

# Croydon School District

## Sustainability Committee: 3 November 2021

The Sustainability Committee is a committee of citizens comprised of parents, citizens, and a school board member charged with looking at future enrollments, financing, the role in the community, and school configuration to plan for maintaining the school in future years. This committee would advise the Board and make recommendations to the Board.

- A. Call to Order at 6:33: Aaron McKeon
- B. Attendance
  - 1. Committee Member Roll Call
    - i. Aaron McKeon – present
    - ii. Brenda Williams – present
    - iii. Jan Mitchel – present
  - 2. Others Present
    - i. Frank Perotti
    - ii. Nicole Lackie
- C. Previous Minutes
  - 1. Reviewed previous minutes
  - 2. Aaron motioned to approve minutes from the last meeting, Brenda seconded, motion passed 3-0
- D. Building Inspection
  - 1. Discussed recent buildings and grounds inspection by the state
  - 2. Items required within 30 days:
    - i. Replace furnace
    - ii. Powerwash the white building for mold
    - iii. Add woodchips to the playground
    - iv. Put kitchen outlets on dedicated circuits
  - 3. A full report will be issued by the state, likely to contain items required for bringing buildings up to code for school-use; no expectations given on timing of the report
  - 4. No structural changes can be made to the red building without triggering needing to bring the entire building up to code
- E. Current and Potential Future State of Red Building
  - 1. The red building is currently not registered as a historical building
  - 2. Per state guidelines, the school should be roughly ~3k square feet based on minimum square footage per child as well as minimum classroom size
  - 3. Average cost to build new schools is \$400/sf, or \$1.2mm at 3k square feet.
  - 4. Grants are available at a 70/30 split (town pays 70%), but town must agree to the spending prior to applying for the grant
- F. Tuitioning Out
  - 1. Briefly discussed some nuances of tuitioning out lower grades

2. School district would still require a Superintendent, Director of Special Education, and a Business Manager
3. Tuition would not be the only cost because not all schools provide for special education (e.g. Newport includes special education but Montessori does not)
4. The school district will always be required to pay for special education
5. Frank would likely require 3 days per week to manage the school district and special ed

G. Next Steps

1. Frank to talk to Sullivan County Planner to find out how they look forward and plan for shifts in demographics
2. Aaron to spend time with Beth to fully understand financial implications of the following three possible courses of action:
  - i. K-4 in Croydon (status quo)
  - ii. K-2 only / tuition out 3-12 (K-2 is a separate developmental grouping)
  - iii. Tuition out everybody
3. Next meeting will be Wednesday December 15 at 6:30pm

H. Meeting Adjourned at 8:08pm