

Willington School Building Committee Community Feedback

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February 1, 2023

SBC: Attendance at presentations

Hall School: 55

Center School: 12

Public Library: 9

Senior Center: 7

Town Office Building: 22

Center School: 31

Note: totals do not include committee members in attendance; 6 known community members were at more than one event.

Community Forum: Feedback Themes

- Expand the charge to consider CIP only approach
- More information desired on the result of a “no” vote
- Are water and road improvements in the cost of a new building?
- What is the impact on residents with low or fixed income?
- What happens to the two buildings if the town builds a new school?
- What is the cost beyond the school project? (roads, firehouse, CIP, CES, HMS)
- What is the length/life of a new building? Renovation?
- What is the vision of the town regarding our buildings?
- Confusion on the tax impact postcard
- Cost of projects

Community Forum Data: January 26, 2023

- Participants online: approximately 65
- Participants in person: approximately 50
- Speakers: 36
- **Community Forum feedback:**
 - Renovate HMS: 3
 - New school: 12
 - No to both: 20
 - Comment only: 1
- **Number of speakers* at Community Forum who also completed a survey: 16**
 - Renovate HMS: 3
 - New school: 6
 - No to both: 7
 - Comment only: 0

Note: If the speaker didn't identify a preferred option during the Community Forum, survey data was utilized.

*speaker who also wrote their name on a survey

SBC Survey Results

- **193 surveys completed**
 - Town Office Building (paper): 18
 - Library (paper): 8
 - Senior Center (paper): 1
 - Electronic: 166 (2 duplicates for 168)
- Do you have the information, or will have the information to form your opinion?
 - Yes: 161
 - No: 32

Note:

- Anonymous surveys (18): new school (15); renovate (3); “no” (2)

SBC Survey Results

- **I would support renovating HMS:**
 - Yes, and please include the auditorium: 18 (9%)
 - Yes: 40 (21%)
 - No: 135 (70%)
- **Comment trends:**
 - Disruption
 - Cost
 - Maintain and fix what you have
 - Maintain two separate schools
 - Concerns about hazardous materials while student occupied
 - HMS has infrastructure in place already

SBC Survey Results

- **I would support building one new school on a new site:**
 - Yes, and please include the auditorium: 82 (42%)
 - Yes: 26 (13%)
 - No: 84 (44%)
 - Maybe, yes: 1 (1%)
- **Comment trends:**
 - Cost
 - Maintain two separate schools
 - Site concerns, traffic study
 - Empty buildings
 - Less disruptive for education
 - Faster timeline
 - Community space (auditorium)
 - Future expansion

SBC Survey and Community Feedback Combined

- **Support Alteration/Extension HMS** 58/236 (25%)
 - Community Forum: 3 (all speakers completed a survey)
 - Survey: 58
 - Emailed support: 0
- **Support New School** 126/236 (53%)
 - Community Forum: 6 (6 additional also completed the survey)
 - Survey: 108
 - Emailed support: 12 (no known survey completed)
- **None of the above** (no on both survey questions) 52/236 (22%)
 - Community Forum: 13 (7 additional also completed the survey)
 - Survey: 33
 - Emailed support: 6 (no known survey completed)