THE HOLYOKE MIDDLE SCHOOLS BUILDING PROPOSAL

Public Information Meetings
May, 2019
Return Holyoke Public Schools to a PK-5, 6-8, 9-12 grade configuration.

Demolish the existing Peck School.

Construct two new 21st Century middle schools, each for 550 students.
One to be built at site of current Peck School.
One to be built on a vacant lot at Chestnut & Cabot Street.

Build both schools over a 2 year period. Open both in Fall 2022.
Holyoke Public Schools are placed in receivership because of academic underperformance.

District conducts independent audit of school facilities with support of MSBA.

Audit recommends the District work to reduce discontinued use of four schools that are physically or organizationally inadequate. (Morgan, Lawrence, Peck & Metcalf)

Public process develops long term strategic plan that favors construction of 2 new middle schools to reduce crowding in K8 neighborhood schools.

- **Plan calls for closure of Peck and Lawrence.**

City Council approves submission of Lawrence & Peck schools to capital project pipeline asking for middle school facilities to serve 1100 students.
Aug 8 - MSBA approved the two school proposal. Schematic Design began.

Oct. 16 – City Council approved Schematic Design fee for Peck site.

Aug 28 – MSBA and City to sign Scope & Budget Agreement.

Sept or Nov – Proposed City Vote on Debt Exclusion Override.
SCHEMATIC DESIGN PHASE PROCESS

Public Design Conversations,
Design Advisory Group Meetings,
Meetings with Students

September 18 – Backpack Event
September 13 – Building Committee
September 17 – School Comm. Presentation
September 20 – CM Interviews
October 1 – PTO Presentation
October 10 – Council Finance Committee
October 11 – Building Committee
October 15 – Design Advisory Group Mtg
October 22 – Design Advisory Group Mtg
October 25 – Holyoke Public Library Event
November 1– Design Advisory Group Mtg
November 2 – 3D Class Meetings at HHS
November 8 – Design Advisory Group Mtg
November 14 – Peck Community Event
November 19– Design Advisory Group Mtg
December 4 – EN White Event
December 5 – Holyoke Community Dinner
December 14 – HHS Student Discussions
December 17 – PTO Presentation
January 17 – Building Committee
January 23 – Veritas Prep Visit
February 13 – Building Committee Mtg
February 24 – Joint School Board/Council Mtg
April 10 – Senior Center Presentation
WHY ARE NEW SCHOOLS NEEDED?
WHAT KIND OF SCHOOLS WILL THESE BE?

SCHOOLS THAT HELP STUDENTS TO CREATE, COLLABORATE & COMMUNICATE

SCHOOLS THAT ARE AGE APPROPRIATE AND WILL SUPPORT STUDENTS' VARIED NEEDS AND ABILITIES

SCHOOLS THAT WELCOME FAMILY & COMMUNITY

SCHOOLS THAT ARE HEALTHY & SAFE
Create a culture of HIGH EXPECTATIONS and RESPECT.

Place greater emphasis on HANDS-ON LEARNING.

Focus on TEAM TEACHING and CARING learning communities.

Renew opportunities for ART, MUSIC, and STEM programs across all grade levels.

Provide greater SUPPORT for students and teachers NEAR TO THE CLASSROOM.

Be more WELCOMING to all families, including bilingual signage and a FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER.

Demonstrate and teach SUSTAINABILITY.
Grade Level Clusters

- Classroom
- Small group room
- Project area
- Classroom
- Main stair
- Science lab
- ELL classroom or resource room
THE RESULT - Chestnut Street Middle School

- Serves Grades 6, 7, 8
- Year Round Use (Full A/C)
- Community Gym Use
- After Hours Use
- Superior Security Systems
- Family Center
- Wellness Clinic for Students
- Faculty/Visitor Parking Areas
- Site Lighting & Cameras
- U11 Soccer Field
- Half Court Basketball Hoops
- Park-like Amenities
Proposed Chestnut Street Middle School
Proposed Chestnut Street Middle School
THE RESULT - New Peck Middle School

