

# FACT SHEET

## Article 12: Concord-Carlisle Regional High School District Debt Exclusion Request

The Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee is requesting funds for needed improvements to the High School Facility. The total request is \$750,000, which can be broken down as follows: \$250,000 for worn and outdated finishes and equipment; \$250,000 to address Life Safety issues; and \$250,000 to conduct planning for future long term improvements to the facility. The debt will be bonded over five years and will be assessed to the two communities based on enrollment ratios (approximately 70% to Concord and 30% to Carlisle). The following facts outline the primary issues leading to this request:

- 50 year old high school building – Constructed in 1960 with additions in 1965 and 1975, and limited repair and renovations in 1990 and 1992.
- Increased student population - 25% increase in student enrollment since 2000.
- Current space utilization exceeds State recommendations.
- New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) April 2005 -Probation status due to facility concerns: inadequate classroom, offices, and storage spaces, inadequate ventilation in Art and Science rooms , inadequate size and location of Guidance and Special Education offices, failure to meet local fire safety and health regulations.
- 2000 HMFH – CCHS Space Utilization Study recommended renovations and minimum expansion.
- 2002 HMFH- CCHS Space Utilization Study recommended renovation and new construction at \$44M.
- 2005 SMMA – CCHS Feasibility Study developed options: renovation only option at \$42M, renovation and addition option at \$82M, and new construction option at \$90M.
- Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) revised school facility funding process in 2006.
- Submitted High School Statement of Interest (SOI) to MSBA for state funding in November 2006.
- December 2007 – MSBA placed the high school in the “Hold” category because “MSBA’s field investigation of the school did identify certain facility issues, but they did not reach the level of urgency and need identified in priority SOI submitted by other districts.”
- Capital improvements in recent years include replacement of stadium and gymnasium bleachers, replacement of doors, new communication and fire alarm systems, replacement of light fixtures with high efficiency ballasts, new finishes and furnishings in the cafeteria, replacement of hoods in science labs.
- December 2008 – Resubmitted refreshed Statement of Interest (SOI) and MSBA has not responded.
- School committee must move forward with a major high school facilities project to address many of NEASC’s safety and security concerns, failing building systems, and inadequate space for 21st century educational programs.
- \$250,000 of the Debt Exclusion request in Article 12 will fund the planning process to develop a major renovation or reconstruction project for the high school.

QUESTIONS: Contact Jerry Wedge, Chair, Regional School Committee at (978) 287-5078 or [jerry@wedgedesign.net](mailto:jerry@wedgedesign.net)

**PLEASE VOTE ON MARCH 31!**