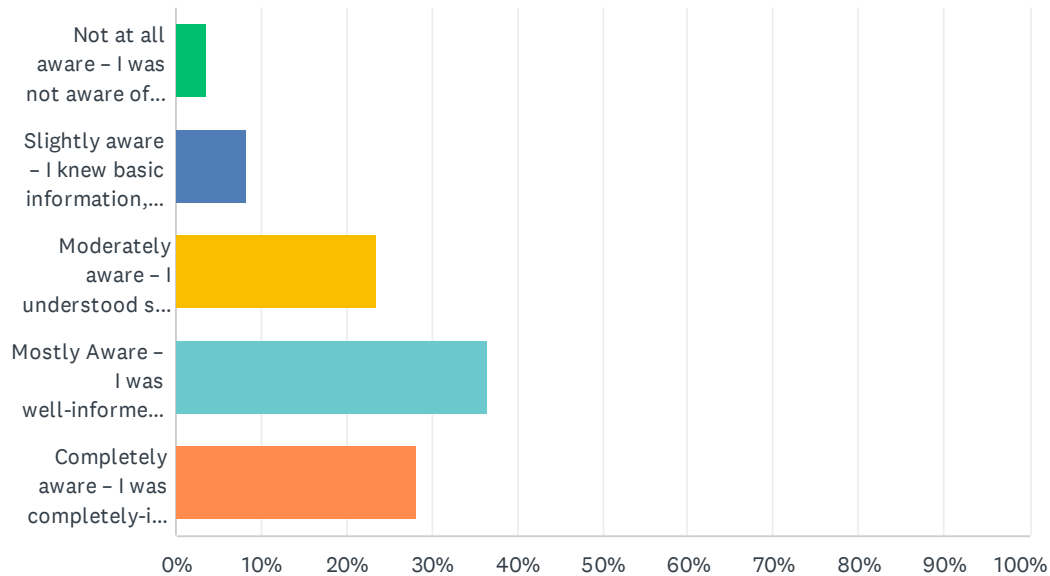


Q1 Prior to and during the May 2025 votes, how familiar were you with the details of the original Neary School Building proposal (the plan to build a new Grades 2–5 school at the Neary site)?

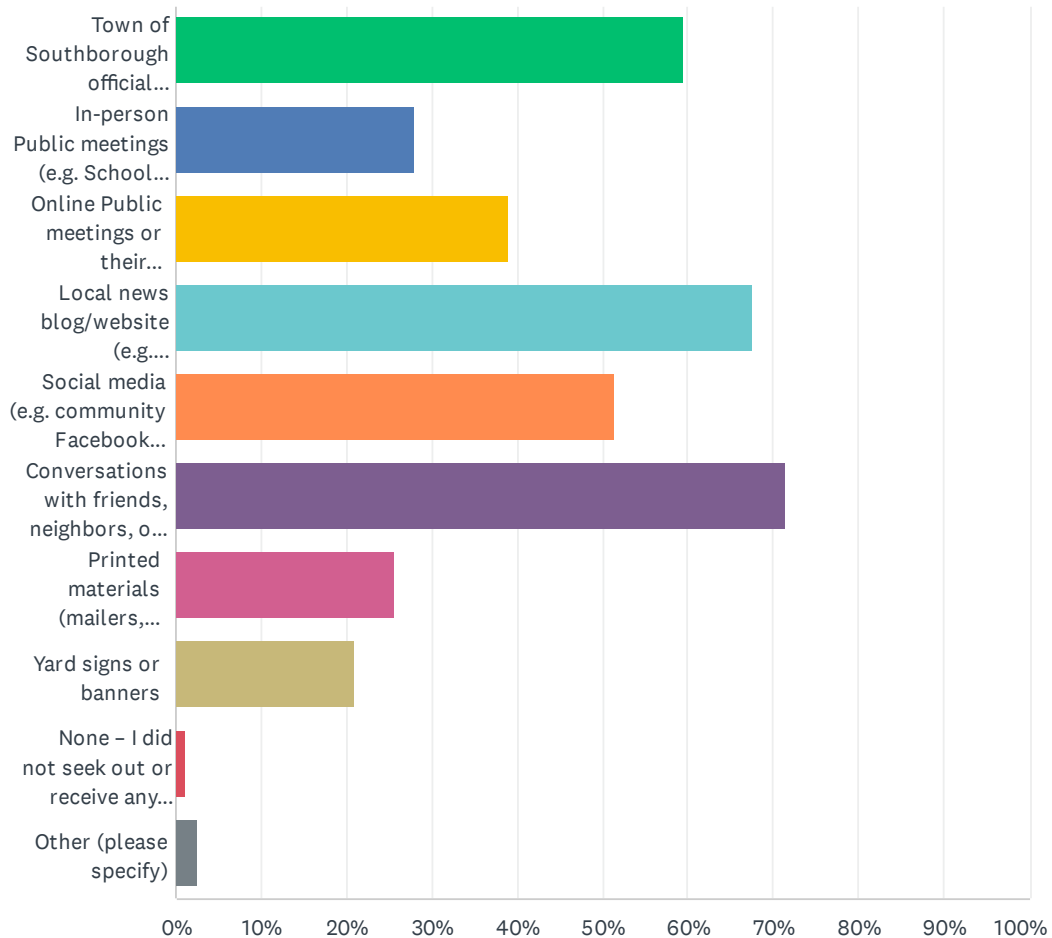
Answered: 787 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not at all aware – I was not aware of the project or had heard very little about it.	3.56%	28
Slightly aware – I knew basic information, but not much detail.	8.39%	66
Moderately aware – I understood some aspects, but not all details.	23.38%	184
Mostly Aware – I was well-informed about the project's details and implications	36.47%	287
Completely aware – I was completely-informed about the project's details and implications	28.21%	222
TOTAL		787

Q2 Which sources did you use to learn about the Neary school project? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 784 Skipped: 5



Neary School Project Feedback

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Town of Southborough official website or Neary project webpage	59.44%	466
In-person Public meetings (e.g. School Committee or Building Committee meetings)	27.93%	219
Online Public meetings or their recordings (e.g. School Committee or Building Committee meetings)	39.03%	306
Local news blog/website (e.g. MySouthborough.com)	67.60%	530
Social media (e.g. community Facebook groups, Nextdoor, etc.)	51.40%	403
Conversations with friends, neighbors, or word-of-mouth	71.43%	560
Printed materials (mailers, flyers, or brochures from the Town)	25.51%	200
Yard signs or banners	20.92%	164
None – I did not seek out or receive any information about the project	1.15%	9
Other (please specify)	2.55%	20
Total Respondents: 784		

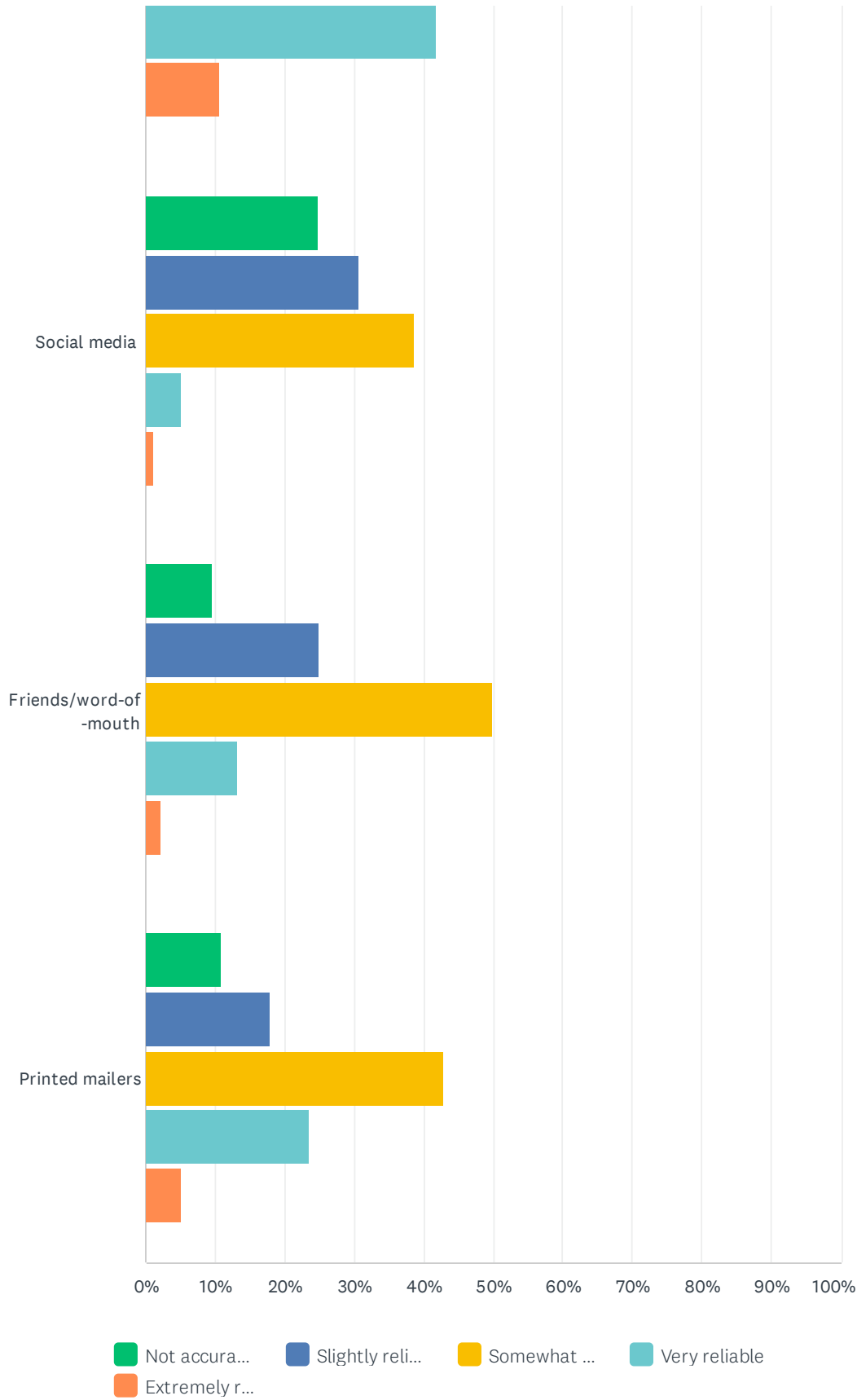
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Woodward school	8/7/2025 8:50 AM
2	Full Men's Club	8/6/2025 1:26 PM
3	Read documents from the Neary Building Committee, letter about Plan B and watched Al Hamilton's video on "Southborough Town Debt, The Big Picture"	8/6/2025 9:58 AM
4	Just moved to Southborough	8/5/2025 11:26 AM
5	through communications with staff	8/5/2025 10:29 AM
6	Discussions with teachers	8/1/2025 2:57 AM
7	Colleagues	7/31/2025 4:39 PM
8	Emails to various persons	7/31/2025 1:36 PM
9	Find the information for myself	7/31/2025 11:44 AM
10	was part of early discussions with school officials	7/31/2025 7:50 AM
11	School Emails	7/30/2025 7:20 PM
12	I just moved to Southborough in may/june	7/30/2025 3:27 PM
13	Conversations with building committee mmembers	7/30/2025 8:05 AM
14	In person meeting at Finn school	7/29/2025 9:17 PM
15	Regular letters from the superintendent	7/29/2025 8:18 PM
16	I work in the school system	7/29/2025 7:11 PM
17	WORD OF MOUTH/DISCUSSIONS WITH NEIGHBORS	7/29/2025 4:49 PM
18	Public presentations by committee members	7/29/2025 4:01 PM
19	you tube videos	7/29/2025 3:12 PM
20	School weekly emails	7/29/2025 1:34 PM

Q3 How reliable do you consider each of the following sources for information about Town capital projects (such as the Neary proposal)?

Answered: 776 Skipped: 13



Neary School Project Feedback



Neary School Project Feedback

	NOT ACCURATE AT RELIABLE	SLIGHTLY RELIABLE	SOMEWHAT RELIABLE	VERY RELIABLE	EXTREMELY RELIABLE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Town website	2.36% 17	4.59% 33	26.70% 192	49.24% 354	17.11% 123	719	3.74
In-person committee meetings	2.46% 17	4.78% 33	22.43% 155	49.20% 340	21.13% 146	691	3.82
Online committee meetings	2.34% 16	5.40% 37	27.59% 189	45.26% 310	19.42% 133	685	3.74
MySouthborough blog	3.71% 27	10.71% 78	32.97% 240	41.90% 305	10.71% 78	728	3.45
Social media	24.68% 175	30.75% 218	38.50% 273	5.08% 36	0.99% 7	709	2.27
Friends/word-of- mouth	9.65% 71	25.00% 184	49.86% 367	13.32% 98	2.17% 16	736	2.73
Printed mailers	10.87% 75	17.83% 123	42.75% 295	23.48% 162	5.07% 35	690	2.94

