



Windsor Locks Public Schools

Shawn L. Parkhurst
Superintendent of Schools

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September 9, 2026

Dear Windsor Locks Community,

At last evening's Board of Education meeting, the Board unanimously approved the formation of a **Long-Term Educational and Facilities Planning Task Force** to examine the educational, facility, operational, and financial needs of Windsor Locks Public Schools over the next **5–10 years**. This is an important step as the Windsor Locks Public Schools begin an important conversation about the long-term future of our schools, students, and facilities.

The purpose of this task force is not to reach a predetermined conclusion about our schools. Rather, it is to study the data, listen to our community, examine the opportunities and challenges we face, and develop thoughtful options for the future.

The task force will examine:

- Current and projected student enrollment;
- School capacity, utilization, and facility conditions;
- Educational programming and student opportunities;
- Special Education and student support services;
- Transportation and operational considerations;
- The financial implications of maintaining, renovating, repurposing, or modifying existing facilities; and
- Potential approaches to the future organization and use of our schools and facilities.

The task force will consider a **range of possibilities**, including maintaining our current configuration, modifying the use of existing facilities, repurposing space, making targeted investments, modifying grade configurations, consolidating programs or services, or, if supported by the data, considering changes to the number or configuration of schools.

The task force will include representatives from the Board of Education, Administration, Teachers, Parents/Guardians, Students, Town Government, Finance, Special Education Families, and the broader community.

We are looking for individuals who are willing to:

- Listen to perspectives different from their own;
- Consider data and multiple points of view;
- Ask thoughtful questions;
- Participate consistently in meetings and activities; and
- Approach this work with an open mind and a long-term perspective.

Time Commitment

The task force will conduct its work from September 30, 2026 through December 9, 2026; meeting every Wednesday evening from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm (no meeting on Veteran's Day and the day before Thanksgiving).

The work will include reviewing data, examining potential options, engaging the community, and ultimately developing findings and recommendations for consideration by the Board of Education.

The task force will be an **advisory to the Board of Education** and will not make final decisions regarding school configuration, facilities, programming, or district operations.

Interested in Serving?

If you are interested in being considered for membership on the **Long-Term Educational and Facilities Planning Task Force**, please email Donna Bole at dbole@wlps.org no later than September 15, 2026, with the following information:

1. Your name and contact information;
2. Your connection to Windsor Locks and/or Windsor Locks Public Schools;

Please know that not everyone interested will be selected to be a part of the task force but updates throughout the process will be shared to keep you informed.

Our responsibility is to ensure that Windsor Locks takes the time to understand where we are today, where we are headed, and what opportunities exist to provide the very best educational experience possible for our students.

I hope you will consider being part of this important work.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the students and future of Windsor Locks.

Sincerely,



Shawn L. Parkhurst
Superintendent of Schools