



Communication Committee Meeting
Thursday, April 2, 2026
9:00 AM
Zoom Webinar

- I. Call to Order, Verification of Quorum
- II. Approval of minutes from the March 6, 2026 Communication Committee Meeting
- III. Discussion regarding the Board of Education Special Meeting (School Facilities/Campus Revitalization) Summary
- IV. Discussion on website updates/changes with regard to the school facilities/campus revitalization project
- V. The next scheduled meeting of the Communication Committee is May 1, 2026.
- VI. Adjournment



Communication Committee Meeting

Friday, March 6, 2026

9:00 AM

Zoom Webinar

Present: David Felton, Sharon Ferraro, Nicole Wallach. Present: 3.

- I. Call to Order, Verification of Quorum
Additional Attendees:
Erica Forti, Superintendent; Daniel DiVito, Director of Digital Learning and Technology.

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 AM

Moved that the March 6, 2026 Communication Committee meeting is hereby called to order. Unseconded with a motion by Felton, David.

- II. Approval of minutes from the February 27, 2026 Communication Committee Meeting
Moved that the minutes were presented for review. With corrections noted, the minutes were approved. Carried with a motion by Ferraro, Sharon and a second by Wallach, Nicole.
David Felton: Yea, Sharon Ferraro: Yea, Nicole Wallach: Yea
Yea: 3, Nay: 0

- III. Discussion regarding the Board of Education Special Meeting (School Facilities/Campus Revitalization) Summary
The committee reviewed the draft "Bricks and Mortar" public summary prepared following the March 2 BOE Special Meeting. Discussion focused on: ensuring the summary accurately reflects meeting discussions while remaining clear, high-level, and neutral for public distribution; balancing readability vs. detailed reporting of complex discussions. Key edits and clarifications included: revising language about possible grade reconfiguration within three schools to avoid implying a specific plan or alarming parents, removing overly specific language suggesting consolidation of grades within particular buildings, replacing it with broader wording referencing exploration of grade configurations across three schools, retaining reference to the possibility that a future middle

school design could allow flexibility to include Grade 5, with some grades potentially shifting between schools. Committee members emphasized the importance of: maintaining the summary as an objective recap of meeting discussion, not opinions or recommendations, ensuring community members can use the summaries as a clear overview before reviewing full meeting materials. The committee agreed on revisions to the draft summary before publication.

The committee discussed strategies for community engagement related to the campus revitalization project.

IV. Discussion on website updates/changes with regard to the school facilities/campus revitalization project

The committee discussed updates to the district website calendar functionality, including: improved accessibility for mobile devices (iPad/iPhone), the addition of an "Upcoming Meetings" section to allow users to view meeting details that previously only appeared on hover, continued access to downloadable PDF district calendars, a link to view the full calendar with detailed event listings. Updates will also be made to add recent Bricks and Mortar newsletters and board meeting videos.

V. The next scheduled meeting of the Communication Committee is April 2, 2026.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:07 AM

Moved that the March 6, 2026 Communication Committee meeting be adjourned. Carried with a motion by Ferraro, Sharon and a second by Wallach, Nicole.

David Felton: Yea, Sharon Ferraro: Yea, Nicole Wallach: Yea
Yea: 3, Nay: 0

Respectfully submitted by:
Jodi Sacchetta

Bricks and Mortar Update: Board of Education Special Meetings, March 23 and 30, 2026

A meeting summary for Weston residents prepared by the Board of Education Communications Committee.

Background

SLAM Collaborative (SLAM), an architecture firm that specializes in school construction and design, and Colliers, the District's representative that helps with the state grant process, joined the March 23, 2026 meeting to answer questions that BOE members had submitted in advance.

To learn more, you can watch the March 23, 2026 meeting [here](#) and March 30, 2026 meeting [here](#).

What We Learned at the Meetings

Timelines

Colliers compared different timelines for seeking project funding approval (e.g. different dates for town referendum and grant application submission to the State), including how each option would affect planning, public support, and costs.

Regular Renovation

The District shared pricing and considerations to repair the issues in the middle school and make other minor renovations.

- **Estimated current cost:** approximately \$51 million
 - Includes replacement of building systems, upgrades to infrastructure, and updates to the gym, locker rooms, and some classrooms.
- Does not qualify for any state reimbursement, and any renovations would be considered as part of the BOE's annual capital budget.
 - Does not require a grant application to the State or a special town referendum.
- New building systems typically last about 20 years. The building itself is structurally sound and will likely last longer.

Condition of Hurlbutt Elementary School

Some major systems have already been replaced at Hurlbutt that have not been replaced at the middle school. The District has approved additional upgrades at Hurlbutt, including HVAC and boiler replacement. Ongoing repairs at Hurlbutt may reduce the need for large future projects.

BOE Vote

BOE members voted to (i) approve the Education Specifications (Ed Specs), which is a written plan for what the renovated or new middle school should include, and (ii) recommend

that the Board of Selectmen (BOS) and Board of Finance (BOF) consider building a new middle school.

What's Next?

The District will share the Ed Specs and information from SLAM and Colliers to the BOF and the BOS. The BOS and BOF will review the information and schedule a tri-board meeting with the BOE to determine next steps. The BOE will also explore options to renovate the existing middle school in case building a new middle school is not approved.

Where We've Been So Far

Education Specifications

In May 2024, the BOE developed and approved Ed Specs.

State Reimbursement Process

At the December 1, 2025 special meeting, SLAM and Colliers explained how the state grant process works in order to receive state reimbursement for school construction.

Town and District Capital Improvements

First Selectwoman Samantha Nestor joined the January 7, 2026 special meeting to share information about the Town's capital projects, and the District administration presented its 10-year capital improvement plan for other campus needs in addition to the middle school.

Grade Configurations

District administration presented a comparative analysis of grade configuration models at the February 2, 2026 general meeting.

SLAM Phase II Investigation

At the February 23, 2026 meeting, SLAM presented their Phase II investigation of the middle school.

Renovate as New vs Build New Middle School

At the March 2, 2026 meeting, BOE members agreed that building a new middle school is preferable to renovating the existing middle school.

Reduced Estimated Probable Cost

At the March 16, 2026 meeting, SLAM reduced their estimated probable cost to build a new middle school. They also shared information about different grade configurations in a new middle school and at Weston Intermediate School.

Previous Bricks and Mortar Summaries

Read the [summary](#) of the December 1, 2025 and January 7, 2026 meetings.

Read the [summary](#) of the February 23, 2026 meeting.

Read the [summary](#) of the March 2, 2026 meeting.

Read the [summary](#) of the March 16, 2026 meeting.

All Campus Revitalization Information Gathered to Date

Visit the [Campus Revitalization](#) section of the District website to see all prior studies, meetings, presentations, and newsletters.

The BOE Communications Committee will continue to issue summaries of the special meetings on this topic. The next meeting is scheduled for April 13, 2026 at 7:00 pm. You can find the link to watch via live stream in the District Calendar at www.westonps.org.

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