



March 21, 2017

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

Authorization for the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form due April 7, 2017 for the Tobin and Vassal Lane Upper Schools located at 197 Vassal Lane.

Recommendation: That in accordance with the requirements of the Massachusetts School Building Authority the School Committee enter an order containing the following resolution:

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on March 21, 2017, the Cambridge School Committee of Cambridge, Massachusetts, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form due April 7, 2017 for the Tobin and Vassal Lane Upper Schools located at 197 Vassal Lane, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future: The Vassal Lane building currently houses the Tobin Pk-5 Montessori School and the Vassal Lane Upper 6-8 School. The Vassal Lane Building was built in 1971 and the existing building and building systems do not meet the educational needs of the building's occupants, the Montessori Pk-5 Elementary School and the Vassal Lane Upper 6-8 School (Middle School). The building is an old electric heat building resulting in high energy cost and consumption. Room windows are mostly all original and approximately 50 years of age. Building temperatures can become uncomfortable due to the age and condition of the distribution system. Roof and windows are all original and while the roof has been patched regularly, the building and its exterior walls are subject to interior leaking during heavy rain and snow storms. In addition to building systems that are past normal life expectations, the building's classrooms, cafeteria and gymnasium do not meet the educational needs of its occupants. Originally built as a K-8 elementary school the building now houses a Pk-5 elementary and 6-8 upper school (middle school) that both suffer from scheduling problems including the gym and cafeteria. Funds are sought for the complete renovation or replacement of the building in order to provide a full range of programs consistent with the State and approved local requirements. The Cambridge School Committee hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance of the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City of Cambridge to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Description: The language of the resolution set forth above is the required form of vote that is required by the Massachusetts School Building Authority in order for a Statement of Interest Form to be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth N. Salim, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools