



Communication Committee Meeting
Friday, March 6, 2026
9:00 AM
Zoom Webinar

- I. Call to Order, Verification of Quorum
- II. Approval of minutes from the February 27, 2026 Communication Committee Meeting
- III. Discussion regarding the Board of Education Special Meeting (School Facilities/Campus Revitalization) Summary
- IV. Discussion on website updates/changes with regard to the school facilities/campus revitalization project
- V. The next scheduled meeting of the Communication Committee is April 2, 2026.
- VI. Adjournment



Communication Committee Meeting

Friday, February 27, 2026

2:30 PM

Zoom Webinar

Absent: Nicole Wallach, **Present:** David Felton, Sharon Ferraro. Present: 2, Absent: 1. **Present:** Nicole Wallach. Present: 3.

- I. Call to Order, Verification of Quorum
Additional Attendees:
Erica Forti, Superintendent of Schools; Daniel DiVito, Director of Digital Learning and Technology

A quorum was met and the meeting was called to order at 2:32 PM

Nicole Wallach joined the meeting at 2:36 PM.

Moved that the February 23, 2026 Communication Committee meeting is hereby called to order. Unseconded with a motion by Felton, David.

- II. Approval of minutes from the January 9, 2026 Communication Committee Meeting.
Moved that the minutes were presented for review. There being no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented Carried with a motion by Ferraro, Sharon and a second by Felton, David.
David Felton: Yea, Sharon Ferraro: Yea
Yea: 2, Nay: 0

- III. Discussion regarding the Board of Education Special Meeting (School Facilities/Campus Revitalization) Summary

The majority of the meeting focused on reviewing and refining the "Bricks and Mortar" summary prepared for public distribution following the February 23, 2026 Special Meeting. Committee members agreed the summary was: clear and succinct, and effective at highlighting key information (costs, timeline, disruption). It was viewed as consistent with the purpose of the Communications Committee: to synthesize dense meetings into readable, high-level updates. Additional conversations about

PTO outreach strategy; proactively engaging PTOs, thoughts about communications committee members attending PTO meetings, sharing updates on Campus Revitalization, ensuring consistent messaging, increasing transparency, strengthening two-way communication beyond newsletters. Public engagement was also discussed: at some point, broader community meetings (possibly including the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen) may be necessary, likely a full Board initiative, not solely a Communications Committee responsibility.

IV. Discussion on website updates/changes with regard to the school facilities/campus revitalization project

Campus Revitalization Section "Campus Revitalization" branding has been implemented, dedicated website sections and icons were added, facilities information is now centralized and more prominent.

V. The next scheduled meeting of the Communication Committee is April 2, 2026.

Committee agreed to reinstate a previously canceled March 6, 2026 meeting (9:00 AM) to review the next "Bricks and Mortar" update following the March 2 special meeting. The April 2 meeting remains scheduled.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 PM.

Moved that the February 23, 2026 Communication Committee meeting be adjourned. Carried with a motion by Ferraro, Sharon and a second by Felton, David.

David Felton: Yea, Sharon Ferraro: Yea
Yea: 3, Nay: 0

Respectfully submitted by:
Jodi Sacchetta

Bricks and Mortar Update: Board of Education Special Meeting, March 2, 2026

A meeting summary for Weston residents prepared by the Board of Education Communications Committee.

Background

The Weston Board of Education (BOE) is holding special monthly meetings from December 2025 until June 2026 to plan how to update Weston Public Schools' (District) campus.

At the March 2, 2026 meeting, BOE members shared their perspectives following SLAM Collaborative's (SLAM) presentation of the Phase II investigation of the middle school, which compared two options: (1) renovate the existing middle school, and (2) build a new middle school.

To learn more, you can watch the meeting [here](#).

Where We've Been So Far

Education Specifications

In May 2024, the BOE developed and approved Educational Specifications (Ed Specs), which is a written plan for what the renovated or new middle school should include.

State Reimbursement Process

At the December 1, 2025 special meeting, SLAM and other professionals explained how the state grant process works in order to receive state reimbursement for school construction.

Town and District Capital Improvements

First Selectwoman Samantha Nestor joined the January 7, 2026 special meeting to share information about the Town's capital projects, and the District administration presented its 10-year capital improvement plan for other campus needs in addition to the middle school.

Grade Configurations

At the January 7, 2026 special meeting, BOE members asked the District administration to consider the educational impact of various grade configurations housed within a school. District administration presented a comparative analysis of grade configuration models at the February 2, 2026 general meeting.

SLAM Phase II Investigation

At the February 23, 2026 meeting, members of architecture firm SLAM presented their Phase II investigation of the middle school.

Previous Bricks and Mortar Summaries

Read the [summary](#) of the December 1, 2025 and January 7, 2026 meetings.

Read the [summary](#) of the February 23, 2026 meeting.

All Campus Revitalization Information Gathered to Date

Visit the [Campus Revitalization](#) section of the District website to see all prior studies, meetings, presentations, and newsletters.

What We Learned at the Meeting

Based on the estimates provided in SLAM's Phase II investigation, BOE members prefer the option to build a new middle school rather than renovate the existing middle school. They did not make any decisions regarding next steps but agreed that more work is needed to try and reduce the estimated probable cost to Weston.

What's Next?

The BOE wants to consider lowering the total cost of the project to Weston in the following ways:

1. Review Educational Specifications to try and create a smaller building, thereby increasing the amount of reimbursement from the state.
2. Research available grants or financial incentives that could cover some of the costs.
3. Advocate at the state level to receive a higher reimbursement rate.
4. Determine the estimated probable cost and state reimbursement rate of constructing a middle school that comprises grades 5 to 8.
5. A plan to reconfigure all grades within three schools:
 - Grades K through 8 are housed within Hurlbutt Elementary School (HES) and Weston Intermediate School (WIS).
 - A longer term plan whereby a new middle school has flexibility to add grade 5, and some grades move from HES to WIS.

The BOE Communications Committee will continue to issue summaries of the special meetings on this topic. You can also join our next BOE general meeting on March 16, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Middle School Library. You can also find the link to attend virtually in the District Calendar at www.westonps.org.