

# NEWTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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## Memorandum

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TO: David Fleishman, Superintendent  
School Committee

FROM: Sandra Guryan, Deputy Superintendent/Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: February 10, 2014

RE: Angier Elementary School Project  
Carr School Swing Space Project  
Zervas Elementary School Project  
Cabot Elementary School Project

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This update addresses information on the Angier Elementary School project, the Carr School swing space project, the Zervas Elementary School project, and the Cabot Elementary School project.

### I. Angier Elementary School Project

On January 28, 2014 an Angier community meeting was held to provide information regarding the transition to swing space at the Carr School in September 2014 while the Angier site is under construction. The meeting was well attended by members of the Angier community, city and school officials, the school transportation director, the police traffic bureau and members of the School Committee and the Board of Aldermen. An overview of the status of both the Angier and Carr construction projects was given by the Public Buildings Department. Draft bus routes for transportation from the Angier district to the Carr School were reviewed by the school transportation director, followed by a question and answer period. An ongoing school community resource to keep parents informed entitled, "Angier in Motion", can be found at the following link:

<http://angierpto.org/school-info/angier-in-motion>

During the month of January 2014, the Design Review Committee reviewed the 90% design development drawings. In recent weeks, two full independent cost estimates were received by the project team and executive committee. These estimates were reconciled within \$100,000 on a \$26,200,000 construction budget. A comprehensive list of value engineering opportunities were identified and approved which resulted in no cuts to programs, no impact on energy efficiency, no reduction in the quality, durability or life expectancy of building components and no significant changes to the layout or design of the building. The recommended value engineering list was unanimously approved by the Newton Public Schools, the Public Buildings Department, the Design Review Committee, the Angier Working Group and the Executive Committee.

On February 3, 2014 the Board of Aldermen and School Committee met jointly to review a presentation by the project team of the 100% design development drawings and cost estimates.

At the February 6, 2014 Angier School Building Committee (ASBC)/DRC meeting, the ASBC voted unanimously to approve the 100% design development. The DRC will review the plans at their February 10, 2014 meeting. The next phase is the development and review of construction document progress and the periodic review of draft guaranteed maximum price documents.

Key upcoming dates are as follows:

February 10, 2014	100% Design Development submittal to the MSBA and to the DRC
March 13, 2014	DRC review of first set of “early release” construction documents
April 3, 2014	ASBC/DRC progress update meeting

## II. Carr School Swing Space Project

Construction is proceeding on schedule. Windows were delivered and installation has begun; completion of the windows is expected by March 2014. Installation of interior wallboard and plastering on the second floor is complete and is proceeding on schedule on the first floor. Painting will begin in March 2014. Interior mechanical, electrical, plumbing and fire protection work is ongoing. The masonry for the elevator shaft is complete and the exterior masonry wall for the elevator addition has started. The telephone and data wiring has begun.

## III. Zervas Elementary School Project

The city recently formed a Zervas School Building Committee (ZSBC) similar to the MSBA-required school building committee model utilized for the Angier School construction project due to the value of that process. The ZSBC includes members of the city and school administration, members of the Board of Aldermen, School Committee and Design Review Committee, the school principal and two local residents involved in the school community. It will meet at the same points in the life of the project that the Angier SBC meets. This committee is in addition to all other deliberative bodies. While it will not have any official authority, it will serve as an important sounding board and provide significant input into the building process.

The aldermen on the ZSBC are Deb Crossley (representing Public Facilities and Ward 5), Ruthanne Fuller (representing Finance), and John Rice (representing the Programs and Services Committee and Ward Alderman in the Zervas district). The School Committee members are Diana Fisher Gomberg, Margie Ross Decter, and Steve Siegel. Former School Committee member Jonathan Yeo will continue to serve on the Zervas Working Group. The community members are Bob Santry and Chris Neal who are parents of current Zervas students. The Zervas School Building Committee held its initial meeting on February 6, 2014. These are open meetings and the public is always welcome.

## IV. Cabot Elementary School Project

The project is currently in MSBA’s 270-day Eligibility Period with an invitation into eligibility that began on December 4, 2013 and ends on September 2, 2014. As required by the MSBA, the city has formed a Cabot School Building Committee (CSBC) and the list of members was submitted to the MSBA as required. The CSBC includes members of the city and school administration, members of the Board of Aldermen, the School Committee and the Design Review Committee, the school principal and two local residents involved in the school community.

The aldermen on the CSBC are Susan Albright (representing Public Facilities and Ward 2), Ruthanne Fuller (representing Finance), and Emily Norton (representing the Programs and Services Committee and Ward Alderman in the Cabot district). The School Committee members are Diana Fisher Gomberg, Angela Pitter-Wright and Margaret Albright. The community members are Andrea Steenstrup and Karen Wasserman who are parents of current Cabot students. The kick-off Cabot School Building Committee meeting is being planned.

The table below outlines the MSBA Eligibility Period items to be submitted, their due dates and status.

CABOT ACTION ITEMS FOR MSBA ELIGIBILITY PERIOD - MODULE 1

ITEM	MSBA DUE DATES	STATUS AS of 2/10/14
Initial Certification Compliance (ICC)	January 3, 2014	Submitted 12/4/13
Local Vote Authorization for Appropriation of Feasibility Study Funds	September 2, 2014	Submitted 12/30/13
School Building Committee form	February 3, 2014	Submitted 1/31/14
Enrollment questionnaire and Follow-up Enrollment questionnaire	March 4, 2014	Submitted 2/3/14
Certification of enrollment data signed by Superintendent	March 4, 2014	Submitted 2/3/14
Maintenance/Capital Planning data and documents	June 2, 2014	Submitted 2/7/14
Enrollment Certification Executed	June 2, 2014	Pending meeting with MSBA to discuss
Feasibility Study Agreement	September 2, 2014	TBD

As noted above the district has submitted all materials required including a significant amount of enrollment data/projections, maintenance/capital planning and budget information. Newton's goal in submitting Module 1 materials ahead of schedule is to become eligible for an invitation into the feasibility study phase as soon as possible.