

RIVERSIDE SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, September 30th, 2026 | 7:30 AM ET

Riverside School – Media Center | 90 Hendrie Ave, Riverside, CT 06878 | Hybrid: In Person and via Zoom

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Attendee	Position	Present	Absent
Officers			
Stephan Pezdek	Chair	In Person	
Luigi Ghilardi	Vice-Chair	In Person	
Bryan Finkel	Secretary	Zoom	
Voting Members			
Veronica Chiavaroli	BOE Representative	In Person	
Ben Chynsky	Regular Member		Absent
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			
Julian De La Rosa	BOE Facilities	Zoom	
Christina Downey	RTM Representative	Zoom	
Nicholas Macri	P&Z Representative	Zoom	
Mary Dolan Collette	Riverside School Principal	In Person	
Lauren Rabin	BOS Representative	Zoom	
James Michel	DPW Representative	Zoom	
Guests			
Chris Cykley	MGMT Construction & Consulting	Zoom	
Brent Reeves	GPS Director of Security	Zoom	
Emily Sifuentes	Arcadis	Zoom	
Eugene Watts	GPS Manager of School Procurement	Zoom	

MEETING MINUTES

Item	Topic	Description
1.00	Call to Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A quorum having been reached, the meeting was called to order at 7:31 AM ET by Mr. Pezdek
2.00	Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As noted above
3.00	Housekeeping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Owner's Representative RFP Scoring: Mr. Pezdek thanked members for completing their Owner's Representative RFP scores over the weekend. Executive Session Procedure: Mr. Pezdek advised that attendees who are not committee members would be placed in the Zoom waiting room or asked to log off during Executive Session.
4.00	Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The September 23rd draft minutes had been circulated in advance. Motion to approve made by Mr. Duus, seconded by Mr. Ghilardi; approved with unanimous consent
5.00	Communications Working Group Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status: Ms. Rabin reported that the working group has not met since its last update; the update Mr. Fenton prepared for the Board of Estimate and Taxation has since been used by Ms. Chiavaroli to update the Board of Education and by Ms. Rabin to update the Board of Selectmen, and a community forum will be considered as a next step once more information is available. Community Outreach: Ms. Lyndon reported that the update was also forwarded to the PTA and the Riverside Association, whose event this past weekend was canceled due to weather, and asked for a communications section on the committee web portal so that members work from a single, consistent update; Mr. Finkel agreed to build it. Governing Body Feedback: Mr. Duus asked whether governing bodies had reacted to the project's progress; Mr. Fenton noted they are still absorbing the difference between the amount in the capital plan and current cost estimates, which the Old Greenwich School project and the added square footage required by the Educational Specifications help put in context, and Ms. Chiavaroli reported that the discussion at the Board of Education went smoothly.
6.00	Executive Session to Discuss Owner's Representative RFP Scoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive Session to discuss Owner's Representative RFP scoring, as noticed on the publicly posted meeting agenda. Motion to amend the agenda to add Mr. Watts's attendance at the Executive Session made by Ms. Chiavaroli, seconded by Mr. Duus; approved with unanimous consent. Motion to invite Mr. Watts to attend the Executive Session made by Ms. Chiavaroli, seconded by Mr. Duus; approved with unanimous consent. The committee entered Executive Session at 7:41 AM ET and returned to open session at 8:22 AM ET. No votes were taken in Executive Session. The Construction Manager RFP process and timing, also noticed for Executive Session, was not discussed and will be addressed in the next regular meeting
7.00	Matters for Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 7th at the committee's regular time and location; QA+M will provide a progress update, and a pending legal invoice raised by Mr. Fenton will be placed on the agenda for approval following Mr. Pezdek's review
8.00	Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Fenton, seconded by Mr. Duus; approved with unanimous consent. The committee adjourned at 8:23 AM ET