Educational Optimization Committee Meeting
Friday, January 16, 2026
8:15 AM
Zoom Webinar

I. Call to Order, Verification of Quorum
II. Approval of Minutes
    A. Approval of minutes from the December 19, 2025 Education Optimization Committee Meeting.
III. Board of Education special facilities meetings
IV. Future timeline and agenda
V. Next scheduled meeting of the Education Optimization Committee.
    A. February 16, 2026, 8:15 AM, Via Zoom
VI. Adjournment

Educational Optimization Committee Meeting
Friday, December 19, 2025
8:15 AM
Zoom Webinar

Present: Peter Gordon, Deborah Low, Lisa Luft. Present: 3.

I. Call to Order, Verification of Quorum
Additional Attendees:
Erica Forti, Superintendent of Schools; Phillip Cross, Chief Finance and Operations Officer; Michael DelMastro, Director of Facilities

A quorum was met, and the meeting was called to order at 8:16 AM
Move that the Education Optimization Committee begin the December 19, 2025 meeting Unseconded with a motion by Low, Deborah.

II. Approval of Minutes: May 16, 2025 Education Optimization Committee Meeting
Minutes approved without objection and unseconded. Motion approved unanimously (only one voting member present). Deborah Low noted that many several current members were not on the committee at the time of the May meeting.
Move that the Education Optimization Committee approve the minutes from the May 16, 2025 meeting. Unseconded with a motion by Gordon, Peter.

III. Facilities Planning: information, topics, options, timeline needed for BOE next steps
The committee discussed what information the Board of Education needs, what topics should be addressed in upcoming BOE special meetings, how to sequence discussions between now and June, emphasis on staying high-level, avoiding premature decisions. Participants collaboratively identified broad categories for future BOE consideration: grade reconfiguration, holistic use of all facilities, capital projects, costs and funding, timeline, and shared town facilities. The SLAM Phase II report, which should be available end of January to early

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February, will determine whether the middle school qualifies for "renovate-to-new" status. The committee agreed there needs to be involvement from the town and discussed inviting First Selectwoman Nestor to the January meeting,

IV. Capital Projects: updates

North House HVAC: No new construction update at this time. The state has established HVAC-specific grant funding. The district plans to: apply for grants and complete the required 5-year evaluation starting in January. Capital Improvement Plan: The existing plan dates to 2017 and may be outdated. Discussion of refreshing the plan with input from Colliers.Indoor
Air Quality was identified as a major priority in upcoming FY27 capital requests.

V. Next Scheduled Meeting: January 16, 2026, 8:15 AM, Via Zoom.

VI. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 9:03 AM
Move that the Education Optimization Committee meeting adjourn the December 19, 2025 meeting. Unseconded with a motion by Luft, Lisa.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jodi Sacchetta

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