



# INTRODUCTION



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### **Overview**

The feasibility study is being undertaken to analyze the best option for the Town of Burlington and the Burlington School District to solve concerns regarding the existing High School. Specifically, issues around an aging high school facility that lacks up to date spaces to support the current and ongoing programs there.

### **Identification of Facility Deficiencies**

The existing building is approximately 360,000sf and was constructed in 1971 as Burlington High School. It has had no additions since its opening though several upgrades have occurred over the years. The mechanical systems have exceeded life expectancy for all boilers, air handlers and compressor units. The current control system is no longer supported nor is functional. Fresh air supply and exhaust do not meet today's standards. The facility is currently used as a grade nine to twelve high school, and enrollment as of 2018-2019 including preschool was 1178 students. The building is fully utilized and not overcrowded. The science classrooms are out of date and deficient, and not up to the State's STEM standards. The rooms are dark interior spaces without windows, and infrastructure inhibits effective use of technology used for learning. Equipment, technology, ventilation, electrical, and plumbing throughout the school all need to be upgraded to meet the school's 21st century learning expectations.

### **Summary of Process Undertaken**

The study process to date has included an existing conditions analysis of the Burlington High School including walk-throughs and reviews by structural, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing engineers as well as technology and the Architect. The site has also been analyzed by the Landscape Architect and Civil Engineer and testing at the building has been completed for hazardous materials (ACM). Geo-technical exploration has taken place and a geo-technical and geo-environmental report with preliminary recommendations has been completed. The traffic engineer has also made preliminary observations related to the existing conditions at the site and an existing condition traffic study is

complete. Field work and wetland flagging for a site survey is complete with final survey anticipated shortly.

The Town of Burlington has confirmed that there are no other available properties that could be used for a school located within the Town's boundaries. Therefore, the District and School Building Committee has concluded that any project that is advanced out of the PDP phase will use the existing Middle/High site.

A kick-off meeting and three educational visioning sessions have taken place to discuss the goals for the project and how to develop a program and design that best supports the District's vision for the future of grade 9-12 education in Burlington. Participants in these sessions included educators and parents as well as District administrators. Summary notes of the visioning process are included in the PDP submission. Additionally, periodic discussions have been held with senior District administrators to support the development of the Educational Program, space template and proposed PDP options.

During the PDP process schemes have been developed by the Design Team for a renovation option, addition and renovation options and multiple approaches to a replacement school. The School Building Committee has discussed the merits of these approaches and reduced the number of options that will be advanced into the PSR phase to those that best support the goals of the District and the Town. All the options were reviewed by the Architect's estimator to develop order of magnitude conceptual cost budgets.

### **Date of Funding to Conduct a Feasibility Study**

On May 8, 2023 the Burlington town meeting passed articles to fund a feasibility study of the Burlington high school building and facilities

### **Agreed Upon Design Enrollment**

The proposed design enrollment for a grade 9-12 High School is 1100 Students which was determined by the School Building Committee.

### **Capital Budget Statement Summary**

The Burlington High School project feasibility phase is studying addition & renovation and new construction options. Based on early budgeting, the project cost for the Burlington High School project could range from \$201 to \$371 million. The project team also presented a cost range table to the SBC. The range covers many of the topics that the SBC will discuss in future phases such as sustainability goals, materials, construction delivery method, etc.

### **Project Participants and Updated**

#### **Project Schedule**

Inserted into this section of the PDP is a preliminary list of project participants. Looking forward, the project schedule indicates that the projected Town vote to approve borrowing for the project would fall in the Spring of 2025 or Fall of 2025. This would then potentially allow for a project construction start in mid 2026.

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## PROJECT DIRECTORY







Work Type	Name	Email	Phone
Town of Burlington	<b>School Building Committee &amp; School Committee Members</b>		
	Katherine Bond*	kbond@bpsk12.org	
	Martha Simon*	msimon@bpsk12.org	
	Jeremy Brooks*	brooks@bpsk12.org	
	Christine Monaco*	cmonaco@bpsk12.org	
	Melissa Massardo*	mmassardo@bpsk12.org	
	Nicole Coscia	ncoscia@bpsk12.org	781-825-7452
	John Danizio	jdanzio@burlington.org	781-505-1197
	Paul Sagarino	psagarino@burlington.org	781-270-1635
	Eric Conti	conti@bpsk12.org	781-270-1801
	Lisa Chen	lchen@bpsk12.org	781-270-1801
	Bob Cunha	bcunha@bpsk12.org	781-270-1814
	Mark Sullivan	sullivan@bpsk12.org	
	John Attubato	attubato@bpsk12.org	
	Doug Davison	ddavison49@gmail.com	
	Neil Guanci	nguanci@bpsk12.org	339-234-6020
	Wendy Czerwinski	wzczerwinski@bpsk12.org	
	Laura Malda	lmalda@bpsk12.org	
	Tom Regan	regan@bpsk12.org	
	Gail Pinkman	gpinkman@philanthropy.ma.org	
	Christopher Campbell	christopher.donald.campbell@gmail.com	
	Mimi Bix-Hylan	mimbixh@gmail.com	

