Meeting Minutes
Medford Comprehensive High School Building Committee Meeting
March 23, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at the MHS Library & on Zoom

I. Roll call

Voting Members: 15 Present, 0 Absent
Non-Voting Members: 8 Present, 2 Absent

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes
   A. Meeting Minutes from February 25, 2026 Full Committee Meeting
   B. Meeting Minutes from March 17, 2026 Full Committee Meeting

Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes by Ken Lord second by Libby Brown 15/0/0 - Motion Approved

III. Approval of February 2026 Project Invoices

Motion to Approve February 2026 Project Invoices by Ken Lord second by Aaron Olapade 15 /0/0 - Motion Approved

IV. Request to Approve Spending for Citywide Informational Mailer

Paul Ruseau asked if there are any procurement issues with needing three quotes. If there is anything over $10,000 it will need three quotes.

Mayor Lungo-Koehn asked if there could be a tax calculator created that could be accessed by a QR code on the mailer to inform residents about potential tax implications. Committee Chair Graham said that it is too early to outlay that calculator given that the final number has not been decided, reimbursement has not been defined by the MSBA, and there is no outline by the city to define how the figure will be reimbursed.

Luke Preisner wanted to be sure that there was an objective with the mailer. Dr. Galusi, Nicole Morell, Aaron Olapade, and Libby Brown supported the need for a mailer and to ensure that committee members are aware of what is included in the project and what it means to be a comprehensive high school.

Public Comment made to include posters in the library & also to improve communication efforts.

Motion to Approve Spending for Citywide Informational Mailer with the committee to provide feedback via blind carbon copy by the project team before it gets sent out by Mayor Lungo-Koehn, second by Nicole Morrell - 15/0/0 - Motion Approved

V. Vote to select 3-5 design alternatives to study during the Preferred Schematic Report Phase

Public Comments made before discussion of straw polling:
Chet Myers 197 Playstead Road: If the pool needs to be two separate votes, it might be a burden to ask people to offer two separate votes.
Roberta Camera on 12 North St: Importance of the community function of the gym and the pool. Prioritize solutions that preserve and offer funding for community spaces and flexibility.
Suni Dillard 39 Charmwood Rd: Not a clear awareness of how much MSBA funds and thinks that the committee should further review the space summary because square footage drives cost.
Erika DeRoche 260 Willis Ave: The committee should consider the long-term needs of the community and the regional community as it relates to the pool.
Kathy Burns: 166 Drums St: Reinforce to share what is a comprehensive high school and include what is in the high school.
Laura Barriton 25 Wyman St: Use the pool for own fitness, kids on the swim team, asset safety and recreation wise. Asked questions about funding for the pool and location pool.

> Chairperson Graham clarified that MSBA would not be involved in funding for the pool, the location hasn't been formalized yet, and also that the pool does not generate revenue for the district.

Norman Kaplan 23 Helen Way: Advocate for the pool and hopes that final decision will either be a new or renovated pool as opposed to elimination for the pool.
Lisa Vinneau 19 Paul Road: Spoke about the length of time it took for the Tufts University pool to open.
Dave Link 11 Bell Ave: Young family who wants to learn more about the pool. Asks what the different funding breakpoints are in the project and how each price point affects the burden on taxpayers.
Paul Materazzo 25 Barbara Lane: Consideration for site of new build on the existing land to encourage walking and potential traffic flow.
Faye Colon 9 Billings Ave: Spoke about the importance of the pool and proximity to the community.
Alicia Hunt 41 Wilson St: Said that space is the biggest driver of costs. Spoke about the importance of long-term flexibility of a new building and its importance. Also said to think about long-term groups of students, site circulation, bus drop-off, site location, and for people to remember that all community members benefit from smart and engaged students.
Jenna Cackle 22 Ronaely Road: Importance of pool and teaching the importance of water safety. Also spoke about the quality of structure.

Debbie Steiner Hayes 29 Damon Road : Asked for explanation of the designs and the process for narrowing down design options.
Andrew Oswald 59 George St: Has there been any modelling of what may be gained or losing depending on the designs. Also asked if there was a way to save some parts of the building.

Chairperson Graham clarified the Evaluation Criteria Matrix supports these needs.

Cheryl Haug 28 Monument St: Spoke about the impact of the new library on the community and that the high school can be that resource.

Motion to move forward C 3.3 and D 2.1 forward as finalists by Luke Presiner, second by Dr. Galusi - 15/0/0 - Motion Approved

Motion to remove all B Options from consideration except option B 4.2 Ken Lord, second by Aaron Olapade - 12/3/0 - Motion Approved

Motion to move forward with B 1.2 C 3.4 C 3.2 C 2.1 & C 2.2 & D 1.1 as finalists by Dr. Galusi, second by Aaron Olapade - 14/0/1 Motion Approved

Eight Minute Recess

Motion to declare five principles for choosing the finalists, with three of them being avoiding modular classrooms, support for first responders, amount of embodied carbon by Luke Preisner, second by Aaron Olapade - 2/12/1 Motion Fails

Motion to remove B 4.2 from consideration by Aaron Olapade, second by Nicole Morell - 8/6/1 - Motion Passes

Motion to remove C 2.1 from consideration by Libby Brown, second by Brian Hilliard - 14/0/1 - Motion Passes

Motion to remove D 1.1 by Aaron Olapade, second by Maria D'Orsi - 4/9/2 Motion Fails

Motion to remove C 3.3 by Brian Hilliard, second by Joan Bowen - 11/2/2 Motion Passes

Motion to remove C 3.4 Luke Preisner, second by Brian Hilliard - 5/7/2 Motion Fails

Motion to remove C 3.2 by Ken Lord, second by Mayor Lungo-Koehn - 8/5/2 Motion Passes

Rick Orlando asked the committee to be mindful of costs and reimbursable costs.
Jessica Parks 51 Quarry St: Up to 5% points are for reimbursement

Zac Bears 130 Arbour St #2: Incentive points and reimbursement rates could be a wash given the other effects of modular classrooms

Motion to move forward A.1, B.1.2, C 2.2, C3.4, D.1.1& D2.2 Design Options to the MSBA for the PSR Phase by Dr. Galusi, second by Libby Brown - 13/0/2 Motion Approved

VI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Mayor Lungo-Koehn second by Dr. Galusi - 13/0/2 - Motion Approved

Meeting adjourned