

# 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. A series of community outreach meetings

through the spring, summer and fall of 2020 have informed the SSBC in developing the best long term solution for Stoneham High School, a new state of the art facility located on the site of the existing school.

Features and benefits of the project include:

- Appropriately sized classrooms
- SPED (RISE and STRIDE) Spaces
- Engineering, Fabrication and Technology Labs

- Music and Art Spaces
- Optimized building orientation for daylighting/Zero Net Energy design
- Optimized orientation of ALL athletic fields and upgraded facilities
- Upgraded roadways and parking and improved traffic on Franklin Street
- Pedestrian connection from community to expeditionary trail
- District Offices and Pre-K program



## Next Steps

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

## Upcoming SSBC Meetings

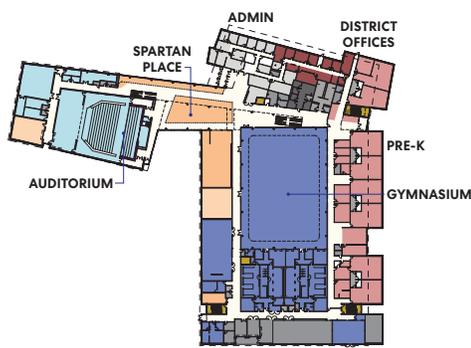
- May 17, 2021
- June 1, 2021
- June 14, 2021
- June 21, 2021
- June 28, 2021

## Upcoming Milestones

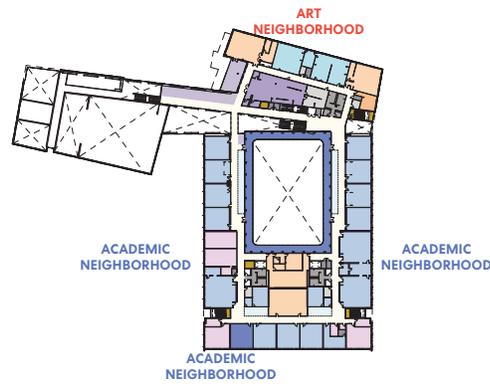
- May 26, 2021** – Community Forum 7
- June 8, 2021** – Tri-Board Meeting 4
- July 7, 2021** – Submit Schematic Design (SD) documents to MSBA
- August 25, 2021** – MSBA Board meeting vote to approve project
- October 4, 2021** – Town Meeting
- November 2, 2021** – Ballot Vote



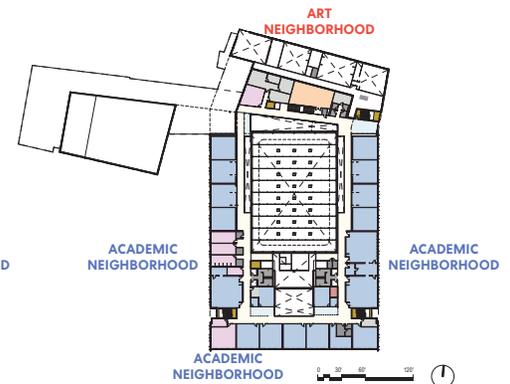
## FLOOR PLANS



LEVEL 1



LEVEL 2



LEVEL 3

### 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 building systems and does not support the educational curriculum. The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) visited the school and agrees. The goal of the Feasibility Study is to investigate the existing 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 eight 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 Stoneham High School.

### 3. What options have been studied?

Ten (10) design alternatives were discussed and evaluated over the course of sixteen (16) SSBC meetings and four (4) 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.

After reviewing five (5) design options, narrowed down from ten (10) initial options, the SSBC, on December 16, 2020, made the final selection of the Preferred Solution - an all new construction three-story building, located to the north and east of the existing building.

The total cost of the project is \$176.2 million and after the MSBA grant of \$50.9 million, the cost to Stoneham will be \$125.3 million.

### 4. 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 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 ZNE will reduce Town costs over the decades to come.

### 5. Will Franklin Street traffic be affected?

The project includes 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.

### 6. When will the Town be voting to approve the project?

At the October 4, 2021 Town Meeting, the Town will be asked to approve the project funding. The ballot vote on November 2, 2021 will ask the voters to approve the exclusion of the costs from the so-called Proposition 2 ½.

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

You can visit [www.stoneham-ma.gov/hsbc](http://www.stoneham-ma.gov/hsbc) to find a complete list of Committee members, contact information and all published documentation.

