

From the Superintendent, May 15, 2017

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff:

As you know, the district conducted a two-day facilitated Community Visioning Workshop on May 4 and 5 as part of the planning for the Belmont High School Project. The workshop gathered input on teaching and learning, how it might impact the design of the new building, and the three possible grade configurations (7-12, 8-12, 9-12) being considered. **There will be future District Visioning Workshops** and events provided at different days and times, including nights and Saturdays, which we hope will accommodate the varying schedules of people who want to attend and provide input.

Day one of the Community Visioning Workshop looked at teaching, both how we teach now and what might teaching look like in the future. Day two of the workshop involved considering how the various teaching and learning concepts might influence the design of the building.

The Community Visioning Workshops began at 8:00 a.m. each day and concluded at 3:30 p.m. Education Facilitator Frank Locker, known nationally and internationally for guiding districts through this work, welcomed the participants and gave the workshop guidelines. There were seven tables with one educator, one student (from middle and high school), and four parents.

Previously there was an Educator Visioning Workshop on April 3 for 29 educators, teachers, and school administrators from the elementary, middle and high school. They were also present at the May workshops as the bridge between the sessions.

All of these workshops have been an invaluable tool towards beginning the process of gathering input from members of the Belmont Public Schools community. We will share the findings from all three of these workshops in the near future. Thank you to all who were able to participate.

Respectfully,

John P. Phelan
Superintendent of Schools
Belmont, Massachusetts