



## Arlington High School Project Overview

Arlington is building a new high school to address increasing enrollment and an outdated facility that no longer meets today's educational needs. By partnering with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), Arlington will receive state funding for a significant portion of the project. Arlington residents approved a debt exclusion to pay for the new school in June 2019.

### The need for a new high school

Over the past decade, the district's enrollment has grown from 4,700 students to about 6,000. This is the equivalent of adding 3 elementary school populations since 2009. The current high school is reaching capacity and cannot accommodate this enrollment growth.

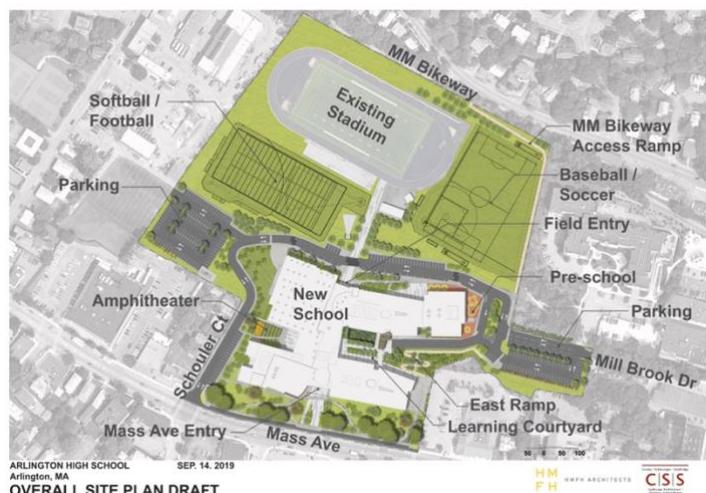
In addition, the school's deteriorating facility is an obstacle to teaching and learning. The New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC) placed AHS on 'warning' status in 2013 citing inadequate classrooms, science labs, and technology infrastructure, which affect the overall learning environment.

### The new AHS

The new school is the product of over two years of planning and community input and has a design enrollment of 1,755 students. Embodying Arlington's educational vision, it will allow educators to deliver 21<sup>st</sup> century instruction in a safe, welcoming environment. The design is the best combination of cost-effectiveness, educational design, and construction timeline.

Features of the new school:

- ✓ Upgraded science labs & classroom layout to deliver modern instruction
- ✓ Expanded library and makerspace enhance collaborative, hands-on learning
- ✓ New Discourse Lab for debate and dialogue
- ✓ Upgraded Auditorium & performing arts spaces support the award-winning program
- ✓ Improved athletic facilities and direct access to the Minuteman bikeway
- ✓ Sustainable design will reduce lifecycle costs



## Cost

The budget for the new school is \$291M, with an estimated \$86 million coming from the state. There are three primary cost factors that contribute to the overall cost of the project:

- High Schools are costly because they are large and require many specialized spaces.
- The Boston area construction market is expensive, with 4% annual construction cost escalation.
- AHS has specific factors that increase its cost above typical high school projects.

## Next Steps

The project is now in the Detailed Design phase which will last until fall 2020. During this phase, exact details of the design will be finalized, including exterior appearance, interior layout, site work and fields. Consigli Construction was hired in July 2019 and are in the process of creating the project schedule. Building construction is estimated to begin Summer 2020, with potential early site work taking place in Spring 2020.

Safety of students and staff, and minimizing educational disruption are the project’s highest priorities. The school will be built in multiple phases on the existing site. During construction, there will be no need for modular classrooms as parts of the current school will remain operational and students will occupy new buildings as they are built. Frequent updates will be provided to the community.

The first phase will build new Performing Arts and STEAM wings (Science, Tech., Engineering, Arts & Math) in front of the existing school. These buildings are estimated to be open to students in early 2022. Two additional phases will follow with construction of the new school buildings completed in 2024. After an additional year of site work (athletic fields, roads, etc.), the entire complex will be complete in 2025.

	Enabling Begins March 2020	Construction Begins Oct. 2020	January 2022	August 2023	Building Complete July 2024	Site Complete April 2025
	<b>Phase 1 Enabling</b> (7 months)	<b>Phase 1</b> (15 Months)	<b>Phase 2</b> (18 Months)	<b>Phase 3</b> (12 months)	<b>Phase 4</b> (9 months)	
<b>CONSTRUCT</b>	Geothermal wells, relocate utilities	Performing Arts & STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math) Wings	Spine, lobby, cafeteria, media ctr., humanities wing, preschool, district admin	Gymnasium wing		Site work completed
<b>STUDENTS</b>	Remain in existing facility	Remain in existing facility	Move into new Performing Arts & STEAM wings, remain in part of existing facility	Move into new school (all except Gymnasium wing), still use Red Gym		Move into completed school
<b>COMPLETED</b>			Performing Arts & STEAM wings completed	Humanities wing, lobby, preschool, district admin, cafeteria, library completed		New school complete

Total Project Duration: 5 years, 1 Month

DRAFT: 9/12/19

Note: Schedule is in development stages and is subject to change

Menotomy Preschool, School District Administration and Payroll, Arlington Community Education offices, and the LABBB Special Education Collaborative all currently reside at AHS and will be included in the new facility. Sustainability is an inherent part of the new design to not only reduce lifecycle costs of the Town’s largest facility, but also to help Arlington reach its goal of being carbon neutral by 2050.

Visit us at [www.ahsbuilding.org](http://www.ahsbuilding.org) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ahsbuilding](http://www.facebook.com/ahsbuilding).