

WAYLAND • PUBLIC • SCHOOLS

WAYLAND, MASSACHUSETTS

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December 15, 2008

A Call for Volunteers...

The Wayland School Committee has recently hired Frank Locker, a nationally recognized educational plant planner, to help them, the High School Building Committee, and the architectural firm of HMFH in determining the character and emphasis of a new or renovated Wayland High School.

Approximately every 60 or 70 years, community residents have an opportunity to engage in a conversation about what their high school building should do for the young people of that particular community. Before architects begin to design the shape and size of a school structure – before blocks and mortar take shape – residents have an opportunity to talk about their secondary school in the abstract. Should the school emphasize the arts or the sciences? Or both? Should we build a library or a Media Center?

Frank Locker of Dover, New Hampshire has been employed to assist HMFH, the Boston based architectural firm approved by the state to design a new or vastly renovated Wayland High School. Over the next two months, and before the architects design anything, Frank Locker will conduct a series of day long and evening meetings to inform residents about school design and construction trends across the nation, and, more importantly, to ask residents and school employees to identify the elements and aspects of Wayland High School that should be discontinued, preserved, modified, or included in the design of a new secondary school. Frank Locker is a professional plant planner and his work with Wayland citizens is essential to determining what Wayland High School might look like in the future.

From 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. on January 7th in the School Committee Hearing Room in the Town Building, Frank will host a discussion about Wayland High School with any citizen who would like to meet him and discuss our high school or secondary schools in general. Similar meetings will be held in late January/February to report back to the community about information gathered from interested citizens.

On January 8th and 9th, Frank Locker will lead a two-day work session from 8:30 to 3:30 with a group comprised of approximately 20 to 25 school staff (teachers, administrators, custodians, teacher assistants, etc.) and an equal number of residents (students, parents, grandparents, retirees, etc.). This group of 40 to 50 individuals will be known as the Futures Team and will be charged with working together, under Frank Locker's direction, to develop the district's Educational Specifications for Wayland High School. This document, when completed, will be given to the architect who will be responsible for taking all of the hopes, aspirations, and ideas expressed and turn them into a permanent school facility that upon construction will serve Wayland for the next 60 to 70 years.

Any citizen who would like to serve on the Futures Team and is able to commit to attending the two-day work session (January 8 and 9) is asked to contact Dr. Burton, Superintendent of Schools, and let him know of your interest. Given the size of the committee, there should be space available for

all interested residents. Equally important, it is highly desirable that the Futures Team is composed of a diverse group of individuals of all ages and interests who can commit to working together to help determine the future of Wayland High School. The importance of telling the architect what the community wants before any drawings are produced cannot be understated.

The Futures Team will be scheduled for two to four additional work sessions prior to March 1st. Please know that the work of the Futures Team is not a replacement or a substitute for the School Committee's Strategic Long Range Planning. This work, which is underway, will continue. The work of the Futures Team in developing Educational Specifications for Wayland High School should take approximately eight weeks to complete.

Citizens wishing to participate or having questions about participation should call Dr. Burton at 508-358-3763 or email him at gary_burton@wayland.k12.ma.us.