



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Belmont High School Building Committee

BHS-BC@belmont-ma.gov

Massachusetts School Building Authority Approves Belmont High School Project Funding

BELMONT, Massachusetts – On Wednesday, August 29th, the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) voted to approve funding for the Belmont High School Building Project. This endorsement is the culmination of more than two years of collaboration and work by the Belmont High School Building Committee (BHSBC), the MSBA, the Belmont School Department, Belmont's citizens, multiple town committees and boards, and various town departments. The MSBA approved a grant for the addition and renovation project at Belmont High School for \$80, 644, 278.

"We are incredibly pleased that the MSBA has voted to approve funding for the Belmont High School Building Project. We are especially grateful for the support of State Senator Will Brownsberger and State Representative Dave Rogers, who attended multiple MSBA board meetings and were strong advocates for the Belmont High School Project. The project has reached this stage thanks to the collective efforts of so many throughout the town, and it is a testament to how invested Belmont's citizens are in the continued success of our schools," said Bill Lovallo, Chairman of the Belmont High School Building Committee.

The BHSBC was formed to explore solutions to the Belmont High School building deficits, including an aging infrastructure and space constraints due to overcrowding. In January 2018, after more than 50 public meetings, forums, and workshops, the Belmont School Committee voted for a 7-12 grade configuration for the school. Also, at that time, the BHSBC determined that a school design with a major addition and minor renovation would most appropriately and effectively address the educational and facility-related needs of Belmont's students, and would support continued enrollment growth and evolving teaching models.

The next step in the Belmont High School Building Project process is a town-wide vote on November 6, 2018. At that time, voters will decide whether to accept the MSBA's \$80 million in funding towards the total project costs of \$295,159,189 and approve a debt exclusion to fund the balance of the project, an amount for which Belmont's taxpayers will be responsible. If the town votes in favor of the debt exclusion, the project will move ahead. The current project timeline is to complete construction and open the 9-12 portion of the school in September 2021 and to open the 7-8 grade portion of the school in September 2023.

For additional information on the Belmont High School Building Project, to view interior and site designs, and to follow the project journey, please visit belmonthighschoolproject.org.

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