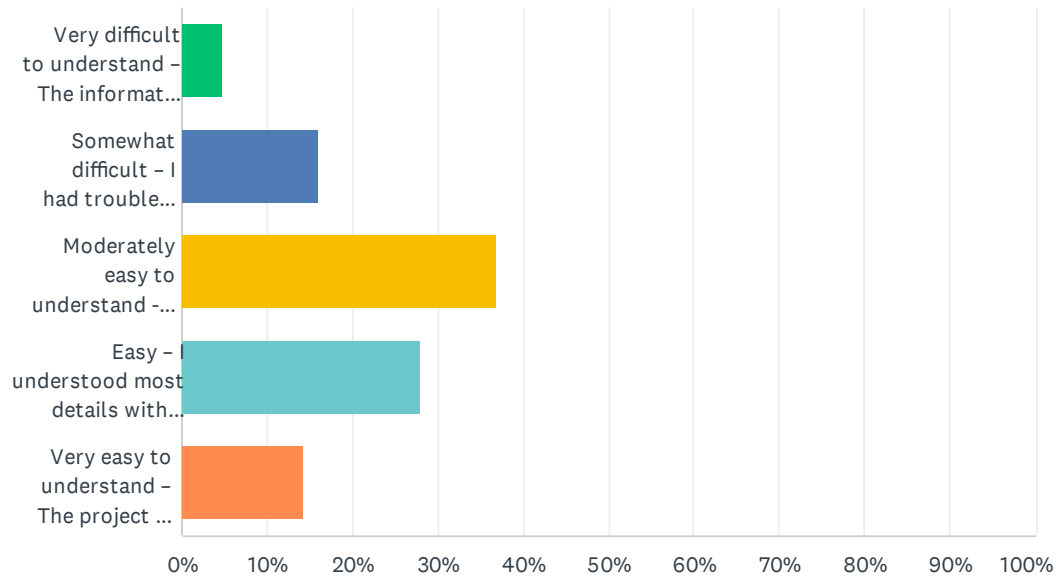
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Should have been better information, earlier, on the building website	8/18/2025 6:30 PM
2	blog and mailers were often submissions by "for/against" contributions and therefore less reliable than if it would have come from the committee themselves	8/11/2025 10:12 AM
3	I avoid Reactionary, hyperbolic, unstructured rhetoric	8/9/2025 8:01 AM
4	Detailed business plan	8/7/2025 8:10 AM
5	I wasn't informed well because I supported the tax for the Neary upgrade.	8/6/2025 2:45 PM
6	While the official channels felt reliable, they were often too hard to digest. A summary of meetings would be so much more useful.	8/5/2025 11:51 AM
7	Online or town meetings are hard for families with busy schedules (making it difficult to consume data)	8/5/2025 10:20 AM
8	I feel the community over relies on social media/blog posts as opposed direct information official information sources.	8/5/2025 10:03 AM
9	Conversations with Selectmen. Identifying and understanding the background of those who are most active and vocal in pushing the agenda for construction of a new school.	8/1/2025 10:15 AM
10	We have voted on this monstrosity several times. We can't afford the taxes this project will pose. Figure out something cheaper or it's going to be voted out AGAIN, and again...	8/1/2025 9:47 AM
11	Did not receive any printed mailers	8/1/2025 7:23 AM
12	Plan B materials were highly misleading	8/1/2025 2:57 AM
13	Town meeting had all the info needed to decide the issue.	7/31/2025 3:18 PM
14	I joined FB because of this issue. There was alot of misinformation. Beth Melo does a great job trying to keep us informed. The Neary Bldg Committee website presented info that was favorable to their decisions but did not answer alot of questions. I attended meetings and heard conflicting information. Sometimes, information would be added to the NB website after questions were raised, but didn't anticipate the questions. Often, I followed up with questions at meetings and still had a hard time getting to the bottom of some of it, e.g. "what happened to Finn School"?	7/31/2025 1:36 PM
15	Printed materials change for meeting to meeting. Online meetings are difficult to follow with out the material at hand	7/31/2025 11:44 AM
16	The committee had rose colored lenses and weren't always the most transparent in how they	7/30/2025 9:47 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

	discussed publicly	
17	The neary project website was completely unreliable AI generated nonsense and immediately made me question the committees commitment	7/30/2025 5:11 PM
18	There were very little unbiased sources. The Neary website was obviously biased towards a yes vote and was repeatedly touted as a fact driven site when it wasn't. Social media is toxic and many supporters were very toxic to other's opinions.	7/30/2025 12:19 PM
19	I thought this was a survey about the project,not how to disseminate information.	7/30/2025 11:10 AM

Q4 How easy or difficult was it for you to understand the details and implications of the original Neary project based on the information available? (Select one.)

Answered: 774 Skipped: 15



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very difficult to understand – The information was unclear or confusing.	4.78%	37
Somewhat difficult – I had trouble understanding significant parts of the project.	15.89%	123
Moderately easy to understand - I understood the main points, but some details were unclear.	36.95%	286
Easy – I understood most details with only minor uncertainties.	28.04%	217
Very easy to understand – The project and its impacts were very clearly explained.	14.34%	111
TOTAL		774

Q5 Were there any aspects of the Neary project that you felt were unclear or not adequately explained? Please list any questions you had or information you felt was missing that would have helped you better understand the proposal. (For example, you might mention unclear areas like tax impacts, educational benefits, alternative options, environmental studies, etc., if you felt more explanation was needed.)

Answered: 391 Skipped: 398

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	it was unclear how the status of the other schools (e.g. Mary Finn) is and how the Neary project will impact favorably for the sunset of Finn.	8/19/2025 8:28 PM
2	Other options	8/19/2025 2:29 PM
3	Unclear Alternative options and environmental studies	8/18/2025 9:36 PM
4	It all was well researched	8/18/2025 7:35 PM
5	The information was clear...but the time to take to educate the community was not long enough. All the information was there...	8/18/2025 6:30 PM
6	Tax impact, alternative options	8/18/2025 1:33 PM
7	It was not clear what options were vetted and dismissed prior to this recommendation. Reasonable doesn't remained, therefore.	8/18/2025 1:17 PM
8	Alternative options, both what was vetted for awareness and what alternatives remained available. It felt binary and that I why I think the vote failed.	8/18/2025 1:14 PM
9	The shifting around of schools during the build was confusing.	8/17/2025 5:25 PM
10	tax impacts, educational benefits, alternative options, environmental studies. I understood what they were proposing - another over-the-top design, ill conceived, very, very costly build.	8/17/2025 5:17 PM
11	Alternative options, tax impact	8/17/2025 3:11 PM
12	More explanation of safety of building was needed. Seemed like the design was for a lot of extra the explanation for the out of class room space that was needed for meetings. More explanation if the ground is safe to re dig	8/17/2025 12:38 PM
13	The process was flawed. Chasing the \$\$ and not the needs of the town.	8/16/2025 4:47 PM
14	At the town meeting it became clear that the committee did not consider the needs and wishes of the taxpayers who would be paying for it.	8/16/2025 2:04 PM
15	no	8/16/2025 1:28 PM
16	Why the tax calculator lied about tax implications by including only best case scenario for grants that were only possibilities. I truly felt the town and the committee were purposely trying to misinform to achieve their goal. es.	8/15/2025 10:02 PM
17	I felt it was not clear what investments and projects need to happen to Neary if the project was rejected. This was an important part of the context.	8/15/2025 9:54 PM
18	unclear how it was voted down	8/15/2025 6:55 PM
19	Why were alternatives dismissed/not explored. I understood it was (partly) driven by MSBA not funding that piece but why did town/committee not pursue this to a level of at least being able to compare what town really needs/wants and cost? Or at least be able to explain how come	8/15/2025 5:39 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

non MSBA endorsed configurations did not fit the town's needs/wants as well as the MSBA endorsed configurations?

20	Alternative options	8/15/2025 5:12 PM
21	Tax implications over time especially with federal grants being frozen how would it affect the overall project	8/15/2025 4:46 PM
22	Why chose Neary with known potential environmental issues. What education issues are caused by changing physical locations ?	8/15/2025 4:34 PM
23	tax impacts, educational benefits, and I feel it wasn't clearly communicated	8/15/2025 4:14 PM
24	The full picture was not clear. The team focused on certain aspects - like the new Neary building - but didn't elaborate on what would happen to other buildings. I understand that was not their charter, but the full story is essential to making informed decisions, so a holistic solution must be planned and understood, without blinders on.	8/15/2025 2:07 PM
25	The back up plan. The second option.	8/15/2025 1:57 PM
26	options vs. facts	8/15/2025 1:18 PM
27	The lack of choice and the lack of impartial expertise.	8/15/2025 11:37 AM
28	It was unclear how the option of a new 4 grade school was decided upon as the only viable option that was presented. I heard things like "economies of scale" as the justification and less about the downstream impacts a project of this magnitude would have on the taxpayers of the community.	8/15/2025 8:52 AM
29	Alternative options.	8/15/2025 8:35 AM
30	I feel like I was very clear however I was frustrated by misinformation that was spread by others	8/15/2025 7:21 AM
31	tax impacts, alternatives, concrete examples of problems in Neary	8/15/2025 7:06 AM
32	No	8/15/2025 6:44 AM
33	Options were lacking	8/15/2025 6:18 AM
34	It's my understanding that taxes will be raised regardless if there is a new school or not.	8/15/2025 5:50 AM
35	Na	8/15/2025 4:53 AM
36	Tax impacts, what the actual current condition of the school was in	8/15/2025 12:44 AM
37	Did we need more classroom space? Why not reconfigure what we have.	8/14/2025 9:45 PM
38	Why we would spend so much to build a new school while also closing a recently built school.	8/14/2025 9:32 PM
39	I wish I knew why multiple K-5 schools were not explored.	8/14/2025 8:59 PM
40	Unclear about tax impacts, interim plan for student's while construction was being done	8/14/2025 8:36 PM
41	I still don't understand what we were trying to do. Is the school really unsafe, or is this opinion. Did we really need a \$100M school, or was there a lot of nice to haves?	8/14/2025 8:20 PM
42	The reasoning for not looking at alternatives more closely was never explained to my satisfaction. Tax impacts never seemed accurate. Environmental risk seemed like it was downplayed.	8/14/2025 8:17 PM
43	Tax impacts - what is "worst case" / assuming no state assistance and what is considered most likely. Education benefits were not aligned with regard to putting 5th grade with middle school	8/14/2025 7:54 PM
44	I wanted to know the entire financial picture: I understood the cost of Neary, but what is the cost to renovate Finn for town use, what is the future cost of each school's capital plan, etc. I want to know the total taxable impact over the next 5-10 years for all capital projects. Presenting this as a total package gives voters a better understanding of financial impacts.	8/14/2025 7:46 PM
45	Tax impacts compared to the counterfactual of not implementing the plan (ie the additional impact beyond what was projected to occur over time without the plan was small, but people	8/14/2025 7:29 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

only focused on the absolute number rather than the delta). Overall I think people should have engaged earlier in the process rather than wait until the end to veto a plan that was painstakingly prepared over years by a panel of experts. Unfortunately this is a common phenomenon now. I appreciate the effort of this survey to engage people earlier and avoid this next time.

46	Tax impact, true need, environmental studies	8/14/2025 7:08 PM
47	Tax impacts, other less costly options	8/14/2025 7:00 PM
48	Tax impacts with or without approval. Educational impact and alternative options.	8/14/2025 6:42 PM
49	Listing pros and cons	8/14/2025 6:27 PM
50	I think cost breakdown of the building project versus other options that were rejected were unclear. Reasons were given as to why the other options were rejected, but I think a cost estimate of all of the options would have been helpful, as the price tag and the impact on taxpayers was one of the biggest complains from "No" voters.	8/14/2025 6:21 PM
51	Having grown up in a town with 5-8 grouped together, could not understand the absolute reluctance to explore that configuration particularly given uncertain and unstable financial times.	8/14/2025 6:20 PM
52	Na	8/14/2025 6:20 PM
53	The cost was vague. We were approving a full cost but people kept selling the "after grant" number. We all know that estimates are always more, especially in this economy. I thought approving the 110 million was going to mean we would spend 110 million, which would make this town impossible to afford for many.	8/14/2025 6:19 PM
54	I found it difficult to confirm details about possible options that were ruled out by the committee early on in the process. Otherwise, I was able to find all pertinent information!	8/14/2025 3:39 PM
55	1) Goals. It isn't clear to me what the goals are of this project. 2) Options: the options don't have any logic to them. They look pre-determined to suggest an outcome. 3) Reliability of studies. Towns generally pay (a great deal) of money to "experts" who write a report in support of whatever the people that paid them want the outcome to be. This is good politics, but makes the trust level low of the information. If the goal is to have a new school, why is the next question. Is it growth? Is it projected growth? Is it maintenance? If it costs an extra 1M/ year to keep Neary open, does that justify building 50M/ year school? Not really. Neary is certainly old. It could use a new gym. But compared to many schools across the state, it is hardly obsolete. I am not sure the town has clearly made their case that the school can not - and should not be saved, on a math basis.	8/14/2025 3:24 PM
56	I was perfectly clear on the project, but I think from what I've heard since the votes there may have been some general confusion around just how much of a tax increase people would be seeing.	8/14/2025 1:57 PM
57	The Location? I would have like to have seen a third party review of the property for contamination. I felt the question of weather it is safe was not accurately answered for me.	8/14/2025 1:54 PM
58	The need for this project wasn't very clear. Given the low population of the town, a centi-million project is a significant tax burden on the residents. It would be easier to process this if I know how much of a tax hike there will be. Also, the benefit of this project is also not clear. Had there been studies that shows we need a new school? Has all alternatives been considered? Is there scientific basis to the claim that a new school building will help the children learn better? I am not at all convinced that this is anything other than the result of developers lobbying local politicians to start a project to siphon more of tax layers money to their own pockets.	8/14/2025 1:46 PM
59	Parents whose kids would benefit from the project did not know enough about it and did not show up to vote for that reason. When viewing information only on the Sboro Cares/Shares facebook group, a lot of information was unclear. When reviewing the town website and listening to in-person meeting convos, I thought it all seemed quite clear. I still don't comprehend why so many people opposed it vehemently when it seemed to me to be a wise plan that benefits the kids.	8/14/2025 1:11 PM
60	no	8/14/2025 1:02 PM
61	no	8/14/2025 12:29 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

