

## REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

The School Building Committee (“SBC”) had a very busy year with the planning for the construction of a new High School. In 2008, the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”), Town Meeting and the Town residents all approved the project.

In July 2008, the MSBA agreed to the planning for a 280,000 square foot all new construction high school built in a single phase on the site of the current High School parking lot. In September 2008, the MSBA approved funding of construction costs not to exceed \$110,000,000, and agreed to reimburse 40% of such costs as they were incurred.

At a Special Town Meeting in October 2008, Town Meeting Members approved the project by a vote of 91%. Total project costs were approved at \$130,000,000 which included the \$110,000,000 construction costs, additional contingency costs, “green” features (e.g., rainwater harvesting, two geothermal wells, a 10,000 sq. foot green roof, solar photovoltaics, etc.), offsite improvements, the funding of the purchase of the three Seaver Street properties and other items. At a Special Town election in December 2008, the residents, by a 64% majority vote, approved the funding of the project in a debt exclusion question.

The Permanent Building Committee (“PBC”) hired Turner Construction Company as the general contractor in the spring under the “construction management at risk” model. The PBC is managing the construction of the school.

The SBC and PBC sought and successfully obtained permits and other approvals from the Wetlands Protection Committee, Planning Board, Board of Selectmen, Design Review Board, Natural Resources Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals during a 6-month period from January to June 2009.

The members of the SBC were: Katherine Babson, chair and representative from the Board of Selectmen; Hans Larsen, the Town’s Executive Director; Bella Wong, Superintendent of Schools; Andrew Keough, High School principal; Suzy Littlefield, representative from the School Committee; David Mooney, representative from the Advisory Committee; Steve Gagosian, representative from the Permanent Building Committee; Kathy Mullaney, Permanent Building Committee Projects Administrator; John Moran, Town Facilities Director; Cynthia Westerman, resident, project manager; Tom Goemaat, resident, contractor; and Steve Baker, resident, architect.

The SBC is immensely grateful for the support of the Town residents and for the dedication and commitment of members of many boards and their staffs who have worked tirelessly on this project.