

# The Ten Critical Things You Need to Know About the School Feasibility Study

March 2008

- 1. The space need is real and sustainable based on the students that are currently enrolled in the system.**
  - a. Grafton projected a 1000 seat deficit
  - b. Independent assessment of population indicated 1400 seat deficit
  - c. State of MA, MSBA assumes 900-1100 seat deficit as a baseline for study
  
- 2. The process is cumbersome...**
  - a. State driven, state mandated
  - b. OPM
  - c. Architect Selection
  - d. Data Validation
  - e. Feasibility Study
  - f. Solution
  - g. MSBA Vote to approve
  - h. 120 days to secure Town financing
  
- 3. The Feasibility Study will study options determined by the MSBA and the Town.**
  - a. Basic premise is to develop a solution to the space needs issue at the high school level.
  - b. Goal is to develop a solution that provides space relief throughout the district
  
- 4. Financing will be determined by Town Meeting vote and a Special Election.**
  - a. \$550k funds Feasibility Study and OPM services for the study
  - b. State requires Grafton to appropriate the entire \$550k
  - c. State reimburses Grafton at a rate of 50.79% as the study proceeds
  - d. Process is the same for the project
    - i. 120 days to get approval for funding following MSBA approval of the solution
    - ii. Reimbursement rate can increase up to 55-58%, based on project details
  
- 5. Doing Nothing...Is Nothing**

If we do nothing, Grafton is on its own in determining how to solve the problem. And, the costs are 100% borne by the Town.
  
- 6. Doing Nothing Costs Money Too**

The costs of doing nothing are real and unreimbursable. If we do nothing, then we proceed WITHOUT reimbursement. If we do nothing the solutions are short term and 4-6 years from now we are in exactly the same position. Remember – what would it be like IF Grafton Elementary School was never built?
  
- 7. Political Process**
  - a. Town Meeting Presentation - May 12, 2008, Requires 2/3<sup>rd</sup> vote to pass – you must VOTE!
  - b. Special Election for ballot question – late June, Requires majority to pass
  
- 8. Knowledge**
  - a. Go to meetings...Watch GCTV...GEA
    - i. SSBC Meetings, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the Month in the BOS Conference Room A
    - ii. GEA-sponsored events – Watch the Grafton News for Upcoming events at the Community Barn.
  
- 9. Communication**
  - a. Talk to your neighbors, friends
  - b. Ask questions
  - c. Challenge the information and demand reasoned answers
  
- 10. Action**
  - a. Attend Town Meeting
  - b. Write to the Grafton News
  - c. VOTE