

# Community Discussion

WE ARE HERE TO DISCUSS THE HISTORY AND THE  
CURRENT INFORMATION REGARDING TUITIONING  
PITTSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS OUT OF  
DISTRICT.

# HISTORY OF THE STUDY

**IN 2020 A PETITIONED WARRANT ARTICLE WAS BROUGHT FORWARD TO THE VOTERS :**

**ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF INSTRUCTING THE PITTSFIELD SCHOOL BOARD, TO IN GOOD FAITH, INVESTIGATE AND PURSUE VIABLE OPTIONS FOR TUITIONING ALL STUDENTS IN GRADES 9 THROUGH 12 TO ANOTHER HIGH SCHOOL(S) AND TO CEASE EDUCATING ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN PITTSFIELD?**

# HISTORY OF THE STUDY

THE WARRANT ARTICLE PASSED WITH A

VOTE OF 322 TO 225

# HISTORY OF THE STUDY

THE SCHOOL BOARD, UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF

THE SUPERINTENDENT, FORMED A TUITION STUDY

COMMITTEE MADE UP OF SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS.

# HISTORY OF THE STUDY

ON MAY 8<sup>TH</sup> OF 2021 THE TUITION STUDY COMMITTEE HELD A PUBLIC FORUM TO GET INPUT.

A REPORT WAS BROUGHT FORWARD TO THE COMMUNITY THAT INCLUDED AN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY DESCRIBING:

FINDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS

TUITION CONTRACTS

BUDGET AND FACILITY CONSIDERATIONS



# HISTORY OF THE STUDY

QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS WERE STILL

PRESENT IN THE COMMUNITY AFTER THIS

REPORT WAS MADE PUBLIC.

# HISTORY OF THE STUDY

IN OCTOBER OF 2021, THE SUPERINTENDENT PRESENTED TUITION, TRANSPORTATION COSTS, AND SPECIAL EDUCATION COSTS TO THE SCHOOL BOARD FOR FIVE SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

THE SUPERINTENDENT CONCLUDED THAT AS OF THAT TIME, UNLESS THE PITTSFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WAS CLOSED AND STUDENTS FROM PES WERE MOVED INTO THE MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL, FINANCIALLY IT WOULD NOT BE COST EFFECTIVE FOR THE DISTRICT.

# HISTORY OF THE STUDY

THE SUPERINTENDENT DID AN ANALYSIS AND FOUND THAT THE CURRENT PROGRAM AT THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WOULD NOT FIT INTO THE MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING ALONG WITH MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS.

A CONCERN WAS ALSO RAISED ABOUT RENOVATION COSTS TO ACCOMMODATE THE YOUNGER STUDENTS.





# HISTORY OF THE STUDY

**THE SCHOOL BOARD CONTRACTED WITH HARRIMAN/ TEAM DESIGN AT A COST OF \$26,000 TO DETERMINE IF THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROGRAM COULD BE MOVED INTO THE MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL AND TO GIVE APPROXIMATE COSTS FOR POSSIBLE RENOVATIONS.**

# Findings from Team Design

- THE PMHS SITE LACKS OUTDOOR SPACES AND ADEQUATE PARKING
- PMHS DOES NOT HAVE ENOUGH CLASSROOM SPACE AND OFFICE SPACE TO ACCOMMODATE THE CURRENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROGRAM, NEED ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR 2 KINDERGARTEN CLASSROOMS, 1 FIRST GRADE CLASSROOM, 3 SPECIAL EDUCATION CLASSROOMS, 1 ELECTIVE CLASSROOM, 1 INTERVENTION ROOM, 1 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE SPACE
- THE PMHS BUILDING WOULD NEED EXTENSIVE RENOVATION AND/OR NEW CONSTRUCTION TO ACCOMMODATE THE MOVE INTO THAT BUILDING.



# Findings from Team Design

**“ OUR ANALYSIS CONCLUDES THAT THE CONSOLIDATION OF  
THE ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAMS CAN  
NOT FIT WITHIN THE EXISTING MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING  
WHILE HONORING THE PARAMETERS OF THE STUDY.”**



# Findings from Team Design

**THE SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTED INFORMATION ON  
WHAT IT WOULD COST TO DO RENOVATIONS AND OR  
NEW CONSTRUCTION.**

# Findings from Team Design

**COST FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION**

**\$5,000,000 TO \$6,500,000**

**COST FOR RENOVATION**

**\$15,000,000 TO \$22,500,000**



# **Additional Cost Information**

**WHAT WOULD THE COMPARISON OF COST BE IF  
THE DECISION WAS MADE TO TUITION HS  
STUDENTS OUT AND EITHER CLOSE THE ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL OR KEEP IT OPEN?**

# TUITION COSTS

## COSTS FOR SENDING PHS STUDENTS TO OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS

School	Tuition cost	# Students	TUITION COSTS	Transportation	SPED	TOTAL
Merrimack Valley	\$ 14,500.00	160	\$ 2,320,000	\$ 257,640.00	\$ 403,328.00	\$ 2,980,968.00
Coe Brown	\$ 14,500.00	160	\$ 2,320,000	\$ 215,520.00	\$ 377,828.00	\$ 2,913,348.00
Pembroke	\$ 13,950.00	160	\$ 2,232,000	\$ 201,480.00	\$ 403,328.00	\$ 2,836,808.00
Winnisquam	\$ 14,000.00	160	\$ 2,240,000	\$ 257,640.00	\$ 352,328.00	\$ 2,849,968.00
Concord	\$ 13,800.00	160	\$ 2,208,000	\$ 215,520.00	\$ 403,328.00	\$ 2,826,848.00

# Additional Cost Information

## AVERAGE FIXED COSTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS APPROXIMATE FOR RESEARCH DONE

<b>TUITION</b>	<b>\$2,281,600</b>
<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION COSTS</b>	<b>\$ 388,028</b>
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>	<b>\$ 229,560</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,899,188</b>



# Budget Comparison

AREA OF EXPENSE	W/ PES OPEN	W/PES CLOSED	VARIANCE
REGULAR EDUC.	\$4,316,581	\$4,316,581	\$0
SPECIAL EDUC.	\$2,278,650	\$2,278,650	\$0
CO-CURRICULAR	\$ 21,228	\$ 21,288	\$0
GUIDANCE/HEALTH	\$ 405,505	\$ 395,173	\$10,332
VOCATIONAL	\$ 59,793	\$ 59,793	\$0
SPEECH/ OT/PT	\$ 448,848	\$ 448,848	\$0
PROFESSIONAL DEV.	\$ 25,440	\$ 25,440	\$0
MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY	\$ 438,703	\$ 349,357	\$89,346
SAU/SCHOOL BOARD	\$ 331,093	\$ 331,093	\$0
PRINCIPALS OFFICE	\$ 598,385	\$ 558,244	\$40,140
FACILITIES	\$ 667,026	\$ 544,248	\$131,777
TRANSPORTATION	\$ 862,715	\$ 862,715	\$0

# Budget Comparison

<b>2022-23 APPROVED BUDGET</b>	<b>\$10,175,999</b>
<b>APPROX. COST IF PES OPEN AND HS TUITIONED OUT</b>	<b>\$10,562,735</b>
<b>APPROX. COST IF PES CLOSED AND HS TUITIONED OUT</b>	<b>\$10,275,653</b>



# DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS