
JUST A FEW GOOD REASONS *to* SUPPORT THE GERRY SCHOOL FEASIBILITY STUDY

EXISTING BUILDING CONDITIONS REQUIRE SIGNIFICANT UPGRADES

- 110 year-old building identified by the MSBA as being one of the bottom 1% of schools most in need of renovations and repair
- Obsolete architectural and mechanical systems contribute to excessive operational and maintenance costs
- Unfavorable learning environment with a leaking roof and outdated lighting and ventilation/heating systems
- Undersized, overcrowded classrooms cannot accommodate active hands-on learning that is most effective
- Inadequate size and inefficient arrangement of academic and administrative space with bathrooms in basement, no cafeteria, and limited special education and meeting venues
- Teachers compromised in what they can offer in relation to the curriculum because of the lack of appropriate instructional space
- No handicapped accessibility

WE NEED THIS SPECIFIC FEASIBILITY STUDY BECAUSE

- This is a requirement of the MSBA in order to qualify for state-funded reimbursement for any future building project, including renovations
- Creates a transparent process that investigates potential options and provides multiple solutions for the town to consider, including cost estimates and schematic designs for repair, renovations or new construction
- Provides the school, town officials and voters the facts needed to make educated decisions about the future of the school and, more importantly, the students it serves

IF MARBLEHEAD DOES NOT APPROVE THE FEASIBILITY STUDY

- Marblehead receives no reimbursement from the state for repairs or renovations, or moving and busing students to alternative venues if the building is declared unusable
- The choice is between a comprehensive approach substantially subsidized by the state, or a band-aid approach where the town of Marblehead is solely responsible for paying for any future repairs

CAPPED BUDGET OF \$750,000 WITH THE MSBA REIMBURSING 32.47%

- For the average Marblehead household (with a mean value of \$718,000), the cost of the feasibility study including the MSBA reimbursement would be \$14.71/year for 5 years
- This budget is estimated from recently funded feasibility studies in comparable districts with projects similar in scope (school type, square footage, and enrollment)
- Per state guidelines this includes hiring an Owner's Project Manager (serves as the central point of contact on the project) and the designer/architect (evaluates the needs of the district and provides solutions as well as design schematics and cost estimates)

BENEFITS TO MARBLEHEAD

- Significant operational savings compared to the cost of continually repairing outdated systems
- A solution that balances historical significance with a facility designed to serve the educational needs of our children now and in the future
- Technology and energy efficient systems to support educational excellence
- A continued symbol of Marblehead community pride and progress

TOWN MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 2
7:00PM

Veterans Middle School PAC

The Gerry school teachers and staff have done an amazing job despite the condition of the building. Imagine what they could do in a 21st century facility! Come to the Town Meeting May 2nd at 7:00 pm in the Veterans Middle School PAC to support the Gerry School Feasibility Study and let's find out our choices together.

Detailed FAQs can be found at www.marbleheadschoools.org or for more information email gerrybuilding@marbleheadschoools.org.