\*=Voting Member

<b>Additional Burlington Contacts</b>			
Town of Burlington	Jen Dodge	dodge@bcactiv.org	
	Deb Clark	clark@bpsk12.org	
	Pam Girouard	pgirouard@hbbb.net	
	Sean Musselman	musselman@bpsk12.org	
	Wendy Pawlcek	pawlcek@bpsk12.org	
	Rosemary Desousa	desousa@bpsk12.org	
	Terry O'neara	oneara@bpsk12.org	
	Christina Cicolini	cicolini@bpsk12.org	
	Christine Conceison	cconceison@bpsk12.org	
	Robyn Miliano	miliano@bpsk12.org	
	Kerri Lamprey	klamprey@bpsk12.org	
	Jose Desousa	jdesousa@bpsk12.org	

<b>Owner's PM</b>			
Dore + Whittier 260 Merrimac Street Newburyport, MA	Mike Burton	mburton@doreandwhittier.com	C   978-992-2592
	Terry Hartford	thartford@doreandwhittier.com	C   978-872-3664
	Steve Brown	sbrown@doreandwhittier.com	C   617-947-5258
	Mike Cox	mcox@doreandwhittier.com	C   781-492-6289
	Christina Dell Angelo	cdellangelo@doreandwhittier.com	C   978-778-5353
	Rachel Rincon	rrincon@doreandwhittier.com	C   617-650-3204
	John Albright	jalbright@doreandwhittier.com	C   617-699-2658

<b>Architect</b>			
Trappe 6 Edgerly Place Boston, MA	Charles Hay	chay@trappe.com	
	Chris Blessen	cblessen@trappe.com	617-986-4834
	David Gould	dgoald@trappe.com	
	Wendy Hynes	whynes@trappe.com	
	Jen Littlefield	jlittlefield@trappe.com	
	Cesar Dedios	cdedios@trappe.com	





PROJECT CONTACTS

<b>Cost Estimating</b>				
PM&C	Peter Bradley			
<b>Kitchen/Food Service</b>				
Crabtree McGrath	John Sousa			
<b>Acoustical/Theater</b>				
Cavanaugh Todd	Lincoln Berry			
	Alexander Bagnall			
<b>Specifications</b>				
Kalin Associates	Mark Kalin			
<b>Sustainability</b>				
CMTA	Jess Farber			
<b>Code/Accessibility</b>				
Hastings Consulting	Kevin Hastings			
<b>Traffic</b>				
Howard Stein Hudson	Keri Pyke			
<b>FF&amp;E</b>				
Stefura	Marcy Stefura			
<b>Security</b>				
Pamela Perini Consulting	Pamela Perini			



**Burlington High School****Design / Cx Team Directory****Tappe Architects Inc.**

(Tappe)

main:

(617) 986-4828

David Gould

dgould@tappe.com

cc:

(617) 986-4834

Chris Blessen

cblessen@tappe.com

cc:

(617) 986-4833

Charlie Hay

chay@tappe.com

**Company****Edvance Technology**

(Edvance)

main:

C: (978) 302-9171

Doug Faria

dfaria@edvancetech.com

**Perini Consulting**

(Perini)

main:

(781) 788-6674

Pamela Perini

pperini@pamelaperiniconsulting.com

**Engineers Design Group**

(EDG)

main:

(781) 396-9007 x13

Mehul Dhruv

mdhruv@edginc.com

cc:

(781) 396-9007 x28

Alex Auditore

AAuditore@edginc.com

cc:

(781) 396-9007 x17

Tim Hill

thill@edginc.com

**C.A. Crowley Engineering, Inc.**

(C.A. Crowley)

M-main:

(xxx) xxx-xxxx x1xx

Marty Vicky

mvickey@crowleyeng.com

M-cc:

(508) 884-5094

Raymond Vincent

rvincent@crowleyeng.com

**CMTA**

(CMTA)

E-main:

(xxx) xxx-xxxx x1xx

Jess Farbor

jess@cmta.com

E-cc:

**Nitsch Engineering**

(Nitsch)

main:

(617) 338-0063

Michelle Callahan

mcallahan@nitscheng.com

cc:

(617) 338-0063

Sarah Kwatinetz

skwatinetz@nitscheng.com

**Robbie McCabe Consulting**

(McCabe)

main:

(617) 939-1489

Robbie McCabe

robbiem@mccabe-consulting.com

cc:

**Warner Larson**

(WL)

main:

(617) 464-1440

David Warner

dwarner@warnerlarson.com

cc:

cc:

Weston & Sampson (Geotech)	(W&S) geotech: geotech:	Stefanie Bridges Steve Spink	(617) 459-4244 (978) 548-4738	BridgesS@wseinc.com SpinkS@wseinc.com
Universal Environmental Consultants (HAZ MAT)	(UEC) main:	Ammar Dieb	(508) 628-5486	adieb@uec-env.com
Crabtree McGrath (Kitchen/Food Service)	(Crabtree) main: cc:	John Sousa	(978) 352-8500	jsousa@crabtree-mcgrath.com
Cavanaugh Tocci (Acoustical Consultant)	(Cavanaugh Tocci) main:	Lincoln Berry	(978) 296-6405	<a href="mailto:loberry@cavtocci.com">loberry@cavtocci.com</a>
newvistadesign (Educational Planning)	(newvistadesign) main:	David Stephen	(617) 733-0847	<a href="mailto:david@newvistadesign.net">david@newvistadesign.net</a>
Howard Stein Hudson (Traffic Consultant)	(newvistadesign) main:	Elizabeth Peart	(617) 482-7080	<a href="mailto:EPeart@hshassoc.com">EPeart@hshassoc.com</a>

