The Facilities Subcommittee met on Monday, September 21, 2026, in a Virtual Zoom Meeting. Present were Jennifer Cullum, Andre King, Sara Ahern, Doug Boulanger, Chris Dwelley, and Jen Kruczek.

Ms. Cullum called the meeting to order at 4:00PM.

Approve Meeting Minutes

- Motion by Mr. King, seconded by Dr. Ahern, and the Committee voted, unanimously, to approve the Meeting Minutes of August 24, 2026.

Update on Consultant Research

- Dr. Ahern reached out to Franklin Superintendent and the consultant they used has retired. Mr. Dwelley reached out to some of his contacts without success. He noted Yarmouth is interested in the person Dr. Ahern had reached out to the last meeting.
- Ms. Cullum inquired whether the Subcommittee could coordinate with the MSBA to request recommendations. Dr. Ahern clarified that the MSBA maintains a list of available contacts for districts to use once they are in their programs..
- Mr. King asked if Cape Cod districts had been consulted regarding their consultant selections. Dr. Ahern stated Nauset used the person she has a quote from. Other schools have used NESDEC. She will reach out to NESDEC and get a quote.
- Mr. King noted Falmouth is having a discussion about closing a school. Dr. Ahern will reach out to the Superintendent in Falmouth.
- Mr. King commented that it is not just Cape schools that are going through these processes. There are schools on the South Shore as well with new buildings.

Finalize Memo that Summarizes the Work of the Facilities Subcommittee with Potential Recommendations to the School Committee

- Ms. Cullum noted that the Subcommittee is approaching its one-year mark and suggested summarizing past accomplishments to determine if the group should continue and change its charge.
- Mr. King stated the Subcommittee featured school facility presentations at each School Committee meeting and recommended reviewing proposed Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects alongside funding for those projects.
- Dr. Ahern stated the Subcommittee recommended creating a new fee and rental structure to establish distinct tiers for Barnstable youth organizations.
- Ms. Cullum highlighted the Subcommittee's hand in looking at the athletic fields, including rental management and maintenance, and reported exploring options and costs for a potential new school prior to presenting to the Comprehensive Financial Advisory Committee (CFAC).
- Dr. Ahern stated the Subcommittee reviewed MSBA survey data using statewide rubric criteria, identifying Barnstable Community Innovation School (BCIS) and Centerville Elementary as having the highest level 3 priority needs, and noted MSBA Accelerated Repair Projects for roofs.
- Mr. King emphasized examining approaches taken by neighboring districts. He noted that building a new school costs double compared to maintaining current facilities, expressed interest in sharing this context with the broader community, and questioned whether the School Committee is willing to consider competition regarding a new school.
- Dr. Ahern shared a grid outlining 2025–2026 actions and outcomes, which was distributed with the previous week's agenda.

Draft a Potential Change for the Facilities Subcommittee Moving Forward

- Dr. Ahern drafted a potential charge for the Subcommittee as a starting point.
- Ms. Cullum asked if they should add anything about the debt exclusion vote to partner with the Town about communication.
- Dr. Ahern stated she kept it vague and open.
- Ms. Cullum stated working together is the most important thing. The School Committee needs to talk with the Town Council Liaisons and other Town Council members.

- Dr. Ahern separated out the part about collaborating with Town Officials with the support of the full School Committee about facilities needs.

Next Steps

- The next meeting will be October 19 at 4:00pm.

Motion by Mr. King, seconded by Dr. AHern, and the Subcommittee voted to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jen Kruczek
Executive Assistant

*Portions of these Minutes were enhanced by Google Gemini.