- Serves Grades 6, 7, 8
- Year Round Use (Full A/C)
- Community Gym Use
- After Hours Use
- Superior Security Systems
- Family Center
- Wellness Clinic for Students
- Faculty/Visitor Parking Areas
- Site Lighting & Cameras
- Half Court Basketball Hoops
- Park-like Amenities
- Improvements to Dingle
- Better Connection to HHS
Proposed New "Peck" Middle School
Current residential rate: $19.13
Increase: $1.31
New residential rate: $20.44
Value of average home: $182,800
Annual cost/year: $240
Current commercial rate: $39.69
Increase: $2.72
New commercial rate: $42.41

1 cent from 6.25% sales tax goes to MSBA for school funding: we’ve all contributed already

95,000 JOBS CREATED
Since 2005, MSBA spending led to the creation of nearly 95,000 jobs and generated $4.5 billion in total employment earnings.

$13.6 BILLION IN PAYMENTS MADE
More than $13.6 billion paid to cities, towns, and regional school districts

600,000 STUDENTS BENEFIT
600,000 of the 957,000 students enrolled in the Massachusetts public school system have benefited from MSBA funding.
The MSBA's grant for this project comes from 1% of state sales tax revenue.

These neighboring communities are also using the MSBA program to build new schools.

Nearby MSBA Projects 2014-2021

- GRANBY ELEMENTARY ADD/RENO  
  $36.7 M  (2018)*

- EASTHAMPTON ELEM/MIDDLE  
  $109 M  (2021)

- SOUTH HADLEY PLAINS ELEMNTARY  
  $34 M  (2015)*

- LUDLOW CHAPIN ELEMENTARY  
  $57M  (2021)

- SPRINGFIELD BRIGHTWOOD ELEM  
  $82M  (2021)

- W. SPRINGFIELD HIGH*  
  $135.4M  (2015)

- CHICOPEE ACADEMY RENOVATION*  
  $39.2 M  (2014)

*escalated to 2020 costs
The project will cost $131.5M in total.

The Massachusetts School Building Authority has agreed to pay approximately 60% ($76M) of the cost.

The City’s share is 40% ($56M), to be paid for over 30 years.
**THE HOLYOKE MIDDLE SCHOOLS BUILDING PROPOSAL**

### MOST CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE:

This is the annual cost to property taxpayers based on a 30 year bond.

The debt can be reduced by applying new revenues over time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current residential rate: $19.13</th>
<th>Increase: $1.31</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New residential rate: $20.44</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value of average home: $182,800</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual cost/year: $240</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current commercial rate: $39.69</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase: $2.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New commercial rate: $42.41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STEPS AHEAD

- Ballot Measure and Bond must be approved by City Council to place the Debt Exclusion on a city-wide ballot measure in either September or November.

- The Ballot Decision gives the City the power to tax beyond the current property tax limit for the specific costs of this project as stated in the Bond (131.5M).

- The City Council/City/District can continue to pursue additional funds to reduce the tax impact before the vote and after.

- IF APPROVED, the property tax impact will not kick in for 3 years, providing additional time for the City to secure more funds.

- IF NOT APPROVED, the City loses access to the MSBA grant offer and has to reapply for a new project.
Shall the city of Holyoke be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to design and construct two new middle schools, each to serve 550 students and located as follows:

One school of 105,460 square feet to be constructed on the open block bounded by Cabot, Chestnut, Hampshire and Elm Streets;

The second school of 105,840 square feet to be constructed on the site of the existing William R. Peck Schools at 1916 Northampton Street.

The project includes the demolition and abatement of the Peck School, and all related costs for design, construction, furnishings and technology for both schools.

Yes ________ No __________
THE HOLYOKE MIDDLE SCHOOLS BUILDING PROPOSAL

THANK YOU!
To learn more, please visit https://www.hps.holyoke.ma.us/turnaround/msredesign/