62	impact of recent fed funding lost and doe disbanding	8/14/2025 12:19 PM
63	I did not understand the drainage concerns some mentioned.need to clarify why decisions were made and the optio s that were ruled out	8/14/2025 12:17 PM
64	No	8/14/2025 12:09 PM
65	The details on alternative options or why only one solution was presented was not clear to me.	8/14/2025 12:07 PM
66	Alternative options, tax impacts	8/14/2025 12:04 PM
67	Educational benefits of some aspects of project. Lots of "insider" speak without explanation about why a particular aspect was important for our students to have.	8/13/2025 8:30 AM
68	alternative options	8/12/2025 8:36 PM
69	All of these descriptions in this question	8/12/2025 11:31 AM
70	Tax Impacts and Alternative options	8/12/2025 10:45 AM
71	The total plan for the schools was opaque. The rumours about repurposing Finn or other buildings was a cross-current that made the overall project untenable.	8/12/2025 10:28 AM
72	no	8/12/2025 6:53 AM
73	Environmental concerns, traffic concerns and plans around additional staff and students on Parkerville (which is already bad w poor speed bumps and a lot of traffic) educational benefits from having a larger school, upgrades to fields which are also in need of help and tax implications	8/12/2025 6:15 AM
74	Alternative options and reasons why they would not work	8/11/2025 7:25 PM
75	None	8/11/2025 4:48 PM
76	1. 1st, this survey is itself already biased, a kind of "leading the witness" approach. 2nd, the efficient use of existing resources (Finn, Woodward, and Trottier) were glossed over. And 3rd, the impact on real estate taxes was generally skirted in favor of a "wait & see" attitude.	8/11/2025 1:49 PM
77	I thought the details were clear	8/11/2025 10:22 AM
78	I think there could have been more emphasis put on WHY a new school was needed and what benefit that would bring to not only children, but also teachers/staff and the community as a whole.	8/11/2025 10:12 AM
79	tax impacts	8/11/2025 9:57 AM
80	For people who are not regularly in the building, the lack of safety for students and staff is very difficult to pass along to those lacking empathy and unwilling to put students and staff first. The building is not just physically unsafe, IMO; but also introduces issues leading to decreased health (increase in rashes, asthma, allergy issues). Also same that lunch cannot be prepared on premises. Ceilings falling apart and asbestos exposure... health violations a lack of respect for our teachers and students.	8/11/2025 9:17 AM
81	Everything was clear if you were paying attention	8/11/2025 9:02 AM
82	None	8/10/2025 5:57 PM
83	Why we need to spend that amount of money. Why we need a new school. You all talked in to rebuilding Woodward School and now it is oversize.	8/10/2025 4:46 PM
84	More information was needed on all aspects of the project.What are the positive aspects of a new school.Stop the negative comments from certain members of the select board and other groups. This is about investing in the community.	8/9/2025 2:17 PM
85	Cost was skewed by some public officials. One selectman called it a money pit.	8/9/2025 1:32 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

86	consequences to rest of the town and plans for the schools futures	8/9/2025 9:34 AM
87	No, understood	8/9/2025 8:01 AM
88	Projected savings from operating fewer schools and community impact were not adequately addressed.	8/9/2025 5:54 AM
89	I understood the proposal very well. I did not understand the proposals that didn't make the final cut and why.	8/8/2025 9:06 PM
90	No	8/8/2025 3:38 PM
91	I needed more explanation on what the plan was for the Finn building. As someone who lives within walking distance to Finn I want my young children to attend a school in their neighborhood, and I felt as though there wasn't clear information on the plan for Finn.	8/8/2025 11:57 AM
92	The real condition of current building; tax impact on very low income seniors; details on current building refurbishment needs and costs.	8/8/2025 11:46 AM
93	Hidden costs. Future costs with Finn. Lack of serious consideration for less expensive options.	8/8/2025 9:23 AM
94	Yes. Option on Finn School, environmental impact of new Neary School, true costs and impact on tax rate for next five years.	8/8/2025 9:19 AM
95	These were not worth my time to further investigate since the main points had so greatly influenced my decision already	8/8/2025 12:41 AM
96	Alternative options tax impact	8/7/2025 6:31 PM
97	The Neary committee did a lot of research and explored many options, but these did not include evaluating Plan B.	8/7/2025 2:58 PM
98	How the committee chose from the alternative options	8/7/2025 1:47 PM
99	N/A	8/7/2025 12:10 PM
100	I dont understand why people show up to the vote to tell others how confused they were. Shouldnt you just not vote if you don't understand what you are voting on?	8/7/2025 12:04 PM
101	Long term financial impacts for the Town and what things will have to be offset. Why the schools couldn't be consolidated. Why no other options on locations were available instead of next to a landfill. Why Selectman and Advisory Committee don't do better financial analysis instead of recommending every request that comes to them. Fiscal responsibility is imperative for the Town and also a reason I voted against the new school.	8/7/2025 10:03 AM
102	The current and past status of the capped town dump. How often tested, testing results, changes needed. Couldn't tell if there were legitimate concerns or it was just a red herring used by opponents of the project.	8/7/2025 9:52 AM
103	Would like to know alternative options with slower Capex spend	8/7/2025 8:10 AM
104	No	8/7/2025 7:17 AM
105	Why it needs to be done at all	8/7/2025 6:03 AM
106	Environmental studies- if we don't know for certainty the land is safe to build on I don't see how it's a good decision to build a new school.	8/6/2025 7:58 PM
107	The information presented was not complete and wax geared to obtaining approval for the project	8/6/2025 4:00 PM
108	No	8/6/2025 3:20 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

109	Feasibility of alternative approaches	8/6/2025 2:30 PM
110	Alternative options were not explored nor presented	8/6/2025 2:21 PM
111	Is the project really necessary. Did not see the demographics needed to substantiate the need.	8/6/2025 2:12 PM
112	Were there other land options available? Why did we have to move the kids to other schools with all the land available at Neary? Could we have looked at the track and ball field at Trottier as an option and move athletic fields to Neary? Is any of the land used for fields at Finn an option and then move those fields to Neary. The town could look at an entire centralized sports complex at Neary without the school there. What was eliminated from the project because of cost?	8/6/2025 1:45 PM
113	Alternative options and tax impacts	8/6/2025 12:57 PM
114	Why would you build another school on wetlands?	8/6/2025 12:09 PM
115	Alternative options	8/6/2025 12:01 PM
116	Exact dollar figures on reasonable alternative options (e.g., a new Neary for only grade 4/5).	8/6/2025 10:29 AM
117	Thorough investigation on alternative options like renovating Neary, Plan B.	8/6/2025 9:58 AM
118	more info on alternatives; what subsequent impacts would be ie cost of renovating Finn or other town buildings	8/6/2025 9:38 AM
119	None	8/6/2025 7:39 AM
120	Taxes impact.	8/6/2025 4:44 AM
121	It was not clear why other options were eliminated so early on without more community input. I recall one survey early on and then it seemed like we were down to 1-2 options. There was a disconnect between community input and how we got to those particular options. While the finances were clearly explained, it also seemed like there was a lot of optimism built in and not a lot of clarity on worse case scenarios when it came to long-term tax impacts. Finally, I think a big missing piece was clarity on how community interests were represented in the process. Beyond a initial survey, and a committee - how were community interests explored and represented? focus groups? representation from key groups?	8/5/2025 11:10 PM
122	Alternative options	8/5/2025 9:03 PM
123	What educational benefits would the new Neary offer that could potentially save the town money? Surrounding towns are in the process of buliding new schools as well, is anyone else building a similar school? What is the cost? Might be effective to show that Southborough is not asking for pie in the sky or overspending.	8/5/2025 8:36 PM
124	actual need of a new building	8/5/2025 7:43 PM
125	No. I had access to all the information I needed to feel confident in my understanding and my vote.	8/5/2025 7:09 PM
126	What was the plan for students during construction	8/5/2025 6:57 PM
127	No info on alternative options	8/5/2025 4:20 PM
128	The lack of a plan B when it was all over the stupid signs in town. There was no plan B. Now we have no plan and our kids need a real school	8/5/2025 12:48 PM
129	none	8/5/2025 12:15 PM
130	outcome of other proposals that were investigated by the committee but didn't proceed to vote	8/5/2025 12:11 PM
131	I was concerned about the cost and possible grants	8/5/2025 12:06 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

132	The tax impact was unclear. There was a calculator provided but there were nuances that could not factor into the calculations reliably. I was also unclear on why some of the alternative options that were considered were eliminated early in the process.	8/5/2025 11:58 AM
133	The future of Finn school was not clear	8/5/2025 11:28 AM
134	No unclear areas. Should have been packaged together with the overall budget.	8/5/2025 11:21 AM
135	Town people lie in the meetings stating incorrect facts about how we can fix the building. Offered made up plans for a secondary option. They voted against the betterment of our children and with to allow them to have a less than optimal time in school. With oversized classrooms, out of code building that contain asbestos and locks that are faulty.	8/5/2025 10:49 AM
136	alternative options and more info about the trickle down effect on other schools/grade levels.	8/5/2025 10:29 AM
137	Unclear on the alternative options	8/5/2025 10:26 AM
138	The Plan B was unclear	8/5/2025 10:20 AM
139	Most of the details were unclear to me including the tax impact and pros and cons of the project. I had to rely on Facebook comments to understand the details and implications of the project.	8/5/2025 10:12 AM
140	I don't think the safety concerns of the existing Neary facility were appropriately communicated.	8/5/2025 10:03 AM
141	Special needs, privacy, too much tech in classrooms, walls etc	8/5/2025 10:02 AM
142	Population study to see if another school even needed	8/5/2025 10:00 AM
143	Tax impacts, environmental studies	8/5/2025 9:57 AM
144	Unclear what alternatives were evaluated and the cost for those alternatives	8/5/2025 9:54 AM
145	Many in opposition said highlight negative environmental factors but there was no explanation as to why or their resources vs those in favor had experts evaluating saying there was no negative impact. I would like to understand where the no voters got this information specifically the evidence from experts. If this was true I'd be concerned about their being an existing school there today plus sport fields	8/5/2025 9:47 AM
146	Long term costs of not building a new building. For example, if we don't build a new school, it would be \$XM to fix the existing school which would suffice for X number of years. At which point, we would need to re- renovate for \$XM or rebuild for \$XM. Providing clear tax projections over the next 15 or 20 years for different scenarios would be helpful.	8/5/2025 9:44 AM
147	Alternative Options, environmental studies	8/5/2025 9:41 AM
148	Not clear if other options were wondered around grade consolidation within the existing schools. Those scenarios were not clearly rejected with data and details so it left people believing we could just use our existing buildings.	8/5/2025 9:40 AM
149	How savings from closing Finn would be achieved. It was both mentioned that staff would not be impacted, Finn would remain open as office space, but savings would somehow be achieved.	8/5/2025 9:40 AM
150	Costs associated with alternatives. A no vote still means incurring significant costs, which was misunderstood.	8/5/2025 9:35 AM
151	Yes. In the space study the District Admin occupies approx 5000 sqft of Neary. For starters, this number seems low as the amount of space they use in Neary has grown through the years. Ha e we been accurately billing to the Northborough and Regional budget entities their	8/5/2025 9:28 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

fair share of the cost for the school admin leased space over the years. The second question related to this is the capital expenditure related to the new project for the school admin space would need approval by the Town of Northborough for the admin space billable to the Northborough share of the regional school and their K8 space. Maybe that is moot since it is just rent they pay and the budget impact is operational expenditure vs. Capital. Anyways, thinking about the district admin space it seems very shady they way they show the info in the space study and there should be some further transparency on the past accounting and projected accounting related to this project.

152	I wasn't sure why some of the options had been eliminated and not more thoroughly explored. There might have been a good reason, but it wasn't shared well with the public. I also felt the tax implications were misleading.	8/5/2025 9:27 AM
153	The downstream impact of the decision that was pursued was very unclear, as were the future potential costs associated with it for the town. For example, a school was discussed being decommissioned for town offices. What was the cost to alter the building to fit it up for town offices? These were not clear to taxpayers I, and when you go down a path of altering building use in town, there needs to be future estimates available to taxpayers so that they can make an informed decision about one project (Neary) that affects other future projects (changing use of Finn school, moving town offices from other buildings, etc). There were too many unknown future costs to properly vote on the project at hand - which is ultimately why I voted against the project. I could not put it into context of other future costs we'd incur, or not incur, depending on what decisions were made.	8/5/2025 9:26 AM
154	I think the health concerns of the community were not addressed adequately. Also, more pictures of the awful state of Neary should have been included the meetings.	8/5/2025 9:23 AM
155	No	8/5/2025 9:23 AM
156	Tax impacts, the incredibly high building budget, options for if the project did not pass the vote, and why other options were not considered favorable were the most unclear to me.	8/5/2025 9:20 AM
157	Why not all Southboro residents can participate in the voting? There are quite a few non-citizen families who pay taxes but have no say in the voting.	8/5/2025 9:19 AM
158	The alternative options were not fully explored or explained but would have been helpful.	8/5/2025 9:19 AM
159	the ACTUAL impact of the building on education quality	8/5/2025 9:16 AM
160	I was only aware of the big picture.	8/5/2025 9:14 AM
161	Tax,educational,alternatives, political climate for funding	8/5/2025 9:13 AM
162	There was little to no explanation as to why neary was being made a 4 grade school and closing Finn. It seemed like a massive expense for tax payers with absolutely no reason. The grades don't need to be combined. Finn is a lovely school never mind that what Finn would have been used for was unclear. I don't want Finn to just be used for peoples offices or whatever.	8/5/2025 9:07 AM
163	Tax impacts, what would happen to the other schools, what those additional costs would be	8/5/2025 9:07 AM
164	yes	8/5/2025 9:07 AM
165	Tax impacts and overall need for the project, basically the why's weren't explained in detail	8/5/2025 9:05 AM
166	Alternative options	8/4/2025 9:11 PM
167	Alternative options. Start with the problem that we are trying to solve, not the solution that we have pre-ordained. It seemed that from the outset, we	8/4/2025 3:42 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

	only wanted to build a new 2-5 Neary.	
168	It was unclear why no other options were offered.	8/4/2025 2:55 PM
169	Is Neary building completely useless or still workable??	8/4/2025 11:03 AM
170	The educational needs for a new school... what can't be done at Neary that would be done in a new school.	8/4/2025 10:23 AM
171	I don't think it was clear what the result would be if it was voted down. It also was not clear that educators supported it.	8/4/2025 9:36 AM
172	Evaluating other realistic alternatives	8/3/2025 4:41 PM
173	Alternative options...tax impacts and all educational sides	8/3/2025 2:35 PM
174	Poor plan for increasing revenue without putting anything not under grant on taxpayers particularly given the major tax increase this year	8/3/2025 1:20 PM
175	tax impacts, alternative options-I don't feel that alternatives were presented. It was build a new school or not	8/3/2025 10:34 AM
176	Unclear on ED benefits totally unclear on environmental impacts ie what happens when old building is "decommissioned"	8/3/2025 8:52 AM
177	Why the need to transition to a 2-5 school. Building a new 4-5 school would greatly reduce the cost and is the need at hand. Why not have a proposal for that?	8/3/2025 6:01 AM
178	Tax impacts. As new-ish residents, we wanted to understand what the history has been on supporting other projects in the past and whether there was ever a fund created specifically for purposes of a new build if it was clear that the current state of Neary could not continue as is.	8/2/2025 11:34 PM
179	Tax impacts, alternative options, and environmental studies	8/2/2025 9:54 PM
180	Tax impacts	8/2/2025 4:42 PM
181	I was unsure why other options, such as expanding Finn and/or Trottier, were off the table. The last-minute environmental concerns confused me. When I looked at the tax implications, they looked minimal, so I was confused why people were saying our taxes would skyrocket and thought I was missing something. The whole thing was incredibly confusing.	8/2/2025 2:02 PM
182	It didn't appear all avenues had been pursued-seemed an immediate answer was sought.	8/2/2025 9:06 AM
183	Minimum cost to refurbish/repurpose Neary following a "No" vote.	8/1/2025 9:34 PM
184	Tax impacts	8/1/2025 6:55 PM
185	I would have liked to have known what other options were looked into other than just a new building	8/1/2025 1:45 PM
186	The future of Finn School and the number of schools needed in the future	8/1/2025 12:29 PM
187	Addressing the question of why an entirely new school needs to be constructed at the Neary site (?) . . . especially when overall student enrollment at Southborough public schools has been **declining**, but our tax property taxes keep escalating by 5 -8% per year 🤔🤔	8/1/2025 10:15 AM
188	no, everything looks clear to me.	8/1/2025 9:58 AM
189	Again, our property taxes are already too high. We have building that are in good repair, stop with this new complex shit!	8/1/2025 9:47 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

We don't need it, and whomever is behind it needs to stop pushing something that we don't want or need!

190	alternatives too easily dismissed	8/1/2025 9:45 AM
191	Unclear vision - what's the big picture and why	8/1/2025 9:35 AM
192	I thought that the Town Meeting presentation was superficial, not well planned out and do not understand why the Districts administrators were not more involved in the presentation as well as why the School Committee was not more involved in the presentation.	8/1/2025 9:13 AM
193	Tax impacts for the seniors where they don't have students attending the school	8/1/2025 7:23 AM
194	What happens to the early childhood portion of the school system? Would the building be suitable for your youngest learners?	8/1/2025 7:23 AM
195	The Neary project would have set up a domino effect of moves, and other school projects. The total cost of those items was impossible to find out.	8/1/2025 4:22 AM
196	School Department and town officials bias toward approving the project. Failure to objectively assess Finn school resources and viability. Was	8/1/2025 4:15 AM
197	Tax impacts were unclear	8/1/2025 4:09 AM
198	I did not have any issues but feel like others only paid attention in the final few weeks	8/1/2025 2:57 AM
199	The details of the grant were unclear at times. The details of the land that Neary is on/would be on was unclear at times.	7/31/2025 9:21 PM
200	What would happen to Finn School	7/31/2025 8:44 PM
201	I didn't understand why Finn was being shut down, since it's a perfectly serviceable school. I couldn't understand why we would tear down and rebuild a school beside a dump site. I was also concerned that building an enormous school when birth rates are declining didn't make sense. I felt that the Neary project had a predetermined outcome, and I felt that using already existing school buildings was a better plan.	7/31/2025 8:06 PM
202	Unclear educational benefits, true costs, alternative options, environmental studies, demographics, need, rationale for the building, lack of backup plan if proposal did not pass,	7/31/2025 6:56 PM
203	Actual cost over the long term. The logic of repurposing a building designed as a school. The cost of changes to Woodward to accommodate younger children. How Woodward could actually accommodate younger children, given its 2 floor design, climbing and descend staircases meant for older students. Why there would be a problem incorporating 5th grade into Trottier due to age difference between 5th and 8th graders when it is not unusual for a family to have that age span in their home. Excessive cost of the project and the burden it will have on taxpayers.	7/31/2025 6:21 PM
204	Numerous professional opinions of landfill impact. Numerous assessment of financial impact. No review of viable options.	7/31/2025 6:09 PM
205	Why this keeps on coming back. We keep on voting this down and it keeps on coming back	7/31/2025 5:41 PM
206	I didn't feel the closing two schools was justified financially or logically. Enrollment projections are flat to declining and that makes the expense difficult to justify	7/31/2025 5:24 PM
207	Clarification on why only 1 option was presented - providing a recap of previous options that were reviewed	7/31/2025 4:48 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

208	What all the options were and cost	7/31/2025 4:48 PM
209	Alternate options. Unpersuasive why other schools couldn't be considered	7/31/2025 3:46 PM
210	100's of decisions would have been made to get to the final proposal that we voted on. Every person in town would trade different factors off differently. All the things I didn't agree with in the final proposal were not explained well enough as to why what I really wanted wasn't being offered as an option. Simple explanations like it cost more aren't enough. Some factors I'd have been willing to pay for. Other factors that seemed expensive may not have been compared to the alternatives, but I wasn't made aware of those things. Overall the entire project was very very expensive and to get to that number you have to make it very clear where all that money is going. There were too many specific things that were unclear to type here. The communication throughout the entire process was terrible. It came across like those in charge had an agenda and any options outside of the agenda were purposefully ignored and disregarded.	7/31/2025 3:36 PM
211	Why the town didn't pursue Plan B, despite school opposition.	7/31/2025 3:18 PM
212	I did not have the sense that alternative, more cost-effective options were given more than passing consideration. The tax impacts seem to have been downplayed by those in favor and I am concerned that people will be priced out of their homes.	7/31/2025 3:00 PM
213	We were uninformed for a very long time. It wasn't until there were some in person meetings that we started to understand what was happening. We received no mailings or flyers prior to the in person meetings that we attended.	7/31/2025 2:44 PM
214	environmental effect	7/31/2025 1:46 PM
215	Yes! Despite best efforts by some - why was Finn dropped from consideration as a school? Was it because the State mandated our choices or because the School District/Bldg Committee told the State they didn't want Finn? Also, all the financial projections showed impact seven years out but the bond is what 20 or 30 years? While researching school projects in other communities, their building committee website were more forthcoming and gave the full decades-long cost impacts. For some reason, the proponents of the bill only wanted to go 7 years out - I get it, projections are difficult - but they are talking about borrowing for 20 or 30 years and that was never included in the show. Late in the game, a member of the NBC Mr. Mark Davis was appearing before other boards and public forums (eg Planning Board) but he never gave his credentials, just talked about his past experience (he also talked about his past experience while opining about the MBTA Communities Zoning. Where were the engineers or consultants when questions were raised eg by members of the Planning Board about septic and groundwater issues? Also, I am no education expert, but I felt that the School District - Mr. Martineau and Ms. Reinhorn did not have great justifications for some of the design details, and this came thru at the Special Town Meeting.	7/31/2025 1:36 PM
216	no	7/31/2025 1:28 PM
217	Tax impacts, 2nd and 3rd order effects to other town buildings (Woodward and Finn), environmental concerns	7/31/2025 1:24 PM
218	Alternative options. Why Finn property would need to be used/retrofitted by the town for offices rather than sold to offset costs.	7/31/2025 1:14 PM
219	Tax impacts is secondary to environmental impacts on staff and students	7/31/2025 11:44 AM
220	Tax impact and other alternatives	7/31/2025 11:30 AM
221	The Neary proposal got stuck on one solution because of the grant money restrictions from the state. This kept them from evaluating other more practical solutions.	7/31/2025 11:12 AM
222	alternative options not presented to public	7/31/2025 11:00 AM
223	Needed to show why other options vetted weren't presented to state for review. Needed more insight on the non-selected options.	7/31/2025 10:59 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

224	Throughout this process I could not understand why this project was presented without exploring the option of having grades shift buildings. I am aware of communities that are in circumstances where a building is required to close, and the town needs to do something about it. In the case of Southborough, it seems clear that there are enough buildings and space to house all of the grades in Trottier and Woodland. All it would take is to shift the grades into different buildings. I understand that this is inconvenient in many ways to students and faculty, but it feels like it is do-able. I don't understand why we would vote to build a new school building, raising taxes for everyone while a solution to avoid this exists. It seems like a tremendous waste of resources.	7/31/2025 10:59 AM
225	the school The need to demo	7/31/2025 10:55 AM
226	The entirety of the project was not clearly explained. Scope, cost, and timeline. Option A vs Option B (was it really an option)	7/31/2025 10:50 AM
227	Alternative options rather than a new school. More indepth reasoning on why consolidation of school/grades wasn't layed out with options.	7/31/2025 10:06 AM
228	Alternative options and environmental studies	7/31/2025 8:35 AM
229	The list of 12 options was pared down. There was no comparison of the remaining 3-4 options.	7/31/2025 8:16 AM
230	I was confused about tax impacts. I live close to the Finn school and did not understand how closing that school would impact my taxes.	7/31/2025 7:50 AM
231	The plan that the committee formed was explained	7/31/2025 7:44 AM
232	Tax implication, why 5th graders can't be at same school with 6-8 graders, why close Finn, why build near/on a toxic site, why the school design with study areas in the hall way--disruptive,	7/31/2025 7:22 AM
233	I think all of the above was thoroughly thought about and discussed by the committee but not given time to be discussed as a community	7/31/2025 7:09 AM
234	Tax impacts, alternative options	7/31/2025 7:05 AM
235	Tax impact and how town folks would have to deal with the continual tax increases. Especially seniors.	7/31/2025 6:27 AM
236	The idea that the choices we had were the only ones available. As I understand it, these were the options allowed by the state in order to secure grant money. Moving the kids to buildings we already have was not an option for this reqson	7/31/2025 6:26 AM
237	Educational impacts, environmental impacts, process	7/31/2025 5:06 AM
238	alternative options, environment/contaminated land, what would happen with Finn Bldg, how could we this be made more financially sound for all in town	7/31/2025 4:50 AM
239	Any form of opposition to the project was not clear. Any time the narrative didn't fit the desire of a new school it was cast in a negative light sometimes at the cost of honesty	7/30/2025 9:47 PM
240	There seemed to be some question around what the real tax impact would be. Also, there was no explanation of the property value impact for southside residents for losing Finn. Aside from cost, that was the biggest drawback for me. I didn't want the only school on the south side being removed.	7/30/2025 9:31 PM
241	The financial scope of the project was not well presented and over emphasized the tax impact. It would be helpful to build consensus around the total cost of the project based on a budget the town feels comfortable with. There needs to be better facilitation creating alignment between project scope and budget reality.	7/30/2025 9:09 PM
242	Reinforce that the Neary building	7/30/2025 9:09 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

will have to be repair nevertheless = losing Grant and impact of increasing costs

243	Why there were not different options with different costs	7/30/2025 9:05 PM
244	No	7/30/2025 8:27 PM
245	No	7/30/2025 8:10 PM
246	<p>I watched some virtual meetings and went to the Town Meeting, so this may have been explained outside of those instances, but what I think was missing was alternate scenarios-- not just in terms of building options, but in terms of what happens if the Neary vote fails. It was clear to me that a large grant would be forfeited and that there would be other fiscal ramifications but I think it could have been explained more simply in various scenarios, i.e. "if we do not move this project forward, X Y and Z would need to be done at the current Neary School by X date to keep it operational, and that would cost the town X in the next Y years." I think it probably was in the literature, but I think for the most part people don't read (or if they do, they don't understand). For me, everything was very clear-- the benefit of having the grant, the tax calculator, etc, and I also felt as though there was expertise on the committee and they did their due diligence to research. I think people need very simple explanations that show how it affects them directly. So showing how much taxes will go up regardless of this project, and how a band-aid on Neary is just going to end up costing more, could potentially be helpful. I also think it was a bit unclear about other options-- I know there wasn't another option on the table for this vote, but several other "options" were presented at the Town Meeting and while the committee was able to reply to certain questions, they didn't seem as though they could cite their research to dispute the presentations that were happening by others. So another "option" was presented that wasn't sufficiently researched or vetted and people latched on to it. I don't know the solution to this, but that was frustrating to watch as alternate ideas were presented that may have seemed viable, when in reality perhaps they are not (e.g. moving more grades to Trotter, or Finn). Again, some of this was answered but I almost feel like it would have been helpful to hear more about why these options were not pursued. I think we heard some of that but when it gets too complex people don't get it. Maybe a visual of the population trends and projections shown in tandem with the school capacities to show it can't be done. Again, all of this may exist, I did some research toward the end but didn't have time to be completely and fully up to speed on this at all times, which I think is probably common among working parents and other busy folks. I also think showing that youtube video of the deteriorating Neary at Town Meeting (no idea if this is allowed) would be eye-opening. That was tough to watch as a parent whose two children will go to Neary in a few years, and the Town Meeting committee presentation really only scratched the surface in terms of the issues (I understand time at the meeting is an issue). When it comes down to it, people are reading social media and their friends' opinions and don't necessarily know the facts. Sadly it's more of a marketing strategy that I feel like you need to make sure you get people the actual facts.</p>	7/30/2025 8:10 PM
247	How bad Neary truly is, why this is the best option and why other options weren't planned for.	7/30/2025 8:08 PM
248	It is not unclear, but unreasonable.	7/30/2025 7:52 PM
249	How payments were agreed and how the cost were passed to the residents	7/30/2025 7:47 PM
250	The exorbitant cost for renovating instead of building new was not highlighted like in other similar proposals that passed in Brookline etc. Renovating is extremely expensive, but the voters didn't know that.	7/30/2025 7:42 PM
251	Tax impact, alternative options including temporary classrooms for students during the project	7/30/2025 7:35 PM
252	Tax impact	7/30/2025 6:49 PM
253	Alternative options	7/30/2025 6:44 PM
254	Why there was only one option provided. What would happen to Finn. Tax estimator was just an estimate, would this grant be seen through in the current political climate, why has Neary not been addressed until now?	7/30/2025 6:37 PM
255	Alternative options	7/30/2025 6:26 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

