

WEST MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Superintendent

Barbara Francisco
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Daniel Novak
Director of Education

Elizabeth McQuaid, OTD
Director of Special Services

“Success Starts Here”

Restructuring Committee - Building Usage Subcommittee Agenda

Meeting 2 - Tuesday, August 9 4:00 p.m. Westbrook School Media Center

Attendance:

Alex Anemone, Superintendent
Claire Lockwood, Board of Education Trustee
Barbara Francisco, Business Administrator
Elissa Scillieri, Principal, Apshawa School
Dean Monti, Head Custodian
Melissa Welch, Teacher
Christina Duffy, Parent
Christine Price, Parent
Inga Koeppel, Community Member
Lori Eckhardt, Parent
Kerry Metzger, Parent

1. Open Discussion/Feedback:

Dr. Anemone opened the meeting by asking the committee for community feedback. The committee members discussed specific feedback they have been receiving from stakeholders. One particular concern dealt with the possibility of some students having to transition from one elementary school to another. Students, it was noted, handle these transitions very differently. Some manage very well and others struggle with change. The district should be aware of this fact and plan to support its students. Committee members had questions about the timeline for the process. Dr. Anemone explained that the plan was to continue subcommittee meetings throughout August and present an Interim Report at the September 20 Board of Education meeting. Committee meetings will continue throughout the autumn and a Final Report will be shared with the Board of Education and with the community prior to the end of 2022 (November/December).

2. Subcommittee Updates

Dr. Anemone provided a brief update from the other four subcommittees. They will continue to meet on the same calendar/schedule as the Building Usage Committee. All meeting agendas, minutes and supplementary documents are posted on our website under “District Restructuring Committee”.

3. Demographic Study (Ross Haber Associates 2010, 2019)

Dr. Anemone shared the old Demographic Studies with the committee and they discussed some of the findings.

4. Building Utilization Study (Ross Haber Associates 2010)

Dr. Anemone shared the previous Building Utilization Study with the committee.

5. Demographic Study and Building Utilization Study (2022)

The most recent studies will be presented and shared with the Board of Education and with the community at the August 23 BOE meeting. This meeting will be held in the Westbrook School Media Center at 7:00 p.m. and will be live-streamed on our website; Dr. Ross Haber will present the findings.

6. Old Business

The committee discussed other alternatives such as increasing tuition-based Pre-School programs, creating more centralized schools (K-3, 4-5, etc.), or opening an Arts Academy @ WMHS.

7. New Business

N/A

8. Next Steps

Dr. Ross Haber will present his findings at the August 23 Board of Education meeting. Subcommittees will continue to meet and Dr. Anemone will present an Interim Report at the September Board meeting and then a Final Report in late 2022 (November/December).

Next Meeting: TBA