

The Regional District 13 Board of Education Building Committee and the Board of Education met jointly in a special session on Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. in the library at Coginchaug Regional High School.

Building Committee Members Present: Mr. Weissberg, Mr. Overton, Mr. Cross, Mr. Giammatteo, Mr. Putnam, Mrs. Cowan, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Simmons, and Mr. Moore
Committee Members Absent: Mr. Dalles and Mr. Dwire

Board of Education Members Present: Mrs. Cowan, Dr. Darcy (attending virtually), Mr. Moore, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Roraback and Mr. Simmons
Board of Education Members Absent: Mrs. Caramanello, Mr. DelVecchio, Mr. Stone, and Mr. Konstantino

Administration Present: Dr. Leggett, Superintendent of Schools and Mr. Proia, Supervisor of Facilities and Grounds

O&G Associates present: Ms. Purcell and Mr. Cravanzola
QA+M Associates present: Mr. Collier & Mr. Malik
STV present: Ms. Liska

Mr. Weissberg called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Cross made a motion, seconded by John Giammatteo, to approve the agenda as presented.

All in favor of approving the agenda as presented: Mr. Weissberg, Mr. Overton, Mr. Cross, Mr. Giammatteo, Mr. Putnam, Mrs. Cowan, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Simmons and Mr. Moore. Motion passed.

Memorial Renovation/Expansion

A. Building Committee vote to accept and approve construction documents and specifications for Phase Three: Memorial School Renovate as New, and Relevant Cost Estimate as required by the SCG042.

Mr. Malik and Mr. Collier presented projected updates, confirming that required third-party and health department approvals have been received. Mr. Collier and Mr. Malik noted that remaining local official sign-offs are pending scheduling. Ms. Purcell presented that Phase 2 bidding is currently out and due next Tuesday, with a likely one-week extension to encourage broader participation, though no schedule impact is expected. There has been strong interest in the project, with three electrical contractors and 11 demolition contractors attending the pre-bid meeting.

The committee members discussed how the project timeline contains detailed information and agreed that, in addition to the comprehensive version, a simplified, high-level timeline would be helpful for the community. Mr. Moore has drafted a newsletter summary, and Dr. Leggett wants to continue updating a public timeline monthly on the website. Ms. Liska offered to create a more visually appealing, pared-down graphic highlighting major milestones while maintaining the detailed historical timeline internally. Mrs. Petrella questioned references to delays in public materials, requesting clear timelines to prevent misinterpretation. Ms. Liska established the published material would reference the action timelines that are occurring in that month. The distributed one-page graphic was viewed favorably and considered appropriate for public sharing, and it was confirmed that field and facility schedules have been coordinated with all user groups.

Ms. Purcell reviewed updated cost estimates reflecting last week's decisions on bid alternates and value engineering. The updated project budget shows the base estimate about \$1.228 million over target, or roughly \$900,000 over if deduct alternates are taken, with a total target cost of approximately \$77.358078 million and escalation contingencies still included. Members expressed confidence in the drawings, specifications, and market conditions, expecting competitive bids on the project.

The Building Committee proceeded to vote to accept and approve the construction documents and specifications for Phase Three.

Mr. Giammatteo made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cross to accept and approve construction documents and specifications for Phase Three: Memorial School Renovate as New, and Relevant Cost Estimate as required by the SCG042

All in favor of accepting and approving construction documents and specifications for Phase Three: Memorial School Renovate as New, and Relevant Cost Estimate as required by the SCG042 as presented: Mr. Weissberg, Mr. Overton, Mr. Cross, Mr. Giammatteo, Mr. Putnam, Mrs. Cowan, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Simmons, and Mr. Moore. Motion passed.

B. Board of Education vote to accept and approve construction documents and specifications for Phase Three: Memorial School Renovate as New, and Relevant Cost Estimate as required by the SCG042.

Mrs. Petrella made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Cowan, to accept and approve construction documents and specifications for Phase Three: Memorial School Renovate as New, and Relevant Cost Estimate as required by the SCG042.

Mr. Simmons clarified that the over budget estimate may decrease once the project bids are received.

All in favor of accepting and approving construction documents and specifications for Phase Three: Memorial School Renovate as New, and Relevant Cost Estimate as required by the SCG042 as presented: Mrs. Cowan, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Simmons, Mr. Moore, Mr. Roraback and Dr. Darcy. Motion passed.

C. Vote to approve invoices

Dr. Leggett presented an invoice for approval.

O&G Industries	Application #5-Phase 1 Project # 2016200	\$43,847.37
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Mr. Cross made a motion, seconded by Mr. Giammatteo, to approve Invoice Application #5 as presented.

All in favor of approving Invoice Application # 5 as presented. Mr. Weissberg, Mr. Overton, Mr. Cross, Mr. Giammatteo, Mr. Putnam, Mrs. Cowan, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Simmons, and Mr. Moore. Motion passed.

Mr. Moore presented that Rob Croston had been accepted as a volunteer member.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

Mr. Cross made a motion, seconded by Mr. Giammatteo, to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor of adjourning the meeting: Mr. Weissberg, Mr. Overton, Mr. Cross, Mr. Giammatteo, Mr. Putnam, Mrs. Cowan, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Simmons, and Mr. Moore. Motion passed and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Meghan Shortell-Fratantonio