Regional School District 13 **Board of Education** **November 4, 2026**
Building Committee

The Regional District 13 Board of Education Building Committee met in regular session on Wednesday, November 4, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. in the library at Coginchaug Regional High School.

Building Committee Members Present: Mr. Weissberg, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Cowan, Mr. Cross, Mr. Croston, Mr. Overton, Mr. Dwire (attending virtually), and Mr. Putnam (attending virtually)
Board of Education Members Present: Mr. Viens
Building Committee Members Absent: Mr. Simmons and Mr. Giammatteo
Student Members: Siya Patel and Jack Quinn
Administration Present: Dr. Leggett, Superintendent of Schools**,** Mr. Proia, Supervisor of Facilities and Grounds, and Mrs. Neubig, Director of Finance

O&G Associates present: Mr. Luccarelli and Mr. Cravanzola (attending virtually)
QA+M Associates present: Mr. Collier
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 Mr. Croston, to approve the agenda.

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

Approval of Minutes – October 21, 2026

Mr. Cross made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Petrella, to approve the October 21, 2026 Meeting Minutes.

All in favor of approving the October 21, 2026 Meeting Minutes as presented: Mr. Weissberg, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Cowan, Mr. Cross, Mr. Croston, Mr. Dwire, and Mr. Putnam. Mr. Overton abstained. Motion passed.

Memorial Renovation/Expansion

A. Construction Partner Updates

Mr. Luccarelli provided a construction update, reporting that the storm-trap system is complete, with backfilling, curbing, sidewalks, and remaining drainage work underway. Framing, concrete, foundations, and steel work are progressing across the building, including the classroom addition and gym. Roofing for the classroom addition is expected to begin shortly before Thanksgiving and take about a month, while the latest schedule projects substantial completion on September 1 and making up more time weekly. The committee also asked that the old leaching-field area be decompacted and restored as a grass play area.

Mr. Collier provided an update on several construction and planning items. A playground inspection took place at Memorial on October 24, and preliminary findings identified no major concerns with the existing equipment. Minor work may be advisable to extend its life, and the team is still assessing whether some existing equipment posts can be relocated rather than replaced. The written inspection report was expected shortly. Discussions with administrators about furniture, fixtures, equipment, and technology are continuing, and the team said it is close to meeting the project's allocated budget, with finalized figures targeted for review before Thanksgiving. Information about potential signage and branding locations has been shared with the school naming committee to support its work on logos and mascots. Owls were leading the mascot survey by roughly two to one, with Mustangs second. The next step is to select three finalists and invite students and staff to vote. For the outdoor classroom, revised planting plans are in progress, with a proposal request targeted for early the following week and a budget goal of $150,000.00. The team is also evaluating whether structural steel can be added in the existing OT/PT suite to support a therapeutic swing, since the current ceiling structure may not be suitable. Members discussed whether a sensory or "back on track" space in the new wing could support students, but the swing itself is expected to remain downstairs. Freestanding equipment was considered, though concerns were raised about stability, space, and the need for adult support. Finally, the kitchen pump-station work is moving forward as a measure to keep the project on schedule, although updated pricing was not yet available.

Ms. Liska reported that the owner contingency currently stands at $528,000.00, noting that O&G has agreed to return $425,000.00 from the construction manager's contingency before December 1, and a PCO will be submitted to formalize the transfer. Once approved, this would bring the owner contingency to approximately $953,000.00 while leaving about $1 million in the construction manager's contingency for its use. The committee welcomed the update and thanked staff for their collaboration.

The committee discussed an upcoming Friday construction-site tour for high school students, coordinated with O&G and STV, along with other student learning opportunities. Planned activities include construction-related work with two classes, art students collaborating with the designer on artwork for school spaces, and participation by engineering, woodworking, and physics classes. Additional activities for younger students are being planned for the spring. Members thanked the project team for involving students and connecting the construction work to potential careers.

The committee also discussed information needed before considering playground surfacing options. Members requested a comparison of poured-in-place rubber, low-density matting or tiles, and wood chips,

including costs, fall-height requirements, maintenance and life-cycle costs, and relevant warranties. The team is still seeking a definitive report on the existing equipment's fall heights. Current surfacing estimates use an average thickness. Staff will gather the available information and prepare a comparison for a future meeting.

B. Review and Possible Vote to Approve Change Orders

There were no change orders presented for approval.

C. Vote to Approve Invoices

Mrs. Neubig presented the following invoices for approval, noting that the invoices have been reviewed by the finance advisor as appropriate for payment.

11/4/2026	S&P Global	290500	$757.50
11/4/2026	Moody's	P0549599	$33,250.00
11/4/2026	US Bank	8382034	$5,000.00
11/4/2026	US Bank	8381978	$600.00
11/4/2026	Shipman & Goodwin	693059	$48,500.00
11/4/2026	Munistat Services	10.29.26	$30,000.00
11/4/2026	Dattco	39120	$27,882.90
11/4/2026	STV	3705	$24,823.84
11/4/2026	Mobile Modular	2979711	$3,554.00
11/4/2026	IMTL	7207-E	$11,057.50
11/4/2026	First American Title Insurance Co.	6641631	$1,325.00
11/4/2026	Cubesmart	206916	$327.00

11/4/2026	Eversource	5189-758-0163	$1,041.40

Mr. Cross made a motion, seconded by Mr. Croston, to approve the invoices as presented.

All in favor of approving the invoices as presented: Mr. Weissberg, Mrs. Petrella, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Cowan, Mr. Cross, Mr. Croston, Mr. Overton, Mr. Dwire, and Mr. Putnam. Motion passed.

ADA Project Strong School

Mr. Collier reviewed proposed accessibility and security improvements at Strong School, including a new ramp, replacement stairs, an enlarged entrance landing, and sidewalk upgrades. Accessible parking will also be evaluated. Mr. Collier reported that the project team has received a limited-area survey and is refining the design to fit the site's grades. Interior improvements would include a secure transaction window, a more accessible route to the main office from inside the building, and updated security features consistent with those used at Memorial School. The team will also assess lighting around the entrance and ramp and determine the best location for an accessible door operator and intercom. A cost estimate is being finalized, and the committee stressed the need to move promptly toward bidding because the glazing system may have a long lead time and construction is planned for the summer. The team is advancing a priority application and potentially pursuing special legislation that would allow it to be considered retroactively for the prior June to allow the work to be done over the summer of 2027. The state has indicated that a priority application is preferred. PCR review can proceed while the application is pending, but construction cannot begin until PCR requirements are met. Members also discussed making the space created by the ramp attractive and functional, perhaps with low-maintenance planting and a well-lit seating area or retaining wall, with possible help from student or community groups.

CRHS Tennis Courts

The committee discussed resurfacing all five tennis courts and the district's grant application to the USTA. The district applied to category 2, which may provide up to 50% of eligible project costs, capped at $40,000.00. R&M Tennis prepared the required materials, and the application was submitted using its $70,000.00 proposal. The grant requires youth-level lines on two courts, and existing USTA youth programming can help document the courts' public use. The committee is considering asking the Board to waive the bidding process, having already obtained five quotes, subject to confirming that the grant does not require competitive bidding. The resurfacing is expected to last five to seven years and could reduce the need for annual repairs. The work would take roughly four to six weeks, with timing dependent on suitable weather. The team will check whether the work can be completed in the spring.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

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

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

Respectfully submitted by Meghan Shortell-Fratantonio