256	Tax implications, future population considerations, environmental ie the site of the old town dump	7/30/2025 5:52 PM
257	Environmental studies - what facts were there to counter the fear?	7/30/2025 5:44 PM
258	Alternative options	7/30/2025 5:11 PM
259	What was happening with the preschool program?	7/30/2025 5:05 PM
260	What would happen if there wasn't a yes vote.	7/30/2025 5:04 PM
261	I didn't feel informed about all of the avenues explored	7/30/2025 5:03 PM
262	Alternative options	7/30/2025 4:54 PM
263	Why there wasn't a two School solution: redo Finn and build a new to school for Neary	7/30/2025 4:40 PM
264	no	7/30/2025 4:36 PM
265	Not enough information about alternative options	7/30/2025 4:29 PM
266	Yes- would love to know what the plan is for playground. I am strongly opposed to artificial turf for material.	7/30/2025 4:21 PM
267	Staff consolidation between two buildings	7/30/2025 4:20 PM
268	I was unclear what the major drivers of the tax implication were unrelated to the new building (since most of the increase projected was not the building- but it was not shared clearly the major drivers). I also thought information about options to build on other facilities was unclear and/or misrepresented (not intentionally but just not enough focus to inform the public and avoid mis information)	7/30/2025 4:20 PM
269	I wish you meeting at the Southborough Senior Center	7/30/2025 4:14 PM
270	I think the project was clear but older people just did not want to pay more tax	7/30/2025 3:57 PM
271	We continue to invest money into this town without creating the infrastructure or businesses needed to stabilize it. Many residents are young families struggling to make ends meet or elderly individuals on fixed incomes, and it's becoming increasingly difficult for them to stay. We can't keep spending without a clear plan and expect taxpayers to shoulder the burden indefinitely.	7/30/2025 3:57 PM
272	None	7/30/2025 3:54 PM
273	Consideration turning Trottier into grades 3-6, with Woodward being 7-8 middle school	7/30/2025 3:46 PM
274	Alternative options!!	7/30/2025 3:44 PM
275	Impacts of a no vote	7/30/2025 3:42 PM
276	Easy to access details on the project	7/30/2025 3:41 PM
277	Alternative options	7/30/2025 3:39 PM
278	tax impacts	7/30/2025 3:38 PM
279	My daughter was in neary school. I visited it number of times. It needs cosmetic work except restrooms. Restrooms need major repair. But this does not justify the new school building. This town does not repair roads properly among other things. Somehow it decided to drain town budget on building new school. This needs to be strictly inspected.	7/30/2025 3:37 PM
280	Long term costs to town based on any domino effects of the build, like Finn maintenance/renovation, and long term school plans (when will next build/renovation be needed and if we are planning far enough out)	7/30/2025 3:36 PM
281	Options.	7/30/2025 3:34 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

282	Other options besides building a new Neary were unclear - why they were not chosen to be looked at more closely	7/30/2025 3:30 PM
283	Did not feel like the town was telling the full truth about the impact	7/30/2025 3:26 PM
284	No. The final proposal was written very well and it was very concise. The issue is that most people in town didn't read the full proposal and then proceeded to assume aspects of it instead of reading the clear reasons for each recommendation.	7/30/2025 3:25 PM
285	I don't clearly understand the need to build new school buildings	7/30/2025 3:23 PM
286	No	7/30/2025 3:20 PM
287	Alternative options. Mitigation of downsides of a 4 grade school. Plan for Finn.	7/30/2025 3:20 PM
288	Alternate options	7/30/2025 3:17 PM
289	i don't believe that the taxes were explained well... or at least well enough to quell the anxiety over the increasing tax rates. my understanding is that they are going up sharply in response to prior capital expenditures and we'll be feeling that pain soon. neary would have been marginal. i think this was all about \$\$\$ for people -- especially the voting (ie older "my kids all went to NSBoro schools, BUT") demo...	7/30/2025 3:17 PM
290	I felt like it didn't make sense to not have the option of renovating the existing Neary building. I felt like the town was being sneaky about proposing only one option which meant turning Neary into four grades and I felt like the reason why they wanted it is because the town wants Finn for their own purposes. I think Finn should remain a school and Neary should be remodeled instead of demoed and should remain two grades. At the town meeting, no one questioned the town taking Finn for their own purposes, which I found very odd. And my husband asked the question of what the calculated cost would be to remodel Neary as two grades. I think the answer was like 40 million and then the town representative said Neary would only last 10 more years if remodeled. I thought that was ridiculous. You don't dump tens of millions of dollars into remodeling a building and only get 10 more years of use out of it. I thought they were saying that on purpose because they don't want to remodel Neary. But remodeling it is the most cost effective thing to do in my opinion.	7/30/2025 3:16 PM
291	It was not adequately explained why the chosen project was better than the alternative options	7/30/2025 3:15 PM
292	None	7/30/2025 3:14 PM
293	It would have been helpful to better understand the future use of the Mary Finn School and to have other well-vetted options to compare this option to. I also would have appreciated a detailed expert analysis on the potential risk of building on a former landfill site.	7/30/2025 3:11 PM
294	Alternative options, environmental studies	7/30/2025 3:10 PM
295	alternative options	7/30/2025 3:09 PM
296	A more clear understanding of what renovation / repairs to Neary current building would mean. Maybe more concrete problems with current building if any requiring full rebuild.	7/30/2025 3:09 PM
297	I thought the project was really clear.	7/30/2025 3:05 PM
298	Tax impacts, alternative options, concerns about former dump site	7/30/2025 3:05 PM
299	Alternative options and environmental implications	7/30/2025 3:05 PM
300	No	7/30/2025 3:04 PM
301	Alternative options	7/30/2025 2:36 PM
302	There wasn't a clear understanding of what would happen if the vote failed. There was also very vague information about what would happen to the Finn school.	7/30/2025 1:36 PM
303	Tax impacts and alternative options	7/30/2025 12:19 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

304	Alternative options that weren't explored	7/30/2025 12:19 PM
305	A critical component that was missing was an overall view of what would be happening with all of the school AND town owned buildings. There needs to be a comprehensive presentation about what will be happening with all buildings. Another missing component was how the cost of a new building compares to the aggregated costs of *not* doing a new building (ie, cost to repair / reno Neary). That was never really made clear in concrete terms.	7/30/2025 12:18 PM
306	The impact that the project cost would have on the town was deceptively underplayed.	7/30/2025 12:16 PM
307	Why options other than a new 4 Grade school were not fully researched and discussed	7/30/2025 12:15 PM
308	Educational benefits - the school committee and school administration should have been more vocal during the town meeting about supporting the proposal. Both parties should have made clear that 'plan b' was not viable given the school policy position on 5th at Trottier	7/30/2025 12:04 PM
309	Alternative options to proposed plan and reasons not explored	7/30/2025 10:28 AM
310	We were not given the complete picture of the project, so the entire cost was not explained. What would the cost of changing Finn into offices. What would happen to the current town offices?	7/30/2025 10:10 AM
311	alternative options	7/30/2025 10:09 AM
312	one of the argument was a need to invest millions in Neary repairs if the new building declined. I don't understand how we can avoid the same investmants in case the new school approved. Are we going to demolish Neary for cheap?	7/30/2025 9:57 AM
313	No. I found the people talking about a "plan B" to be confusing as there was not actually a plan B.	7/30/2025 8:34 AM
314	I wish the tax impact was explained more cleary especially how it was only for a few years. The tax calculator should have been provided to throughout all of the media outlets in order for everyone to be aware of it. There should have been more mailings about the project in general because a lot of people I talked to were unaware of the project.	7/30/2025 8:24 AM
315	Accurate tax impacts, accurate renovation options to existing Neary, lack of clarity with reuse of Finn school.	7/30/2025 8:23 AM
316	Tax impacts that were much less than people thought	7/30/2025 8:05 AM
317	COSTS	7/30/2025 7:57 AM
318	How the committee so quickly abandoned the idea of a project that would have cost approximately \$30-\$40 million dollars less and could have been eligible for state contribution in favor of a new build.	7/30/2025 7:46 AM
319	I would have liked to have heard from more of our educational professionals (especially teachers) their thoughts on the project. I only heard the Superintendant speak who was in favor of the project	7/30/2025 7:39 AM
320	Nothing was missing there was just a pre-determined outcome of the process and a sequence of events designed to that end.	7/30/2025 7:38 AM
321	It appeared the Neary committee(s) were stacked with "let's go build a new school."	7/30/2025 7:18 AM
322	tax impact, alternative options	7/30/2025 6:10 AM
323	I felt the committee did a good.job of answering all the questions people had.	7/30/2025 5:52 AM
324	None	7/30/2025 1:54 AM
325	1) What happens in the event of cost overruns, 2) What changes could be made to the building design	7/30/2025 12:59 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

326	impacts, other options considered or not considered, why keeping Finn as a school wasn't considered in project & what reno options would cost to keep Finn as a school or costs to convert it to a community center. Environmental studies/impact of Neary site.	Tax	7/29/2025 11:16 PM
327	If decrease enrollment and closing a school why build a new one		7/29/2025 10:41 PM
328	The cost in comparison to renovation of other buildings		7/29/2025 9:57 PM
329	The numbers and financial impact. The research into alternatives. It felt pushed, rushed and extremely lacking transparency.		7/29/2025 9:35 PM
330	There was no clear plan for the future of the Finn School property		7/29/2025 9:20 PM
331	why can't it be phased - build the classroom structure as one smaller project, then build the addition to it as a later project - thereby stretching out the cost increase to the taxpayers		7/29/2025 9:19 PM
332	The first meeting I went to at Finn was focused more on the educational benefits and the new design of the school which was all beautiful. However, i left that meeting knowing that the financial implications were what would matter most. Even parents of elementary students, like myself, care about the educational benefits, but my kids wouldn't even have benefited. So those who will benefit AND will be voting as current residents are a small number of residents. I think the focus needs to be on the options presented and what makes the most financial sense for the town. During that meeting at Finn, I left supporting the project due to the explanations I observed in regards to the finances, such as the alternative would cost almost as much as a new build, the example of Nboro building their safety building after Sboro and it cost almost double as much, etc.		7/29/2025 9:17 PM
333	To me, alternative options received inadequate consideration. Also, I simply cannot believe that the project expense had to be so high.		7/29/2025 8:32 PM
334	I felt information was accurately presented		7/29/2025 8:18 PM
335	To me it seemed as though all parts were thoroughly looked through and explained to the community		7/29/2025 8:04 PM
336	Alternative options, environmental studies		7/29/2025 8:03 PM
337	I wanted to have more information about abatements that are available for lower income families as "the cost of new construction will force families out of Southborough" was a high concern for many people who voted no.		7/29/2025 7:50 PM
338	What happens with Neary going forward if it didn't pass. It's concerning to think nothing would be done.		7/29/2025 7:43 PM
339	The project chose a single direction early on. No other input was considered. That was a killer for me.		7/29/2025 7:31 PM
340	I knew that the state required one proposal, but this was not the best way to present the Neary project		7/29/2025 7:30 PM
341	Alternative options		7/29/2025 7:24 PM
342	Alternative Options		7/29/2025 7:22 PM
343	Didn't realize at first we weren't going to vote on several options		7/29/2025 7:15 PM
344	Alternative options		7/29/2025 7:11 PM
345	Alternative options. I didn't understand why it made sense to build a 4 grade school when it could have been two grades.		7/29/2025 6:20 PM
346	Nothing was		7/29/2025 6:14 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

clear. Why was only one option given for the town meeting vote and the override? It felt like the committee quickly decided on this option and then tried to ram it down the voters throats with confusing and misleading information.

347	What to do with Finn& contamination at the site	7/29/2025 6:13 PM
348	It was time consuming to understand exactly how we got to the final proposal	7/29/2025 6:04 PM
349	It wasn't so much that things were unclear as there was a complete lack of transparency. It was very obvious the school district was pushing people towards what they wanted and created their own narrative to support that.	7/29/2025 5:54 PM
350	could have used better explanation of financial impacts and alternate uses of Finn School	7/29/2025 5:47 PM
351	More explanation was needed on why the alternative projects don't make sense - I really felt Neary project should have gone forward and I don't think the opposing views questions were answered well enough for them to realize that this was the best way to proceed.	7/29/2025 5:43 PM
352	Financing	7/29/2025 5:38 PM
353	Alternative options. The "do-nothing" options will not end up being free in the long term, and could end up being more costly, causing more of a cost increase in the long run.	7/29/2025 5:11 PM
354	How wetlands are our friends . Ridiculous presentations.	7/29/2025 5:03 PM
355	Process to select options and process of elimination. Motivation to have a town building for offices and departments swayed closure of a school.	7/29/2025 5:00 PM
356	New to town - therefore learning about the school system first before reviewing school proposal	7/29/2025 4:58 PM
357	No it seemed very clear to me	7/29/2025 4:56 PM
358	I did not hear of any choices other than Neary. I strongly disagree with closing Finn and not having a school on the South side of town. That point was not publicized and reasons we were told later in process for not using Finn were insulting and I don't believe--pollution from highway, inability for emergency vehicles to be there, inability to use fields, no parking, etc.	7/29/2025 4:49 PM
359	The bottom line tax impact was not accurately portrayed. The tax calculator was misleading because it made numerous assumptions about costs that were not guaranteed. Frankly, it seemed dishonest. Also we never had a clear picture of the entire tax burden. Overlooked capital costs that would have large impact- \$20 M for culverts? Ongoing costs to maintain, staff and update Finn if abandoned as a school. It's almost like someone had the idea to offline Finn so it would be available as a community center -another \$xxx million, and that justified a new school. There was no outreach when examining other options, the decision was made to build a new school before most people knew about it. I did not find the committee entirely trustworthy. The information and communication was skewed to get the result they wanted.	7/29/2025 4:09 PM
360	What do the teachers think about all this? They do an amazing job, and we should be listening to what they need to keep doing the work they do. Also, I wish the emphasis had been on comparing homeowner tax increases with a new Neary against the significant tax increases we will face regardless. It was initially framed as "your taxes will increase tremendously" but the fact that a new Neary would not be entirely responsible for that were unclear and a real detriment to people supporting the project.	7/29/2025 4:09 PM
361	Why we need so much more school space	7/29/2025 4:01 PM
362	Everything was clear and presented well by the committee	7/29/2025 4:00 PM
363	Tax impacts with consideration to ALL other 5-10 year initiatives that are on the table. Alternative options including school consolidations.	7/29/2025 3:43 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

