

NEWTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Memorandum

TO: David Fleishman, Superintendent
School Committee

FROM: Sandra Guryan, Deputy Superintendent/Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: November 1, 2012

RE: Facilities Update: Angier Elementary School Construction Project
Carr School Swing Space
Day Middle School Construction Project

This update addresses information on the Angier School construction project, the status of the Carr School as swing space, the Day Middle School project update and potential short-term space needs based on projected enrollments.

I. Angier Elementary School Construction Project:

On October 2, 2012 the MSBA's 16-member Designer Selection Panel interviewed DiNisco Design Partnership and HMFH Architects and ranked DiNisco Design Partnership first as finalist for the Angier project and authorized the City to proceed with fee and contract negotiations. The City has awarded the contract to DiNisco Design Partnership (DDP). DDP and Joslin, Lesser and Associates (JLA) have been conducting meetings to develop educational programming with various user groups in the district, including principals and school administrators. On October 22, 2012, MSBA representatives held a kick-off meeting and tour of Angier School that was attended by both JLA and DDP as well as city and school representatives.

At the October 18, 2012 Angier School Building Committee/Design Review Committee meeting, JLA introduced DDP's architects to the group. JLA also presented the advantages and disadvantages of the construction manager-at risk vs. design-bid-build construction methods. The ASBC/DRC voted to support the construction manager-at-risk method. The remainder of the meeting focused on a matrix of suggested design criteria to be used to evaluate proposed site strategy alternatives, including renovation and new construction alternatives on the existing or other sites. Committee members offered suggestions to be incorporated into the matrix.

On Thursday, November 1, 2012, the members of the Angier Working Group, including DDP and JLA, will attend the scheduled School Committee meeting to review an educational program summary. DDP will introduce the components of the educational program as it relates to the square footage of the proposals that will follow during the schematic design phase. The next ASBC/DRC meeting will be held on November 8, 2012 and will continue to meet regularly during the feasibility study phase. A joint meeting of the School Committee and the Board of Aldermen is being planned to provide an educational program review and project status update.

II. Carr School Swing Space:

The design firm of Turowski² Architecture has been working in the schematic design phase on scope, options and cost estimates. On September 20, 2012 the Design Review Committee (DRC) unanimously approved the site plan for the project. The Public Facilities Committee of the Board of Aldermen reviewed the site plan on October 17, 2012 and held the item pending additional traffic management information. The committee will consider the item again on October 30, 2012. The Finance Committee of the Board of Aldermen approved a request for the balance of \$695,558 in design funds on October 22, 2012. Pending Public Facilities approval of the site plan on October 30, the full Board of Aldermen will vote on both the site plan and design funds on November 5, 2012. At that point the design development phase of the project will begin.

III. Day Middle School Construction Project:

The contractor is preparing coordination drawings for new steel, ductwork, sprinkler, plumbing, lighting and other systems for the renovation of the first and second floors. Those submittals are required in order to coordinate the project with the existing building. Alex Valcarce, the project manager, anticipates that work will proceed in those areas in November 2012. Utility relocation work is nearly complete and foundation work for the front addition is expected to be completed in the next few weeks as well. New water service piping has been installed at the new water service room, and exterior wall construction for the room is expected to be finished in November 2012. The dumpster retaining wall is nearly complete and the concrete slab in that area will be poured in the next two weeks. Weekly coordination meetings are ongoing.