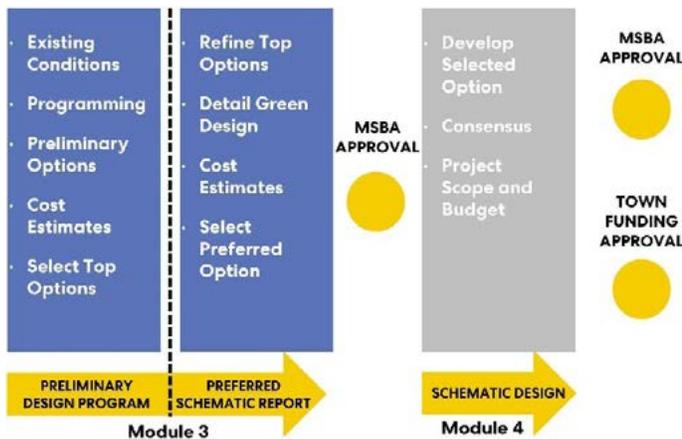
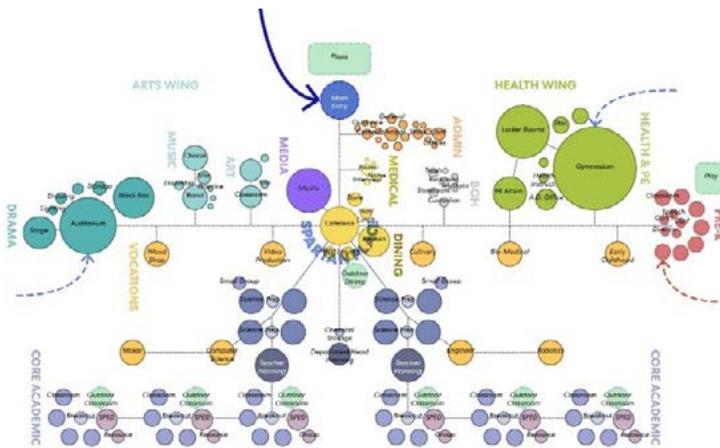


Information About the Stoneham High School Feasibility Study



The Stoneham School Building Committee (SSBC) is comprised of municipal employees from the School and Town departments, elected representatives from the Select Board, School Committee and Finance and Advisory Board and citizens with a variety of talents and skills suited to the work of bringing a 21st century high school to the students and community of Stoneham. Since being appointed in early 2019, the SSBC has led the development of the Feasibility Study.

The SSBC hosted 8 project visioning sessions with community members, elected officials, teachers, staff and students to explore, discuss and influence the guiding principles, educational program and essential characteristics of a revitalized Stoneham High School. The graph below suggests the formation of core educational, fine arts and special education learning pods with staff planning areas, student support and administrative offices.



Next Steps

SSBC meetings are every two weeks. Meetings and agendas are posted on the project website.

Upcoming Meetings

- **October 26, 2020**
- **November 9, 2020**
- **November 23, 2020**
- **December 7, 2020**
- **December 21, 2020**

Upcoming Milestones

- **November 7, 2020** – Community Forum No. 3
- **November 2020** – PTO Presentations
- **December 9, 2020** – Community Forum No. 4
- **December 2020** – Tri-Board Meeting
- **December 21, 2020** – SSBC Vote to Select Preferred Option and Submit Preferred Schematic Report (PSR) to MSBA
- **December 29, 2020** – Submit Preferred Schematic Report (PSR) to MSBA
- **July 7, 2021** – Submit Schematic Design (SD) document to MSBA
- **August 25, 2021** – MSBA Board meeting vote to approve project
- **Fall 2021** – Town Vote

The Town is partnering with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) which has a rigorous and detailed multistep Feasibility Study and Schematic Design process.

