceptance into the MSBA program in 2023 represents a significant milestone and creates the opportunity for substantial state reimbursement toward the project.

Town leadership also recognizes that investments in school facilities are long-term investments in the community. Modern schools support strong educational programs, help attract and retain families, and can reduce maintenance challenges and improve energy efficiency compared with aging facilities.

Residents are encouraged to stay engaged and follow the Town's budget discussions. Additional information is available through the School District Business Office webpage and the Budget and Town Meeting webpage.

Q: Could construction and borrowing costs rise higher than what is currently presented?
A: The current total project budget includes escalation and contingency to address potential cost increases. The team will continue monitoring market conditions and refine estimates as design progresses.

Q: South Hadley currently has a school choice deficit. How is this project addressing enrollment challenges?
A: While a new school alone does not solve school choice, improved facilities can make the district more attractive to families. The district is also conducting outreach through family engagement, surveys, and community listening sessions to better understand enrollment trends and needs.

Q: Why was Mosier selected for the MSBA project when there are issues with other South Hadley Schools, like the High School.
A: While all district facilities are regularly evaluated, Mosier Elementary School was identified as having the most urgent and longstanding facility needs. Mosier was constructed in 1969 and has had limited

major renovations since that time. In contrast, South Hadley High School underwent significant renovation in the early 2000s.
Mosier's building systems, infrastructure, and layout have been studied and discussed for many years, and it has consistently been identified by Town and School leadership as the facility with the most pressing needs.

Based on those conditions, the District submitted a Statement of Interest to the MSBA in 2012, 2018, and 2019 seeking state partnership for a school project. In 2018, the Town also established a stabilization fund to begin preparing financially for a future school investment.

Q: If School budget cuts are approved, how will priority of student services like AP classes and Athletics be prioritized?

A: Superintendent Voyik shared that the District's primary goal is to continue providing the programs and services that students need most. In the event of budget reductions, the District would carefully evaluate all areas of the budget to determine where adjustments could be made while minimizing impacts to core academic programming and student opportunities. Decisions would be guided by student needs, educational priorities, and long-term sustainability.

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About the South Hadley Elementary School Building Project

The South Hadley Elementary School Building Project is a long-term effort to address the facility needs of Mosier Elementary School and provide a safe, modern, and educationally aligned learning environment for South Hadley students.

Planning for improvements to Mosier Elementary School has taken place over many years. The Town previously submitted Statements of Interest to the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) in 2012, 2018, and 2019 seeking state partnership for a school project. In 2018, the Town also established a stabilization fund to begin preparing financially for a future school investment.

This long-term planning effort, combined with building condition assessments, district-wide educational planning, and coordination with the MSBA, reflects a thoughtful and fiscally responsible approach to addressing the community's school facility needs.

In 2023, South Hadley was invited by the MSBA to enter the state's school building program with Mosier Elementary School identified as the priority project. The project entered the MSBA Feasibility Study phase in 2025 and is now following the structured, multi-year process required for all MSBA-supported school building projects, including feasibility, design, funding approval, and construction.

The goal of the project is to create a facility that supports contemporary teaching and learning, aligns with the District's educational vision, and serves South Hadley students for generations to come.

Community members are encouraged to stay engaged by attending meetings, reviewing project materials, and signing up for project updates as the process continues.