

NEWTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

100 Walnut Street, Newtonville, MA 02460

AREA CODE (617) 559-9025

Memorandum

TO: David Fleishman, Superintendent
School Committee

FROM: Sandra Guryan, Deputy Superintendent/Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: March 14, 2016

RE: Facilities Update:
I. Zervas Elementary School Project
II. Cabot Elementary School Project
III. Aquinas Project
IV. Lincoln-Eliot SOI
V. Short-term space

The ribbon cutting ceremony for Angier Elementary School was held on February 25, 2016. Highlights included remarks by the Executive Director of the Massachusetts School Building Authority Jack McCarthy, Mayor Setti Warren, Superintendent David Fleishman and Principal Loreta Lamberti who all referenced the broad constituency who made the project possible. A video of the ceremony is available which also featured the voices of the students singing the Angier school song and a special song presented by the by the fourth and fifth grade. The video is posted on the Angier website, and is linked here: <http://www.newton.k12.ma.us/Page/11>

This update addresses information on the Zervas School project, the Cabot School project, the Aquinas project, the Lincoln-Eliot Statement of Interest for a renovation/addition with the MSBA, and short-term space changes for the 2016-17 school year.

I. Zervas Elementary School Project

The Zervas building and the three residential properties have been demolished; the foundations and all materials have been removed and construction fencing and trailers have been installed. Site preparation for installation of new utilities has begun. The four modular structures that were moved in January 2016 are being stored at a staging area at Brown Middle School. Meetings between the architect, city and school staff are underway to develop the site design for moving two of the modulars to Newton South High to assist with enrollment space needs for the High School Stabilization.

Work to begin the installation of the new Zervas foundation/concrete and steel is anticipated to begin in April 2016. W.T. Rich is holding weekly construction meetings and monthly Zervas construction update meetings with the Waban Area Council is beginning on March 17, 2016.

W.T. Rich's webcam is now live on site at: <http://oxblue.com/open/Rich/Zervas>

For more information, including design presentations, please follow the link below:

<http://zervas.projects.joslinlessner.com/>

III. Cabot Elementary School Project

The project is in the schematic design (SD) phase. The project team is currently preparing for the requirements of the City's 5-58 site plan approval process, with the following step of submission of the schematic design to the MSBA for vote on the SD and the project scope and budget.

The project site organization and traffic circulation design is expected to be brought to resolution following the acquisition of the property at 23 Parkview Avenue, made possible after the owner indicated willingness to sell earlier this winter. The acquisition received the required city council approval on March 7, 2016.

A third public form was held by the full project team at the Cabot School on March 2, 2016 to share the additional options possible on the expanded site and to hear from the community. Outreach in advance of the forum was broad, and included: letters sent to 500 nearby abutters to Cabot School and Cabot Park, communications with city officials and neighborhood groups, emails to previous forum attendees and notices to Cabot parents. The forum was well attended and there was a productive exchange of feedback and ideas. The project team including DiNisco Design Partnership (DDP), JLA and the City will continue to refine options for site organization and traffic.

There are two meetings of the Cabot School Building Committee on March 17, 2016 and March 31, 2016. Members of the public are encouraged to attend. The Design Review Committee will discuss the Cabot School project on March 23, 2016.

For more information, including the presentation from the third public forum and the latest design presentations, please follow the link below:

<http://cabot.projects.joslinlessner.com/>

IV. Aquinas Project

The invitation for bid for the Aquinas School Window Replacement was opened on February 25, 2016 and the contract has been awarded to J.J. Cardosi, Inc. The completion date for the windows in the main classroom wing is August 2016, with a final work phase in other areas of the building to potentially extending into the fall.

Planning for the preschool to move to Aquinas in August 2016 and locating a preschool playground on the property is ongoing.

V. Lincoln-Eliot Statement of Interest

On February 25, 2016, the School Committee voted Lincoln-Eliot as the next priority after Cabot for renovation/addition in the MSBA FY16 SOI process and received the draft SOI for review. School Committee is in the process of review and approval of the SOI submission.

In order to receive City Council approval to complement the vote of the School Committee, the SOI was docketed for the agenda of the March 7, 2016 City Council meeting and was referred to Programs & Services and Public Facilities committees for discussion and vote on March 23, 2016. A vote of the full city council is scheduled on April 4, 2016, in advance of the submission deadline of April 8, 2016.

VI. Short-term space

The City has agreed to provide support to address short-term space needs of two high school special programs. In-house architectural services will be used to create a site plan for the installation of two former Zervas modulars at Newton South for the stabilization program and to plan the layout for instructional spaces for Central High School at the Ed Center, on the ground level. The architect will also evaluate the possibility of utilizing the ground level space further for administrative needs and a conference/meeting space for professional development.