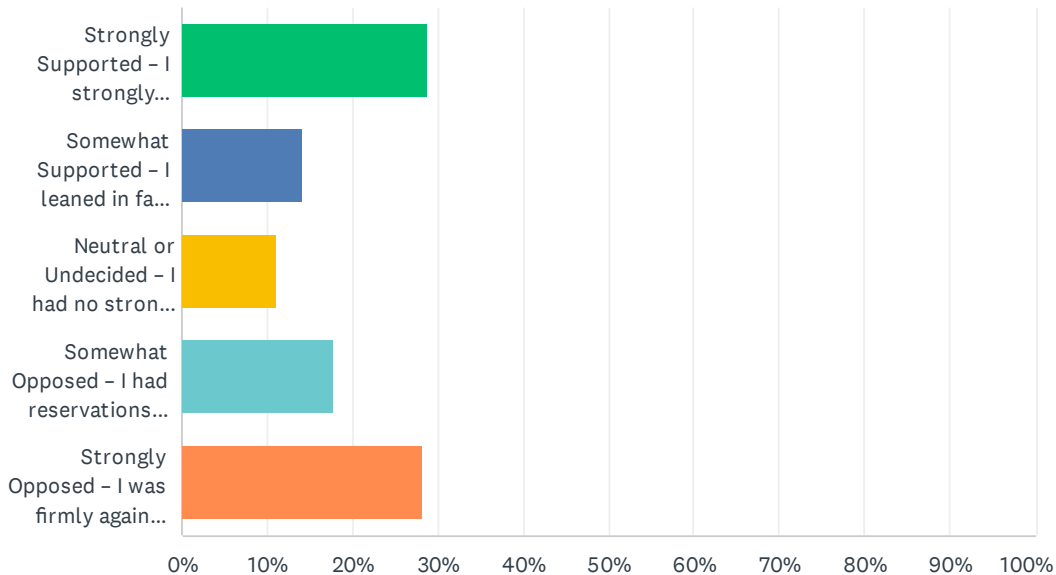
364	Alternative options!!!	7/29/2025 3:20 PM
365	The decision to focus on the Neary site.	7/29/2025 3:12 PM
366	Had to dig deep to find out how much my taxes would be raised. I am a senior, have no kids in school and do not want to pay even more taxes than I already do. The town just raised my qtlly taxes again!	7/29/2025 3:01 PM
367	Impact of other capital projects and taxes	7/29/2025 2:32 PM
368	Other options that were looked at and why never voted on	7/29/2025 2:30 PM
369	I felt that the options that were presented to the public for consideration were pre-determined. It left a sense of a lack of transparency in the process.	7/29/2025 2:19 PM
370	No	7/29/2025 2:05 PM
371	I was not willing to vote on a proposal that created unknown downstream impacts to other schools and properties, that were not researched and planned for. Not knowing what happens to other schools as part of a master plan was a significant hindrance and created unknowns that didn't allow me to vote for the project. The town was going to change the use of buildings without knowing the cost of doing that, the impact to taxpayers, etc. This also gets to why the committee went with a 4 grade school over a 2 grade school; a 2 grade school would've made the downstream impacts to other buildings a moot point. I don't believe we need a new 4 grade school.	7/29/2025 1:59 PM
372	I was outraged that Finn would be closed down	7/29/2025 1:52 PM
373	Different options were never fully explained	7/29/2025 1:38 PM
374	Tax impacts, impacts to schools during construction	7/29/2025 1:34 PM
375	The implications of voting the project down were unclear. Also unclear was a breakdown of how much it would actually cost to renovate neary vs knock down. More accuracy of cost of other hypotheticals would have been beneficial.	7/29/2025 1:27 PM
376	I don't think there was enough work done on finding alternative funding sources and validating that we had selected a cost effective solution. I would propose an independent body or subcommittee that looks at purely financial implications, alternatives and validated the cost effectiveness of the solution proposed	7/29/2025 1:21 PM
377	Alternative options	7/29/2025 1:19 PM
378	Just do repairs and upgrades required!!	7/29/2025 1:02 PM
379	Tax implications seemed to have been presented in a biased way	7/29/2025 1:01 PM
380	The ramifications of NOT passing the project and what it would mean for future funding of the project was unclear. Meaning how much would the cost increase for building the new school if we wait versus what happens if we do it now.	7/29/2025 1:00 PM
381	What would happen if the project cost more than the requested amount in this time of uncertainty.	7/29/2025 12:57 PM
382	Alternative options	7/29/2025 12:57 PM
383	Alternative options for the students if the school was not built was not sufficiently investigated and/or communicated. Alternate sources of state funding towards a renovation vs an entire new build was not sufficiently investigated and/or communicated. The future of Finn if it was closed for the new build was also not sufficiently investigated and/or communicated.	7/29/2025 12:56 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

384	We just needed a solid backup plan in the event the new school didn't pass.	7/29/2025 12:52 PM
385	Felt very well informed but also spent time researching and asking questions to members of the NBC.	7/29/2025 12:47 PM
386	environmental studies and alternative options	7/29/2025 12:46 PM
387	general school capacity, operational savings, specifics of the plan for preschool, plan for Finn	7/29/2025 12:36 PM
388	I cannot accurately answer question 4. I understood the information, I feel it was skewed and not accurately depicted. So I understand the numbers, I don't believe they are accurate. I would like to see a clear breakdown of the cost, total costs, tax impact without any "superficial" savings such as grants not yet received, not replacing employees, etc.	7/29/2025 12:29 PM
389	Did not believe the operational savings.	7/29/2025 12:06 PM
390	Why just repairing neary was dismissed so quickly.	7/29/2025 10:58 AM
391	It was a lot of info and a lot of opinions. Trying to distill to the relevant points was challenging.	7/29/2025 9:59 AM

Q6 Thinking back to the time of the Special Town Meeting and Town Election in May 2025, which of the following best describes your personal stance on the original Neary School Building Project? (Select one closest option.)

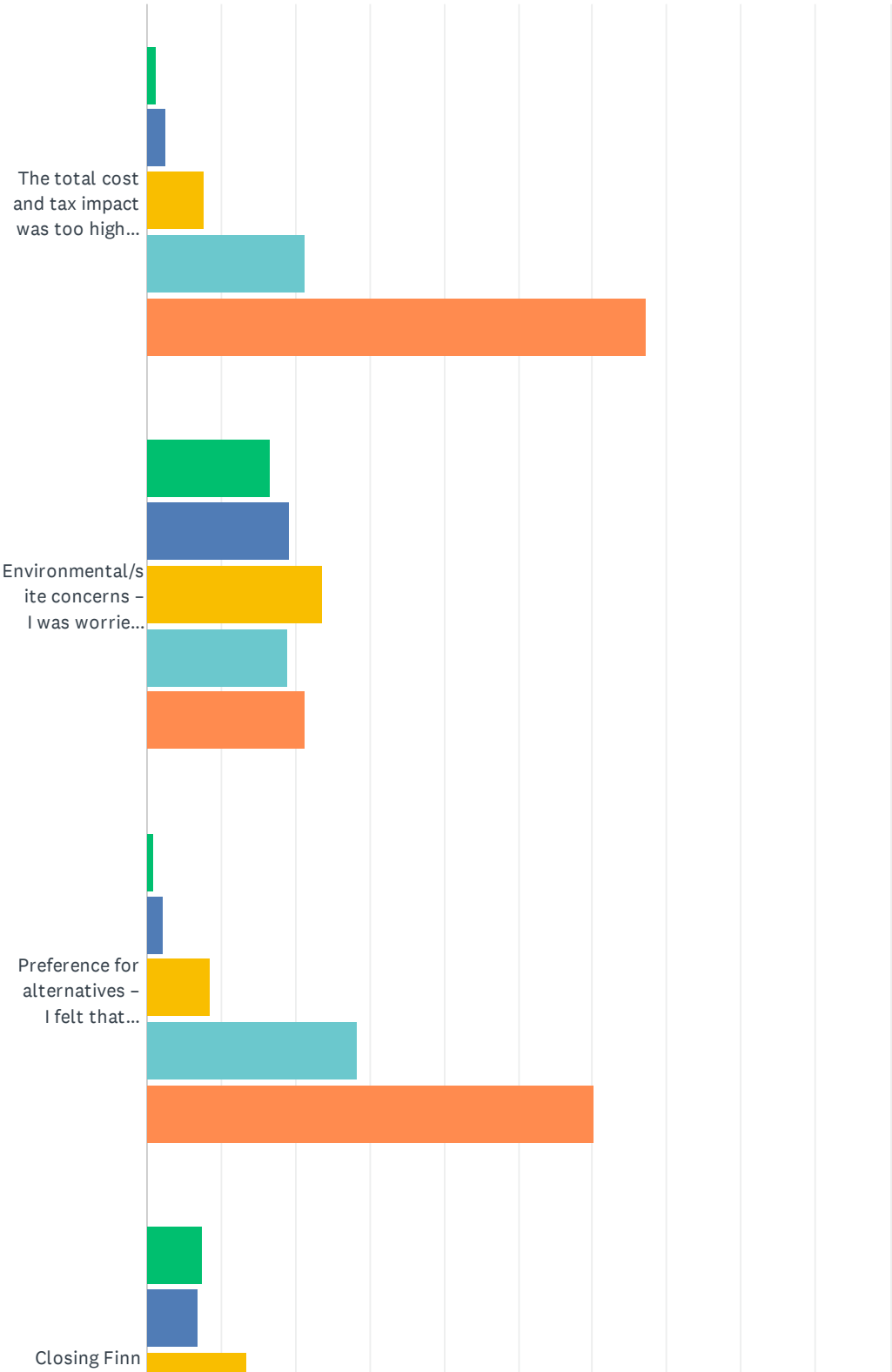
Answered: 776 Skipped: 13



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Supported – I strongly favored the project and (if eligible) voted Yes for it.	28.87%	224
Somewhat Supported – I leaned in favor of the project (voted yes or would have likely supported it).	14.18%	110
Neutral or Undecided – I had no strong opinion or was torn/unsure about the project.	11.08%	86
Somewhat Opposed – I had reservations and leaned against the project (voted no or would likely have opposed it).	17.78%	138
Strongly Opposed – I was firmly against the project and (if eligible) voted No.	28.09%	218
TOTAL		776

Q7 You indicated you opposed or voted against the Neary project. To what extent did each of the following factors influence your decision or vote on the Neary capital project?

Answered: 341 Skipped: 448



Neary School Project Feedback



Neary School Project Feedback

	1-NOT AT ALL INFLUENTIAL	2-SLIGHTLY INFLUENTIAL	3-MODERATELY INFLUENTIAL	4-VERY INFLUENTIAL	5-EXTREMELY INFLUENTIAL	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
The total cost and tax impact was too high for taxpayers	1.18% 4	2.65% 9	7.67% 26	21.24% 72	67.26% 228	339	4.51
Environmental/site concerns – I was worried about building on the Neary site (proximity to the old landfill and potential health risks)	16.62% 56	19.29% 65	23.74% 80	18.99% 64	21.36% 72	337	3.09
Preference for alternatives – I felt that renovating or reusing existing schools (e.g. Finn, Woodward) or pursuing a different plan was a better approach and was not fully considered.	0.89% 3	2.08% 7	8.63% 29	28.27% 95	60.12% 202	336	4.45
Closing Finn School – I opposed the aspect of the plan that would close the Finn elementary school, which I view as an important neighborhood school	7.42% 25	6.82% 23	13.35% 45	25.22% 85	47.18% 159	337	3.98
Declining enrollment – I was concerned that student enrollment is dropping, so a new large school seemed unnecessary	10.75% 36	12.84% 43	21.19% 71	29.55% 99	25.67% 86	335	3.47
Insufficient educational justification – I felt the project's educational benefits were not clearly demonstrated or convincing.	6.31% 21	8.41% 28	23.72% 79	34.23% 114	27.33% 91	333	3.68
Information or trust issues – I did not feel adequately informed, or I lacked trust in the information/process	7.55% 25	8.46% 28	21.75% 72	32.63% 108	29.61% 98	331	3.68

Neary School Project Feedback

(I was not confident the project planning was objective or in the town's best interest).

#	PLEASE SPECIFY ANY OTHER MAIN REASON YOU OPPOSED THE PROJECT:	DATE
1	One option was being rushed through	8/18/2025 1:37 PM
2	The process was flawed. By chairing the \$\$ in the state program we excluded other viable, less expensive, options because they meant going outside the scope of the program, requiring us to start over. We should have evaluated ALL option 1st then let the town choose and THEN go for the grants.	8/16/2025 4:51 PM
3	The committee was not objective nor impartial. Neither is the select board. Otherwise, you wouldn't be doing a survey trying to get the vote to happen again when it was so overwhelmingly no.	8/15/2025 10:04 PM
4	Nice to have, but no necessary abs not worth the cost when something less glamorous can be had & serve the same purpose just as well without the astronomical price tag	8/15/2025 5:13 PM
5	our property taxes are already too high and this is an unnecessary expense	8/15/2025 1:19 PM
6	I was fully onboard with the renovation (if the environmental and financial concerns of the community could be addressed sufficiently), but the results of the presidential election changed everything for me. The future is so uncertain and the rises in taxes and inflation, it seemed irresponsible to add that kind of burden to the town.	8/14/2025 9:11 PM
7	I believe that there are alternatives to achieve the objective of educating our k-8 population without that kind of major building project. And I believe that the question needs to be just that - with the resources we have already, can we, or how can we, educate our k-8 students and provide adequate facilities for our teachers and staff. If we do not have enough in the way of space, what would be needed to get there. If we can house the entire k-8 population between Finn, Woodward, Trottier and (2) trailers [which was the temporary plan whilst construction happened] we certainly do not need to be undertaking a building project anywhere near the size and scope of what was put forth.	8/14/2025 8:21 PM
8	As noted above lack of serious consideration of a 5-8 configuration to avoid \$100M project and close a perfectly good school.	8/14/2025 6:22 PM
9	I felt the committee had an agenda and they did all they could to get it. I wish the committee was comprised of people that represented different opinions and demographics. From senior members of the community to new parents, those in expensive homes and those in smaller ones. All views should be represented and get to agreement that works for the community as a whole	8/14/2025 6:22 PM
10	taking on a project of this size would have forced me out of town. I am a third generation townie	8/13/2025 8:52 AM
11	The project was presented as the 'best solution' without a full consideration (apparently, at the least) of alternatives, phased construction or a total plan for all the school buildings and facilities was wrong. How this 'best plan' integrated with all the other needs of the Town was a failure. Advisory was silent on the overall 10-20 year impacts of the school building and the other needs. Total failure of thoughtful strategic planning and communications.	8/12/2025 10:32 AM
12	no clear vision for town's overall design and education systems	8/9/2025 9:36 AM
13	Timing. We are in extremely uncertain economic times. Forcing individuals or towns to make such a momentous decision financially, is irresponsible. It is also foolish to assume that government support of ANY project is guaranteed. DOGE cancellation of infrastructure projects IN PROCESS (e.g. bridges) is an example of huge risk. We have no ability as a town to step in and complete a project of this magnitude if finding support is cancelled mid-project.	8/8/2025 12:52 AM
14	Cost cost cost 🚧	8/7/2025 10:40 AM
15	Increase in taxes. No children in school. Fixed income	8/7/2025 9:46 AM
16	It's not needed. Just fix Neary. It seems some people just want to do a big project at taxpayer	8/7/2025 6:06 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

