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- Provide handouts of cost data for public review at meeting. Swing space required at Options W7, FR3 and FR5 ... ARMS-HS consolidation project may make the ARMS available for swing space.
- Long range demographic impacts to planning for a 50 year project ... enrollment verification and projections required by MSBA ... long range enrollment declining in Amherst and neighboring counties (10-15 year projections).
- How do you protect a co-located school dissolving into a large single school due to economic pressures for staff consolidation ... District committed to maintaining two separate administrative/support staffs ... power of a small school structure relationship based ... architecture provides space to make conversion inconvenient.
- Provide references for completed designs of co-located school to visit requested.

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- Co-located schools ... equity changes in larger schools ... what are the outcomes for children of color? ... and how do they change over time? ... relationships are critical ... the students believe the school is their school ... extend ownership to staff while reinforcing collaboration ... individual schools maintain their own identity ... autonomous, self-contained and unique ... ability to develop staff cohort groups ... provides equal access to facilities for all.
- History of centralization and decentralization ... “New Urbanism” ... “high density” ... proponent of neighborhood schools; this is not it ... Town Meeting member who will vote against funding this project; however, will support funding to improve interior environment at FRES.

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- Reconfiguration addresses all equity issues (PreK–1 and 2-6) for all students ... provides equal access to all facilities and programs with minimal transitions for the students while addressing overcrowding at CFES creating space for expansion of ECLC programs to enhance outcomes ... other options will require redistricting cycle every 4-5 years.
- The only way to achieve equity ... flexible districts; redistricting is not unsurmountable ... equity is not equal ... solution that delivers the best outcomes for the students in an equitable manner ... proponent to maintain three neighborhood schools and finding the funding to develop all facilities equally ... success of co-located schools (South Hadley failure) in question ... co-located schools do not perform as small schools ... reality matters ... students will realize they are in a large school ... saveamherstsmallschools.com

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- Acton and Milton examples of co-located schools ... intra-district choice available ... families choose which elementary school to attend ... leads to overcrowding.
- Please don't put me in a bigger school ... I want to go to school with my brother and sister.
- Renovation of FRES with Town funds @ \$34.7M plus WES with MSBA funds @ \$17.4M ... total cost less escalation @ \$52.1M.
- District recommendation for co-located schools
- The question of swing space ... does it eliminate design options? ... multiple options under consideration ... project costs put before Town Meeting will include swing space costs.
- Renovation costs for less than a gut renovation solution missing ... a compromise solution to allow FRES renovations ...

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- Parent and community survey results support K-6 model.
- Equity can be measured many ways ... research shows that small communities really matter for students of color and disadvantage economic ... access to resources and opportunities ... small schools reduce the achievement gaps between academic achievement and behavior ... fewer parent and student involvement in after school activities/programs ... many ways to create the support.
- Flexible districting to allow siblings to attend common schools ... vehicular access and playscape space challenges for large school at WES site ... congested site ... Finance Committee position all four capital projects are of equal importance and value to the community; disagree that schools should be top priority ... FRES should be renovated ... combine MSBA funding with local finances for FRES ... addresses community desire for smaller schools.

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- Placement influences student experience.
- Current enrollment includes > 50% elementary students of color, 18% at ELL ... diverse student demographic ... a District strength.
- Equity discussion is exciting ... focus energies on other inequities that exist in the District.
- Community think about equity at a meaningful level ... education is largely about relationships ... K-6 schools allow the building of communities ... danger in looking at proforma equity on paper ... how to allow students to be equally successful?
- Survey was great and welcomed staff input ... requesting the 52 open responses be made available to the public in a readily accessible manner to insure the public is allowed to hear the voice of the educators.

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- Finance Committee representative ... I did not say all four projects are equal ... library, DPW, fire station, school plus backlog of road work ... cost, sequencing, affordability and impact to other Town costs/projects being considered ... affordability is a major concern without requiring a significant request for debt over ride.
- CFES ... a place where everybody knows the child's name ... a positive environment ... bigger building prevents establishing relationships between staff, students and families that help to create a secure environment security.
- Irony discussion of equity being discussed by Caucasian parents ... find out how equity impacts the people impacted the most.
- Money should not be driving decision ... use Powerball winnings!