

**Barrington High School**  
**Task Force**  
*Community Forum*  
*Winter 2007-2008*

# Who is the High School Task Force?

- Group of 5 Barrington residents of varying ages, occupations, backgrounds
  - ◆ includes 1 current School Board member
  - ◆ Includes 2 former 2004 high school task force members
- Kent Rosberg, former BES Principal
- Michael Morgan, Superintendent - ex officio

# Why Start Discussing a High School Now?

- Barrington is growing!
  - ◆ Our town currently ranks 35<sup>th</sup> in population in NH
  - ◆ That is in the top 15 percent
- Rising out-of-district tuition costs and potential overcrowding
  - ◆ 2 year notice to terminate contract w/ DHS
- The steps required to undertake a project such as this take time
  - ◆ ensure that our community makes sound decisions and uses careful foresight to arrive at the best outcome
  - ◆ much like our recent middle school planning and construction

# How does our high school population compare to others around the state?

- Barrington's high school population in 2006-2007 was 489.
  - ◆ This school year 07-08 it is 469.
- At Barrington's current high school population, there are 37 high schools in the state with a smaller population, 63 high schools with a larger population.
- If Barrington contracted with another town, with a projected enrollment of 700-900 students, there would be 55 high schools with a smaller population in the state, 35 with a larger population.

# Steps taken thus far to save for a future High School

- 2001- Purchased 120 acres of land on Rte. 9 for current middle school and future high school
- 2004- Created new High School Capital Reserve Fund with \$100,000 appropriation
- 2005- Added \$100,000 to Capital Reserve Fund
- 2006- Added \$100,000 to Capital Reserve Fund
- 2007- Added \$150,000 to Capital Reserve Fund
- Total Capital Reserve Fund to date: \$450,000
- Total projected Reserve if continue on current timeline and goals: \$1.1 million in 2014

# So how should Barrington proceed?

- To Build, or *Not* to Build, that is the question
- The Task Force has been exploring various options for the future that pertain to:
  - ◆ School size and Enrollment projections
  - ◆ Construction and Site work costs
  - ◆ Start up ('soft') costs
  - ◆ Curricular and Extracurricular offerings
  - ◆ Athletic programs; State division sports
  - ◆ Contractual or Cooperative relations between other towns

# Continue without a High School

- Current tuition to DHS is \$10, 019 per pupil up from \$6,500 in 2000/01, increasing at an average rate of 5% per year.
  - ◆ Projected tuition of \$14,098/pupil in 2014
- Pros:
  - ◆ School choice
  - ◆ Curricular & Extracurricular offerings, Tech offerings
  - ◆ Class L Athletics
- Cons:
  - ◆ No local control in school decisions
  - ◆ Contract stipulations
  - ◆ Transportation
  - ◆ Never building equity in a town school

# High School Tuition Rate to DHS 1997-2008

|             |             |               |
|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| ■ 1997-1998 | \$6350.00   |               |
| ■ 1998-1999 | \$6540.00   | 2.99% change  |
| ■ 1999-2000 | \$5904.90   | -9.71% change |
| ■ 2000-2001 | \$6370.85   | 7.89% change  |
| ■ 2001-2002 | \$6954.57   | 9.16% change  |
| ■ 2002-2003 | \$7758.22   | 11.56% change |
| ■ 2003-2004 | \$8139.22   | 4.91% change  |
| ■ 2004-2005 | \$8403.10   | 3.24% change  |
| ■ 2005-2006 | \$8998.88   | 7.09% change  |
| ■ 2006-2007 | \$9495.62   | 5.52 % change |
| ■ 2007-2008 | \$10,019.78 | 5.23 % change |

# Option 2: Barrington Academy

- Three possible scenarios:
  - ◆ Barrington students only
    - ◆ School built to hold 700 pupils in the 'core'
  - ◆ Barrington plus 1-2 other *Contracting* towns
    - ◆ Size to accommodate 900 pupils
  - ◆ Barrington seeks towns to join in a *Cooperative* arrangement with a unique joint School Board
    - ◆ Size now extended to hold 1100 students

# Considerations of School Size: What Does Barrington Want?

- Curricular Offerings
  - ◆ Recommend still sending students to DHS for vocational programs
  - ◆ Advanced Placement / College Prep classes
  - ◆ Diversity of electives & levels of difficulty
- Clubs, Student Activities, other extracurricular programs
- Diversity of Athletic Programs and State Division

# Making Reasonable Projections: Size directly impacts cost

- Obtained construction and site work cost estimates from a number of sources
  - ◆ Hutter, Pro-Con, & Team Design firms
  - ◆ Examined budgets of recently built high schools
  - ◆ Considered allowable expenses for State building aid requirements
  - ◆ Account for start up costs where no high school exists
- State requirements to determine amount of square footage per pupil: **160 SF/pupil**
- Make calculations based on *today's dollars* to avoid over- or under-estimating for inflation
- **OUR BEST PROJECTION AT THE MOMENT  
\$168/SF for construction and site work plus an  
additional 25% for start up 'soft' costs**

# Many Unknowns Still Exist

- How many **students** will there be?
  - ◆ Current projections for Barrington suggest 390-440 high school students in 2014; these figures will need to be reassessed as development presses on
  - ◆ Will other towns want to send students to Barrington?
  - ◆ Building size and thus, the cost, directly relate to these numbers
- How much **site work** is needed?
  - ◆ Second access over private land is now required
  - ◆ Athletic programs will dictate number of fields needed
  - ◆ Parking to accommodate a minimum of 400 vehicles
  - ◆ Wetland management needed on the site

# What are the financial resources available for Barrington?

- State Building Aid 40% → 43% if building a 'high performance school'
  - ◆ up to 55% (plus 3% ) aid if 3 districts combine
- Debt service considerations against town valuation
- Barrington School Foundation → Endowment
- Contractual relationships with neighbor towns
- Corporate Partnerships / Sponsorships and Grant opportunities
  - ◆ Particularly if we pursue a high performance school

# What is a 'high performance school'?

- It creates a **healthy and productive** learning / teaching environment for all.
- It is **cost effective** to operate & maintain because of its design.
  - ◆ Costs \$3/sq ft more to build but financial benefits to the school are about \$12/sq ft reaped immediately
- It is **environmentally favorable** because of the energy, mechanical, and lighting systems used, optimal site planning, and water efficient design.

# Time for Input from the Community