

Arlington Public Schools

Press Release

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Arlington High School Approved for Schematic Design Phase by MSBA

Representatives of the Town of Arlington and Arlington Public Schools attended the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Board of Directors meeting today where the Board voted to move Arlington High School (AHS) to the next step in the MSBA's process. In the Schematic Design phase, the MSBA and the District will work collaboratively on detailed designs to replace the current facility with a new school that supports the high school's education plan. The MSBA studied and accepted the Preferred Schematic submitted by Arlington in coming to this decision.

The proposed new school, to be located on the existing site, would replace the current structure. The project calls for a 415,400 square foot facility for 1,755 students serving grades 9-12. The current high school is made up of an original 1914 building, with additions and renovations occurring in 1938, during the 1960's, and in 1981. The building currently suffers from structural and exterior envelope deficiencies, and additional plant and accessibility issues. It is not suited to current educational practices, and is also becoming overcrowded.

AHS Building Committee Chair and School Committee Member Jeff Thielman thanked the MSBA Board of Directors for its support of the project. "We appreciate the thoughtful and considered study you made of our submission that has resulted in this positive vote. We are pleased that the work of so many in the District and Town of Arlington has resulted in the approval of a preferred option that will meet the future educational needs of Arlington students." Other Arlington attendees at the meeting were Kirsi Allison-Ampe, School Committee Chair, Kathleen Bodie, Superintendent, Jim Feeney, Assistant Town Manager, and Matthew Janger, Principal of Arlington High School. Superintendent Kathleen Bodie expresses gratitude for the project and would like to recognize the strong teamwork of the Arlington High School Building Committee, HMFH Architects, Inc., and Skanska USA Building, Inc.

The AHS Building Committee invites the public to find additional information at <https://ahsbuilding.org/>.

The MSBA partners with Massachusetts communities to support the design and construction of educationally appropriate, flexible, sustainable and cost-effective public school facilities.