

## Lincoln Public Schools to Present High School Renovation Plans

Public presentations to be held Jan 14th and Feb 1st

LINCOLN – For months, architects, school officials, town officials and parents have been studying Lincoln High School as they work together to develop a plan for renovating a school building that is 61 years old.

“The needs of our students have changed quite a bit in the past 50 years,” Superintendent Georgia Fortunato said. “The way we teach has changed dramatically, and so too has building safety code, access, heating, roofing, and flooring.”

The goal, school officials say, is to update the high school, make it much more energy efficient, safer, and improve the work environment for students and teachers alike.

"We're excited about the renovation of the high school," said School Committee Chair Kristine Donabedian. "We've made this a priority so the whole community can have a flagship facility that serves our students and the interests and culture of our town. This will be a project the entire town can be proud of and we're looking forward to hearing the suggestions and perspectives of Lincoln's residents."

Two public presentations on the architectural analysis of the building are scheduled to gain insight from the community at large, and to inform the public of the findings and recommendations by the planning team.

The first public meeting will be held on January 14th at 6:30 p.m. at Lincoln High School.

The second meeting will be held February 1st at 6:30 p.m. at Lincoln High School.

Work to date includes documenting all aspects of the building, including roofing, electrical, entrances and exits, heating, flooring, accessibility, educational programming, traffic patterns, parking space, perimeter fencing, doors, windows, and ventilation.

“These renovations will meet the needs of not only the students, but the community as well,” said Julie Zito, school committee member and co-chair of the High School Improvement Study Committee. “With the guidance of the educational consultant, the upgrades will provide enhanced learning environments and allow the school to operate more efficiently.”

"As a 1991 graduate of Lincoln High School, a parent of three school age children, the District 1 Town Councilman, and co-chair of the High School Improvement Study Committee, I would encourage all residents to attend the upcoming public forums," said Arthur "TJ" Russo, town councilman and co-chair of the committee. "This is, perhaps, the largest project the Town of Lincoln will be proposing in the next decade. Resident input from both parents and taxpayers is essential to identifying a proposal that will serve the entire community well."

The junior high school building dates back 61 years, the high school was built 51 years ago. In 1964, an addition was built on to the senior high school, a connector was added in 1970, and a two-story addition was constructed in 1995.

All of the documents, including meeting minutes, will be available on a special Lincoln Public Schools website dedicated to the high school renovation project. The site will be launched in early January and will contain all relevant documents, meeting minutes, and updates from the subcommittee working on this project.

For more information, or to ask questions or share concerns, email [renovation@lincolnp.s.org](mailto:renovation@lincolnp.s.org)