	expense.	
17	The town has insufficient revenue to take on this project without unreasonable tax increases. We should be looking at encouraging residents to have children rather than making it financially impossible for them to do so	8/6/2025 4:04 PM
18	Tax implications. Until the town starts collecting more taxes from businesses, residents bear most of the burden. Having just funded the high school sports complex, give us a freakin break already!	8/6/2025 3:22 PM
19	Buildings don't teach students or add any value to their education. Stop considering making new ones. Kids need teachers and activities, not smart walls	8/6/2025 2:40 PM
20	Building Neary on wet property	8/6/2025 12:11 PM
21	Neary was being described as a building in the verge of being condemned. Fancy and new doesn't equate to excellent education. The fact they proposed closing Finn- a pretty recently built school seemed crazy. Frivolous. At mere suggestion of combining grades again- people acted as though it was insanity. Local very good districts have such combined grades/schools.	8/5/2025 12:09 PM
22	I disliked that committee members proceeded as if cost was no object... like it was a given that people would vote for it.	8/5/2025 11:59 AM
23	Any educational benefits were represented as if this school would be optimized for today's student. We may see radical changes in the way students are educated over the next decade let alone the life of the project. I feel we are extremely narrow minded about the technological changes we will see and the changes that will be required to educate our children.	8/5/2025 9:32 AM
24	The downstream impacts and costs were not clear to me, related to changing the use of other buildings in town. Therefore, I couldn't support the project with that many unknowns on what I was voting on for the future.	8/5/2025 9:28 AM
25	The schematic designs weren't appropriate for a school (glass windows facing hallways, etc.). No confidence in the designs, estimates, etc.	8/4/2025 10:29 AM
26	The fact that closing Woodward was seriously considered really made me lose confidence in the committee. That's the best school we have and every parent and student loves it there. And it's the nicest. It should never have even been a thought given how many other ways you can get to a similar place. Also the fact that the original budget was reduced so significantly after the committee started to see where the wind was blowing made it pretty clear that they were going to spend on a ton of needless "wishes". I'm for a new school but would rather have a more well balanced committee be part of the planning of it. I guarantee you could shave another \$15m off the last budget with ease and still have a great school. Lastly the condescending tone that a few of the committee members had during the meeting made it pretty obvious that they could care less about other people's opinions.	8/3/2025 6:16 PM
27	It is very expensive	8/3/2025 10:36 AM
28	Already mentioned but I strongly oppose closing Finn school. The school is in good condition and I can't understand why not having a single school on the South side would ever be considered.	8/3/2025 6:05 AM
29	As I understand it , standardized test scores have been decreasing for 1st grade through middle school. Declining academic results, declining enrollment. . . how does warrant a staggering invoice for constructing a new school ??	8/1/2025 10:24 AM
30	concern that we do not invest in maintaining the infrastructure in our town and buildings, we have 3 very suitable schools other than Neary to meet the needs of our student population good buildings that can accomodate our children	8/1/2025 7:17 AM
31	Failure to assess and complete vetting of Northborough decision to remove its students from the PreK program at Finn.	8/1/2025 4:22 AM
32	Total cost	7/31/2025 8:46 PM
33	The need was not compelling. The true costs given the current federal government we have are totally unpredictable	7/31/2025 7:00 PM
34	Obviously an overwhelming part of the population agrees that it is simply not a well thought out plan. That about covers it.	7/31/2025 6:25 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

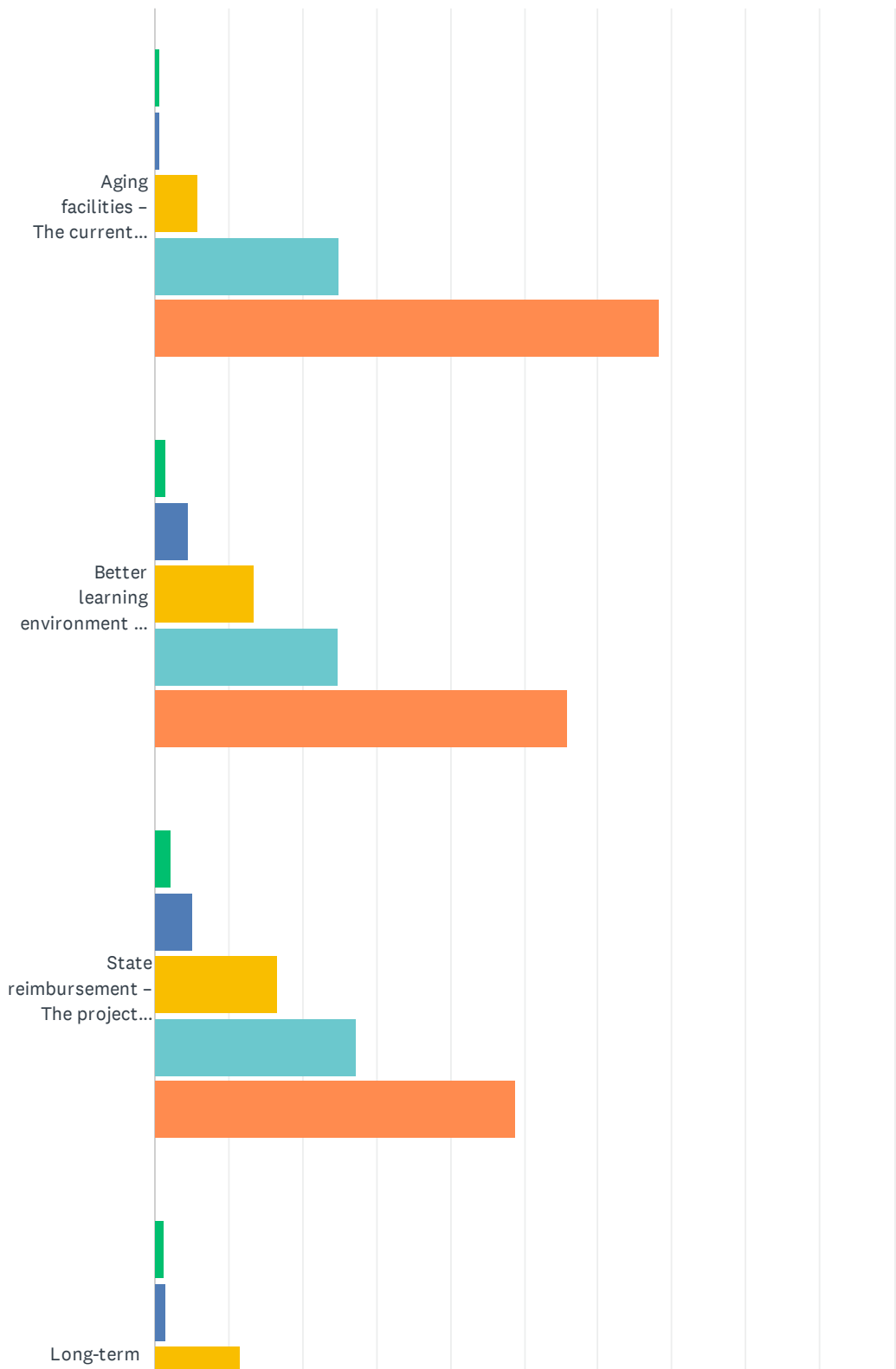
35	The economy is in a free fall with chaos from the federal government. Funding and grants are unreliable. Tarrifs are vastly changing the expense of everything. This is the wrong time to do this and fixing the existing buildings is the right call. It seems clear that someone really wants this and we will continue to vote this down at town meeting and when the prop 2 1/2 override vote comes. Table this project. We don't want it	7/31/2025 5:44 PM
36	Start with 4 schools. Close 2 schools while spending big bucks on a new replacement. End with 3 schools.	7/31/2025 3:20 PM
37	Given the current unstable national environment, it is horrible time to take on a huge construction project	7/31/2025 1:44 PM
38	I felt there was gaslighting by proponents - when questions were raised, they were dismissed and/or not answered sufficiently and I was made to feel that I somehow was deficient or just didn't understand technical topics when in fact, I understood them and was seeking clarification	7/31/2025 1:38 PM
39	Lack of site plans on a screen when being discussed showing entire site, wetlands, landfill, streams and the School building on one slide	7/31/2025 11:54 AM
40	As stated previously, I don't understand why shifting grades in Trottier and Woodward were not explored.	7/31/2025 11:03 AM
41	NBC should have been more transparent. They did a lot of work but that doesn't mean they came up with the best recommendation for the WHOLE town.	7/31/2025 8:19 AM
42	Coming from a town where elementary was K-5 in one school, I liked how my daughter had a new school every 2 years and was only with kids in her direct age group	7/30/2025 9:34 PM
43	The project was over priced. I professionally work in the space of raising money for educational facilities, and the cost of the design build was at the high end of what we fund in private higher educational institutions for much more complex use spaces. It seems that a broad overview was given to the architecture firm, rather than taking a design build approach that would allow better budget alignment. It's important to align design with budget reality.	7/30/2025 9:13 PM
44	Taxes are too high and already are scheduled to increase	7/30/2025 7:50 PM
45	Landfill, environmental hazards, off gassing of artificial turf if that is the plan for playground	7/30/2025 4:23 PM
46	Many people in this town went through this same process with Finn and now we're thinking of shutting it down? That population lost trust in the process immediately.	7/30/2025 3:58 PM
47	education is not defined by the building it takes place in. The residents of this town who support this project seem to have lost sight of that. Our kids are failing miserably in basic math, writing and reading.	7/30/2025 3:40 PM
48	Current schools/remaining schools not being used their their full potential and capacity	7/30/2025 3:19 PM
49	My only child will be affected during construction	7/30/2025 3:06 PM
50	I thought the argument that new project would be a better result for kids with special needs was a red herring and untrue. It was clear to me that my granchildren, diagnosed on the autism scale, would find the design very distracting and noisy. Also, it will take more than a building to fix the problems I've witnessed in the way our school district handles special needs issues and interacts with parents about those issues.	7/30/2025 7:50 AM
51	Project is not required. Close Neary and redistribute students.	7/30/2025 7:40 AM
52	Neary needs to be torn down but there's no reason not to use Finn, Woodward & Trottier.	7/29/2025 11:18 PM
53	The argument that fifth grade could not also be housed at Trottier was weak and showed a complete lack of creative thinking. I work at a school where grades 3 through 9 share an academic building and it is very possible to have different schedules for different grades and a setting that is developmentally appropriate for all. It just requires some flexible thinking and intelligence.	7/29/2025 10:38 PM
54	The proposal was ostentatious and completely unnecessary	7/29/2025 9:36 PM
55	As a former classroom teacher, I did not endorse the rationales offered by the eed representatives for the project. Example: I do not believe mixing 5th and 8th grade students in	7/29/2025 8:36 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

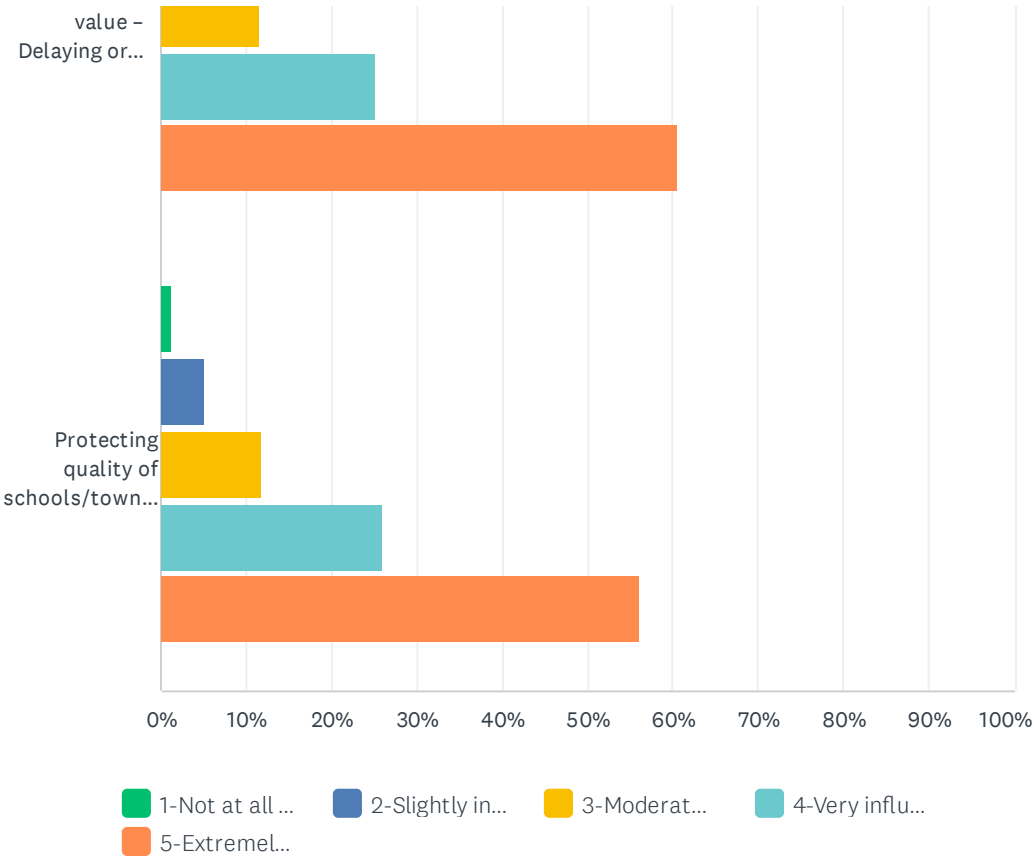
	one building is a terrible idea.	
56	this town needs to control its spending cut costs in all the departments in this town there is not an endless pot of money stop wasting money	7/29/2025 6:12 PM
57	Again complete lack of transparency.	7/29/2025 5:55 PM
58	Too many other areas in town are being neglected	7/29/2025 5:41 PM
59	Taxes	7/29/2025 5:00 PM
60	Biggest concern is children near uncapped landfill - did not think dumping the contaminants into wetlands a good alternative either - Building cost also a factor	7/29/2025 5:00 PM
61	The South side of town would not have a school. Length of time for kids on bus, property values,	7/29/2025 4:51 PM
62	Why would anyone choose to offline a perfectly good school (Finn) to create the space demand to build a new school. Plus having to spend additional \$\$ to alter other schools to fit the needs of little learners who would not have access to Finn. The plan really made no sense and did not take into account the affordability for many residents. Also to spend \$109 million on a questionable site that already has issues with water and potential problems from a previous landfill, is Ludacris.	7/29/2025 4:15 PM
63	I have already paid for Woodward and many construction projects with the regional high school. I don't think the town needs another new school.	7/29/2025 3:58 PM
64	Opposed to closing 2 schools, one of which is perfectly good operable condition. Town currently has the necessary infrastructure to support enrollment is reconfiguration were to be done.	7/29/2025 3:45 PM
65	The timing of the project under the present chaotic Federal government.	7/29/2025 3:14 PM
66	There was no Plan B. When leading a proposed project, there should always be an alternative plan. It couldn't possibly cost the amount proposed to renovate the current school.	7/29/2025 3:06 PM
67	Tax increase.	7/29/2025 2:51 PM
68	Not disclosing other capital projects the town is projecting	7/29/2025 2:34 PM
69	The process (especially the first part) did not feel transparent to me, and made me oppose it despite my strong support for public education.	7/29/2025 2:21 PM
70	Cost and lack of clarity on the options and alternatives	7/29/2025 1:01 PM
71	I felt this was a bad idea from the start and the information was not accurately presented to show the actual impacts to individual taxpayers and the community as a whole. There is so much wrong with this plan and no board or committee was willing to pivot.	7/29/2025 12:31 PM
72	The tax impact was cruel, the options were not properly evaluated, lack of trust in the committee	7/29/2025 12:08 PM

Q8 You indicated you supported or voted for the Neary project. To what extent did each of the following factors influence your decision or vote on the Neary capital project?