1. Why are we performing a Feasibility Study?

The 52-year-old Stoneham High School, originally constructed as a Junior High School, has served the community well. The school has reached a point that it no longer meets today's building codes, has inefficient and inoperable systems and does not support the educational curriculum. The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) visited the school and agrees. The Feasibility Study is to investigate these conditions and develop a cost effective, sustainable and educationally appropriate solution to the aging Stoneham High School. The MSBA process is rigorous and transparent, and with the approval of the MSBA, the state will provide a grant to support the cost of the project.

2. How long has the Feasibility Study been underway?

This process commenced over seven years ago with the submission of the initial Statement of Interest (SOI) for the Stoneham High School to the MSBA by the Select Board and School Committee. The MSBA deferred the SOI, as well as subsequent submissions for five successive years until the March 2018 submission, which MSBA reviewed and approved in December 2018, agreeing that a Feasibility Study should be undertaken on the Stoneham High School.

3. How much input will the community have in selecting the final design of the high school?

The SSBC will ensure that all community members have the opportunity to share in the design process through a variety of methods. The SSBC has hosted two community listening sessions or forums so far in the Feasibility Study process and is planning to host many more. Additionally, the Committee's bi-weekly meetings are posted and open to the public.

4. What options have been studied?

Ten design alternatives were discussed and evaluated over the course of nine (9) SSBC meetings and two (2) community forums.

The committee focused on the following criteria when developing the options: educational benefits, cost, minimal disruption during construction, sustainability, community use and traffic.

The SSBC, on September 28, 2020, narrowed the proposals down to five options, with the final selection scheduled to be made on December 21, 2020. These five options are:

Option 1 – Code Repair Only: This option only repairs the existing building to meet current building codes. There are no changes to the building for educational improvements. Temporary classroom modular are required for swing space.

Option 2 – Renovation Only: This option renovates the existing building, including renovations for educational improvements. There are no building additions included. Temporary classroom modulars are required for swing space.

Option 3A2 – Renovation with Addition: This option renovates the existing gymnasium only and constructs a new addition to the north of the existing building housing all other school functions, including auditorium, cafeteria, classrooms and administration offices.

Option 4A3 – New Construction: All new two-story construction located to the north of the existing building.

Option 4B – New Construction: All new two-story construction located to the north and east of the existing building.

The estimated Total Project Cost and approximate cost to Stoneham, after MSBA reimbursement, for each option is as follows:

	APPROX. TOTAL PROJECT COST	APPROX. COST TO STONEHAM
Code Repair Only (Option 1)	\$115.0M	\$61.0M
Renovation Only (Option 2)	\$173.4M	\$111.5M
Renovation/Addition (Option 3A2)	\$175.2M	\$120.3M
New Construction (Option 4A3)	\$174.8M	\$123.7M
New Construction (Option 4B)	\$172.9M	\$122.0M

5. What does Zero Net Energy mean and why is it important to Stoneham?

Zero Net Energy (ZNE) means a building produces as much clean, renewable energy on the building and surrounding grounds in a given year period (continuous 365 days) as it uses from the electric company. So overall at the end of the one-year period, it has zeroed out the energy it used from the utility by producing an equal amount of clean renewable energy locally. This is important to Stoneham as the high school will be the single largest energy use building in Town and being Zero Net Energy will reduce Town costs over the decades to come.

6. Will Franklin Street traffic be affected?

Design Options 2, 3A2, 4A3, and 4B include mitigation measures to improve the traffic along Franklin Street, especially during morning school arrivals. The roadways and parking in each design option have been expanded and redesigned to improve traffic flow and provide more queuing space for cars on site and off of Franklin Street. Additionally, a new traffic signal is being planned for the Stevens Street and Franklin Street intersection, synchronized with the new signal at the school entrance to improve traffic circulation.

7. When will the Town be voting to approve the project?

A Town Meeting is anticipated in Fall 2021 to approve the funding for the project. The ballot vote is anticipated thereafter to approve the exclusion of the costs from the so-called Proposition 2 ½.

8. How can I keep informed of the high school project?

You can visit <https://www.stoneham-ma.gov/hsbc>, which provides a complete list of Committee members, contact information and all published documentation.