

Be Sure to Vote! Friday, March 16th



PROPOSED BOW 4-5 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

LAVALLEE/BRENSINGER ARCHITECTS

Reminder: Babysitting services will be available at the high school. The Community Center parking lot will be used for additional parking. A shuttle bus will run from the Community Center to the high school parking lot adjacent to White Rock Hill Road.



Please vote at the Annual School District Meeting
MARCH 16TH AT 7:00 PM at Bow High School
Bow Upper Elementary School Project

WHY DO WE NEED TO DO ANYTHING?

Over the past 8 years the student population has increased by 53%. Based on population projections provided by the Office of State Planning, each school's population will continue to grow over the next ten years. The overall growth is projected to be in the range of 13%-19%.

The Bow Elementary and Memorial Schools are already over capacity. Instruction at the elementary school is happening in storage closets and hallways. Approximately one third of the BES Media Center is being used for Occupational Therapy and other special education instruction. The state-mandated preschool special education program is held in what was formerly the teachers' work and lunchroom. At Bow Memorial many classes are above the District's standard of 25 students per class. Part of the media center is now used for special education instruction and science labs are sub-standard.

WHAT IS THE RECOMMENDED SOLUTION?

Warrant Article 1, if approved by the voters, will provide for the construction of an upper elementary school to house grades 4 and 5. The building will be constructed on existing school property. The building will be a very basic structure that will include 14 regular classrooms, additional space for art, music, special education and gifted and talented programs, a media center and multi-purpose room.

WHY WAS THIS SOLUTION SELECTED?

- This will alleviate crowding at both BES and BMS by taking one full grade out of each building.
- Grouping grades 4 and 5 together is developmentally appropriate.
- All three schools will be smaller and more manageable.
- This will reduce traffic congestion and parking problems at BES and BMS.

- This will accommodate projected enrollment through 2010.
- This provides the most flexible alternative to accommodate any future student population growth and/or program changes at any level of grades K-8.
- This adds needed space without causing disruption at existing schools due to construction.

WHAT OPTIONS WERE CONSIDERED?

The Long Range Planning Committee investigated the following options:

- Additions to BES and BMS at a cost of \$7,144,338.
- Single story addition to BMS to include space for grade 4 at a cost of \$6,752,521.
- Freestanding grade 4 & 5 building at a cost of \$6,590,841. This has been reduced to \$6,390,841 by the School Board.
- Demolition of old wing of BMS and replace with a 2 story addition at a cost of \$7,894,604.

More than 300 people attended the Public Forums on these options. The survey forms completed at these forums overwhelmingly recommended that the grade 4/5 freestanding building was the option of choice.

WHY WASN'T ADDING A 2ND FLOOR TO BMS CONSIDERED?

In 1999 the School Board hired the structural engineering firm of Souza, True & Partners, Inc. to determine the suitability of BMS receiving a second floor. They concluded, "...the existing structures were not originally designed with provisions for vertical expansion capabilities. Therefore, the construction of a new one-story addition above the existing roof construction is simply not feasible."

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