

BERKSHIRE HILLS REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Great Barrington Stockbridge West Stockbridge
MONUMENT MOUNTAIN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE (SBC) MEETING
In-Person/Virtual

March 12, 2025 – 5:30 PM

Virtual Location: (Public attendance) * Zoom (details provided on meeting agenda)

Attendees: Peter Dillon, Steve Bannon, Sarah Bourla, Steve Soule, Dan Bailly, Jason St. Bill Fields, Sharron Harrison, Steve Boyd (virtual), Christopher Barnes, Kara Staunton Shron (virtual), Diane Signer, Ananda Timpane (virtual), Anthony (Andy) Troiano (joined at 5:50 PM)

Absent: Steve Shatz, Eric Gabriel, Ian Brown, Lily Haskins-Vaughn

Project Team Attendees: John Benzinger, Nick Lobik, Victoria Clifford (virtual) – Skanska, Donna DiNisco, Jeff Oxisdad, Jim Shuttleworth – DiNisco, Andrew Jonic – WRA

Community Attendees (virtual): Donn, Jeff, NEWSletter

Call to order 5:30 PM

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve meeting minutes of 2/12/2025
 - Motion: Steve Bannon
 - Second: Bill Fields
- Motion unanimously approved

2. Skanska Update

- Skanska gave a schedule update:
 - Documents due to estimators mid-May, we will have our final SD estimate mid-June.
 - 26th June SD submission due to MSBA
 - Community Vote – tentatively November 4th, School Committee to vote to approve the date at it's next meeting
 - Bannon – will there be a town meeting for the vote?
 - Dillion – School Committee to decide on the vote process in the next 1-2 months
 - Boyd – once the date is set by School Committee, the Vote Yes campaign can register with the state
- Communications update:
 - Skanska presented the March Pamphlet and 4/1 Community Information Session flyer
 - How are we distributing?
 - Committee discussed distributing to the senior centers and local libraries
 - Timpane recommended breaking pamphlet content into small slides that can be posted on social media
 - 4/1 Community Information Session advertising:
 - Posting to town websites / district Facebook page
 - Local cable
 - Skanska to look into radio ad's and potential radio interview
 - St. Peter – suggested holding off on interview until cost is known in June

3. Subcommittee Reports / Staff Engagement

- Visual, Performing Arts, and Library Subcommittee:
 - Members include interested citizens, parents, SBC member, BHRSD staff
 - Met on February 14, 2025
 - Agenda: Solicit input for auditorium

- o Input received:
 - Anything will be better than the existing auditorium
 - Formal orchestra pit; Go with best practices
 - Visibility is great with the proposed auditorium layout
 - Layout is great – shows a commitment to the arts
 - Comfortable with the layout if the theater staff like it
 - Can we block off the balcony?
 - No concession area outside of auditorium – Kitchen is far from auditorium with no opportunity for food prep. Consider a sink and an area to sell goods and products
 - Soule added that we wouldn't open the kitchen up for concession use

Andy Troiano joined at 5:50 PM

- Programming update:
 - o Review program requirements from staff
 - Auditorium
 - Music
 - MMTV
 - Horticulture
 - Early Childhood Program
 - Computer Science
 - Core academic spaces
 - Special Education programs
 - Health + PE (previous and upcoming)
 - Automotive (previous and upcoming)
 - Science (previous and upcoming)
 - Library (previous and upcoming)
 - Art (previous and upcoming)
 - Electricity Program (Upcoming)
 - o FF&E update:
 - Soule asked if the project would do a detailed audit of current furniture and what will come over to new building
 - Yes, Skanska to assist

4. Test Well Update

- Moved drill dates to week of February 24th (too icy week of February 17th)
- Hit rock at approximately 85' depth
- Groundwater less than 5 gallons per minute (gpm)
- Bore hole at 605' depth
- Well installed at 535' depth (some rock caved in bore hole)
- Casing at 100' depth
- Grout settling week of March 3rd
- Report week of March 24th

5. Design Updates

- Updated site plan:
 - o Confirmed access drive
 - o Provides accessible route
 - o Reduces retaining walls
 - o Opportunities for outdoor learning
 - o Potentially removes one greenhouse, trellises, raised beds
 - o Opportunity for raised garden beds at school

- o Revised entry for ECP
- Exterior design updates:
 - o The design team explained that the Exterior Subcommittee would have typically met before today's meeting so their feedback could be shared with the SBC, but due to schedules, the exterior subcommittee will meet early next week to review these same materials
 - o The design team presented updates on window patterns, material studies, mixed material palette and window patterns, massing options and asked the SBC members for feedback.
 - The committee gave feedback and discussed preferences
 - Overall the committee leaning towards the gable massing, mix of traditional and modern, masonry materials – want to continue to see multiple color palettes for consideration
 - o Next steps:
 - Feedback received today and at upcoming Exterior Subcommittee meeting to be incorporated in design – developments to be presented at the 4/9 SBC meeting

6. New Business

- Next SBC meeting: 4/9
- Community forum: 4/1

7. Public Participation

- None

Meeting adjourned by unanimous decision.