

## **Kick-Off Community Forum - Canceled and Rescheduled to Wednesday, January 10**

### **AHS Improvements: Kick-Off Community Forum and Educational Visioning Committee**

Dear Parents, Guardians and Community Members,

With pleasure and excitement, I invite you to participate in the planning process for improvements to Arlington High School. As you know, the district is working with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) to update the school. This fall, the architectural firm HMFH was jointly chosen by the town and MSBA to initiate the study of the school and to develop schematic plans. Skanska was chosen as the Owner's Project Manager.

This winter is the beginning of the Feasibility Phase, and we are offering several ways you can take part.

The kick-off event is our first Community Forum. This interactive forum will be followed by three more interactive Community Forums, addressing various aspects of the Feasibility Phase. We also invite you to apply to be part of the Educational Visioning Committee that will focus on the courses and programs offered at the high school, and the vision for the future.

If you cannot attend any of the forums, you will be able to provide your input in other ways, including electronically.

To learn more about the AHS project, and to receive updates by email, visit [www.ahsbuilding.org](http://www.ahsbuilding.org), or follow progress on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ahsbuilding/](http://www.facebook.com/ahsbuilding/). For specific information about the Feasibility Phase, visit <https://ahsbuilding.org/blog/feasibility-study-overview/>.

### **AHS Project Kick-off Community Forum**

Date: Wednesday, January 10

Time: 7:00-9:00 pm

Place: Arlington Town Hall

This initial forum will discuss the project schedule and study process. Representatives from HMFH and Skanska will be present. Following a half-hour presentation about the Feasibility process, there will be small group brainstorming discussions, and an opportunity to share the ideas developed in discussions with the whole group.

### **Save the Dates for Future AHS Project Community Forums**

February 7, March 5, and April 4, 7:00-9:00 pm, Arlington Town Hall

### **AHS Educational Visioning Committee**

We are also seeking individuals who would like to be deeply involved in the Educational Vision for Arlington High School. A 60-member committee, with representation from many stakeholder groups, will meet in January and February. The composition of the AHS Educational Visioning Committee will

be weighted toward educators and students. The committee will also include representation from many voices in Arlington: parents of Arlington students at all levels, parents of children not yet attending school, town officials, Arlington High School Building Committee members, and community members. This committee will delve deeply into crafting the Educational Vision for the school.

The Educational Vision will describe the specific curricula, courses and programs that will be offered at Arlington High School. It is a key driver of the design for the building. For example, the outline of the science, arts, and mathematics curricula will inform the design of classrooms, labs and program spaces allocated for those courses and programs.

The committee's work will be facilitated by David Stephen, of [New Vista](#). Mr. Stephen facilitated teacher and community input for the Gibbs School project.

Committee members must commit to attending all three meetings at Arlington High School Old Hall:

- January 18, 2:00-6:00 pm
- February 8, 2:00-6:00 pm
- February 13, 2:00-6:00 pm
- Snow Date: February 15, 2:00-6:00 pm

To be considered, please **complete the application by January 7**. Applicants will be notified of their acceptance, or not, by January 11.

The Educational Visioning Committee application is here: <https://goo.gl/forms/wo8AAvP2aaGIF0Lt1>.

If you cannot apply electronically, paper copies of the application will be available in the Arlington High School and Ottoson Middle School Main Offices through January 7.

Please note, we will hold a lottery to choose members if a high number of a particular stakeholder group apply. Also, students will be participating on the Educational Visioning Committee, but will be recruited separately. School Committee members will also participate.

Thank you for your interest in learning more about this important building project. I look forward to being together at the first Community Forum on January 4.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Bodie, Ed. D.  
Superintendent of Schools