

TO: School Committee

FROM: Emily Parks, Superintendent

DATE: March 18, 2019

RE: MSBA Project Update

cc: School Building Committee

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Several steps have been taken in the MSBA project since our last SC meeting in February:

- At the February 13, 2019 MSBA Board Meeting, Westwood was voted into the Feasibility Study.
- The School Building Committee held its first meeting. At that meeting, the SBC appointed a subcommittee to conduct the OPM selection process.
- Maya Ploktin, Ken Aries, and I met with Tom Philbin, the town's energy manager, to get his input on language for the OPM RFS.
- We submitted the OPM RFS to the MSBA for approval. We hope to secure a spot on the MSBA's June 3rd OPM selection meeting agenda.
- We distributed a letter to the community via the School Department's parent list serve, the town's list serve (the "Westwood Wire,") and the town newsletter that is mailed to all residents updating them on the building project status. We continue to post building project communications and documents on a dedicated page on the district website.

Finally, as you may recall, as part of the Eligibility Period process, we submitted required information about our capital and maintenance plan. The MSBA uses this information to determine if we qualify for "incentive points" on our project reimbursement rate. The average that communities receive for this incentive is between 1.4% and 1.5%, with a maximum of 2.0%. The MSBA has informed us that Westwood has qualified for 1.93%. Clearly, this is excellent news, and I thank Heath Petracca and Ken Aries for the work they did to secure this approval.