

Timeline

If granted funding, we can expect to receive 60% of the total cost of the project from the State, but the project HAS to begin before June 2019. If we waited until March to vote on Plan B, we would then need to put the project out for bid and we wouldn't meet the June deadline. Therefore, we would lose our spot for building aid. Plan A is due to go to bid in January 2019 for work to begin in the summer. Contractors are typically looking for Spring/Summer work in the winter months and we expect to get the best pricing options. We would like to keep that timeline.



Public Voting Meeting

Saturday, December 15th, 2018

10:00am

**Haverhill Cooperative Middle
School Gym
175 Morrill Drive
North Haverhill, NH 03774**

**Voting will take place on
the bond for the new proposal.**

Woodsville High School Renovation Proposal



**Information You Need
To Know**

Approved Initial Bond

At the March 2018 Town Meeting, the town approved a \$3.7 million project (Plan A) to bring WHS up to code. This plan involved investment in all three campus buildings: the Main Building, the Community Building and the Bennett Building. Approved funds were also to be used for a new space for the King Street school. Plan A would bring the existing buildings up to code, but will not improve the safety of the site. Also, Plan A will continue to invest money into the Bennett Building which, in some reports, was deemed “not worth saving”. Plan A was presented to the public as the “affordable” plan, meeting the basic needs of the school and accreditation process.

Beginning the Project

After several interviews, the Haverhill Cooperative School Board (HCSB) hired Banwell Architects from Lebanon, NH. Banwell began professional cost estimating and drawings for Plan A and questioned why we were spending \$500,000 on the Bennett Building rather than investing in a safer, better project. They suggested building a connector between the Main Building and the Community Building for more security and an enhanced appearance. We explained that the option had been presented by the previous company at a cost of \$9 million. Banwell completed the design of Plan B and estimated the cost of building the connector, demolishing the Bennett Building, and sitework would total \$1.8 million more than the approved Plan A.

Why The Need For A Special Meeting?

We have been told by Representative Rick Ladd and Senator Bob Giuda that there is a strong possibility that the State will have school building aid coming available. Superintendent Laurie Melanson has been to Concord to present Plan A and Plan B to the School Building Authority. Frank Edelblut, Commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Education, and other members of the School Building Authority, agreed that Plan B is a better, safer, more attractive plan for long term use of the school site. Our project was ranked #2 in the state for school building aid. Greg Hill, Chairman of the NH School Building Aid Committee, recently toured the WHS campus as well as the school that was ranked #1 to receive aid. Based on his visit, the ranking changed and WHS is now ranked #1 in the state to receive building aid. The Commission recommended Plan A because it had already been approved and made it eligible for aid by a formula of “Substantial Renovation”. If Plan B is approved, Commissioner Edelbut said we can modify our project and we can testify to the legislature in January/February when the state is building their capital budget. The Commissioner said he would sit with us and support our request for additional funds.

