

Craig J. Levis
Superintendent

Jon M. Anderson, Esq.
School Committee Attorney

Dawn Cabral
Interim School Committee Secretary



1675 Flat River Road, Coventry, RI 02816
Tel. 401-822-9400, Fax: 401-822-9464

TTY: 1-800-745-5555

School Committee Members

Katherine M. Patenaude
Chairperson, District 2

David Florio
Vice-Chairperson, District 4

Ana Isabel dos Reis-Couto
Member, District 1

Donna M. Kalunian
Member, District 3

James P. Pierson
District 5

**School Building Committee
Meeting Minutes of September 28, 2022**

- 1.) Call to order at 6:30pm
- 2.) Superintendent Update on the Town Council Meeting
 - a.) Don Cowart updated the committee on the discussion that took place at the recent TC Meeting. Town manager gave permission to negotiate Studio Jaed contract and that no decision was made about the cap on the amount of money the SBC would be able to submit for a project.
- 3.) Town Manager Update
 - a.) TC did not determine an amount of money for a resolution but many expressed between 60-70 million range.
 - b.) TC moved to see the options first
 - c.) TC expressed to stay away from 95 million but were very interested in the return on investment.
 - d.) Town manager expressed that there is a freedom to explore options.
 - e.) Also confirmed he will negotiate a contract with Studio Jaed.
- 4.) James Pierson opened the floor to SBC for questions and comments.
 - a.) SBC members commented on the TC meeting;
 - i.) Many TC members had opinions that should be listened to - Christine,
 - ii.) Mr. Cowart communicated the SBC role,
 - iii.) There should be many options touching across the community - Kim S,
 - iv.) Aleita asked what does that do to the timeline if we need to explore many options to present to the TC?,
 - v.) Phil explained that later he will discuss schedule,
 - vi.) Ann D recommended that the SBC frequently report out to the TC about the work of the committee,
 - vii.) Don Cowart discussed that marketing of the projects should be sooner rather than later.
- 5.) Announcements from Finance;
 - a.) Harold Sands discussed importance of knowing the projects first,
 - b.) Lisa Mills discussed getting an analysis of cost savings and repurposing of consolidating elementary schools. Recommended an RFP go out.
 - c.) Harold Sands will present at the next meeting the cost of each building.
- 6.) Phil Conte of Studio Jaed presented 4 options to understand what is available in various ranges; two were above 95 thousand and two were below 95 thousand. The presentation also assisted the SBC in seeing the layout of the schools across the town

and the land area around the schools. The SBC discussed all the options and also added multiple other thoughts of options during this section of the meeting. It was decided that SBC members could send ideas for Phil Conte to consolidate into more options at the next meeting. Ideas should be forwarded to Hillary Lima by October 5, 2022 and she will send to Phil Conte.

7.) SBC committee discussed the need for marketing and communications of this work and project.

- a.) SBC discussed this needs to be part of the process early on and continuously.
- b.) SBC discussed soliciting community feedback.
- c.) Suggestions were made to hire a PR firm.

8.) Public comments were solicited:

- a.) Aleita asked for the document from the former SBC that was the “Must Dos” from Phil Conte.
- b.) No other comments.

Next Meeting Scheduled for October 12th and Mr. Cowart will decide on the location.

Close of the Meeting at 8:32pm