Answered: 320 Skipped: 469



Neary School Project Feedback



Neary School Project Feedback

	1-NOT AT ALL INFLUENTIAL	2-SLIGHTLY INFLUENTIAL	3-MODERATELY INFLUENTIAL	4-VERY INFLUENTIAL	5-EXTREMELY INFLUENTIAL	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Aging facilities – The current Neary school building has serious deficiencies (old infrastructure not up to modern codes, safety issues, etc.), and I believed it needed to be replaced.	0.63% 2	0.63% 2	5.66% 18	24.84% 79	68.24% 217	318	4.59
Better learning environment – I felt a new modern school would improve educational opportunities, student learning spaces, and safety/security for children (e.g. accessible, up-to-date facilities).	1.56% 5	4.38% 14	13.44% 43	24.69% 79	55.94% 179	320	4.29
State reimbursement – The project would receive significant state funding (MSBA reimbursement), which would offset costs to the town.	2.19% 7	5.02% 16	16.61% 53	27.27% 87	48.90% 156	319	4.16
Long-term value – Delaying or avoiding a new school would only increase costs later or prolong use of a substandard building; I saw this as a needed investment in the town's future.	1.25% 4	1.57% 5	11.60% 37	25.08% 80	60.50% 193	319	4.42
Protecting quality of schools/town – I was concerned that not investing in the schools would harm our community (e.g. risking declining school quality, loss of good teachers, or lower	1.26% 4	5.03% 16	11.64% 37	26.10% 83	55.97% 178	318	4.31

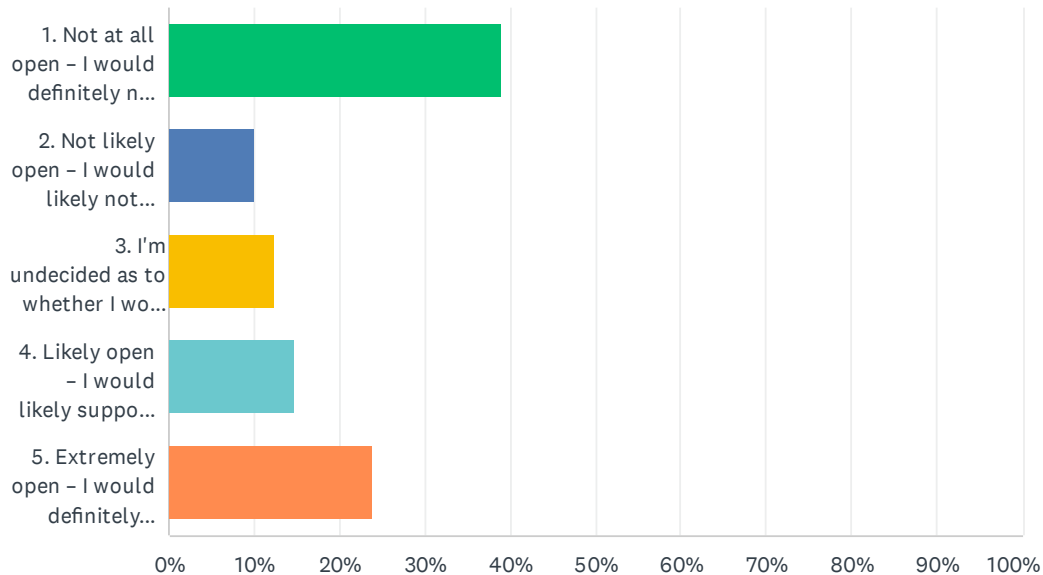
Neary School Project Feedback

property values
over time).

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Educational needs have been altered since the pandemic. We need up to date facilities to create a safe and healthy environment and answer the new needs for the next 50 years. School Buildings have expiration dates, or use before dates. Just like medicines that have expiration dates, taking them may not kill you, but their potency to make you well may be greatly diminished. Likewise expecting a school beyond its expiration, and where there are clearly better ways to educate have served their needs, and no longer useful	8/18/2025 6:36 PM
2	New schools are positive sign that a community values students and education.	8/9/2025 2:21 PM
3	comfort and environment for teachers	8/7/2025 9:54 AM
4	Combining schools would hopefully be more efficient and we could potentially yield overhead savings due to schools being combined.	8/6/2025 1:46 PM
5	Young families have moved and remained in Southborough for generations. To vote against such a proposal would be an unprecedented step backwards for the town and its reputation.	8/6/2025 10:51 AM
6	The alternative of NOT doing it hurts the education of the students.	8/4/2025 9:38 AM
7	I want to note that I reluctantly voted for the project because not voting for it in the long term will be more expensive	7/31/2025 5:26 PM
8	We have modern police and fire, our schools should follow suit.	7/30/2025 7:45 PM
9	I have had two kids go through Neary. The school is in terrible shape and should have been dealt with many years ago.	7/30/2025 3:43 PM
10	Fear of lacking safety features in Neary (i.e., no fire suppression feels like a BIG risk)	7/30/2025 5:54 AM
11	I also valued the input of our educators and school administration, who had a strong voice in shaping a building that would serve our current and future students. Teaching kids today is very different than pre-pandemic, and all our kids deserve a facility that supports their learning to the fullest extent possible. We can surely do better than shoehorning our kids into buildings not designed for them, sacrificing the quality of essential programming like arts, music, and special education by undermining their dedicated space, and/or do the bare minimum renovation of a school to "avoid" triggering ADA compliance (and therefore telling the children who need those accommodations they aren't worth our investment).	7/29/2025 7:54 PM
12	It's extremely important to invest in the town and the schools. That is why most of us moved here.	7/29/2025 5:44 PM
13	I feel strongly about investing in facilities and children.	7/29/2025 4:58 PM

Q9 Now that the original Neary project was not approved, how open are you to reconsidering the same proposal (the original project without changes) if it were brought back in the future? Please rate your openness on a sliding scale from 1 to 5.

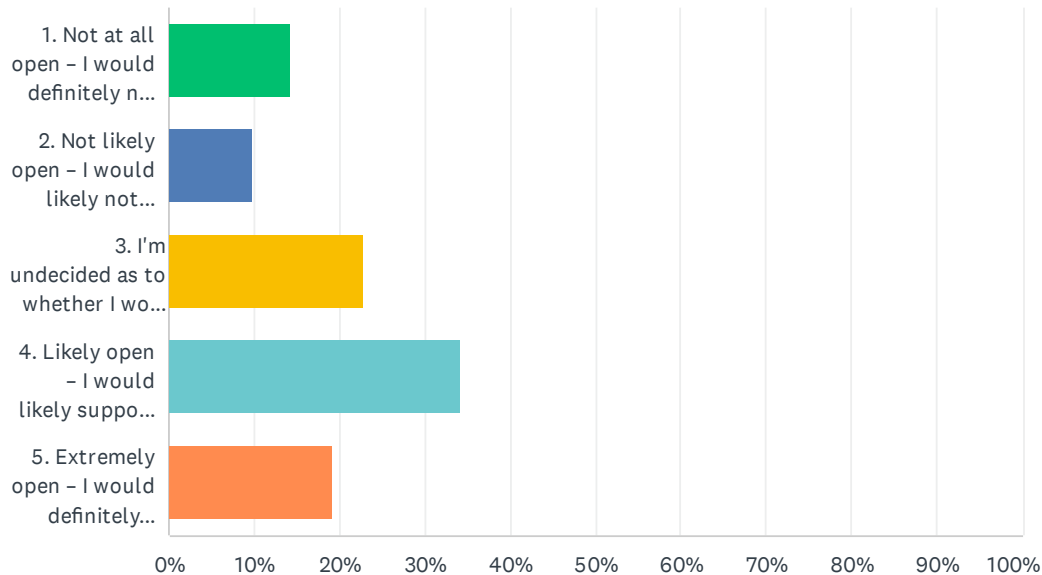
Answered: 732 Skipped: 57



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
1. Not at all open – I would definitely not support the same project if re-voted	39.07%	286
2. Not likely open – I would likely not support the same project if re-voted	9.97%	73
3. I'm undecided as to whether I would support the same project if re-voted	12.43%	91
4. Likely open – I would likely support the same project if re-voted	14.62%	107
5. Extremely open – I would definitely support the same project if re-voted	23.91%	175
TOTAL		732

Q10 How open are you to considering a modified version of the Neary school project – for example, a proposal with some changes or improvements to address community concerns (such as cost reductions, different site approaches, grade configuration changes, etc.)?

Answered: 731 Skipped: 58



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
1. Not at all open – I would definitely not support a modified version of the project	14.23%	104
2. Not likely open – I would likely not support a modified version of the project	9.71%	71
3. I'm undecided as to whether I would support a modified version of the project	22.71%	166
4. Likely open – I would likely support a modified version of the project	34.06%	249
5. Extremely open – I would definitely support a modified version of the project	19.29%	141
TOTAL		731

Q11 If you would consider supporting a modified proposal (or if you have ideas for improvements), what specific changes or improvements to the original plan do you think might make it more acceptable to you or to the town? (For example, you might suggest reducing the project's scale or cost, choosing a different site or configuration, additional environmental safeguards, better communication of benefits, etc., if those would address your concerns.).

Answered: 354 Skipped: 435

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Better communication of benefits and trade offs. I feel that was not digestable communication for certain demographics and they relied on misinformation (e.g. waste waters and toxic residues on Parkerville households)	8/19/2025 8:34 PM
2	Reduced scale/cost but leaving grade configuration the same is important	8/19/2025 3:56 PM
3	Keep Mary Finn school, address any environmental issues of selected site	8/18/2025 9:43 PM
4	Keep Mary Finn, address environmental issues.	8/18/2025 9:41 PM
5	After the failed vote in May, it seems putting the same proposal forward would be a waste. It makes sense to consider a different configuration of grade levels and reducing costs where possible.	8/18/2025 8:19 PM
6	Net zero hardly mentioned	8/18/2025 7:39 PM
7	reducing the project's scales or cost	8/18/2025 1:45 PM
8	Reducing costs, better communication of benefits	8/18/2025 1:43 PM
9	As I understand it, the open design and capacity of the school were concerns. I essentially would address the biggest issues that led to the vote failure. I would better articulate the costs of the do nothing scenario. The big opponents kept saying there was a Plan B yet there wasn't one for either side. It was a dysfunctional process.	8/18/2025 1:17 PM
10	Costs need to be trimmed but fundamentally, any plan should be paired with a concrete proposal to increase commercial tax revenue in Southborough. If I thought the town was taking real steps to bring in new businesses, like dealing with the lack of sewers on Rt. 9 and relaxing zoning restrictions, I'd be more likely to support a new Neary plan. It is crazy that Southborough residents are forced to do virtually all of our shopping in neighboring towns. And the lack of commercial tax revenue is unsustainable because you can't keep soaking the residents without the kind of backlash we saw at the previous town meeting.	8/17/2025 9:43 PM
11	Would like a more comprehensive comparison of current Neary school and its current code setting (eg no fire sprinklers) be new Neary with current code requirements.	8/17/2025 8:34 PM
12	Possilities of razing existing Neary Building, reconfiguring other school buildings, a completely different site for a new, much more modest building	8/17/2025 5:21 PM
13	Reducing the project's scale or cost	8/17/2025 5:18 PM
14	Consider cost and perhaps consider an option /poll along the way as feedback is gathered	8/17/2025 3:14 PM
15	Improve cost of project. More info why the project costs so much. Environmental safety of the building site and safety enter exit of the building. Seemed like too many windows.	8/17/2025 12:42 PM
16	Reduce the cost, explore expanding the other schools 1st. Just because you want a new shiny object., does not make it the best option for the town. Fiscal responsibility should be a highly regarded factor. I am confident we can continue our spectacular schools either way.	8/16/2025 4:54 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

17	yes	8/16/2025 1:29 PM
18	Need a k-5 single school...cannot add younger grades to the middle school	8/16/2025 6:42 AM
19	It is difficult to do, but a better understanding of what would happen to Finn school And the potential costs of altering it for community use	8/15/2025 9:58 PM
20	It needs to be more affordable, and not price people out of town. Need to plan ahead and save for this project.	8/15/2025 8:09 PM
21	Personally, I would like to see how all ideas that would improve learning for all students, regardless of MSBA funding eligible or not, were explored and how does the final decision to be voted/decided on strikes the best balance. It could well be MSBA plan that was voted down is best of everything but no one stood up and clearly stated that. Perhaps, no one could be non MSBA ideas were not explored significantly enough?	8/15/2025 5:47 PM
22	Reduce project's scale and cost	8/15/2025 5:14 PM
23	With declining enrolments ways to repurpose existing schools like Woodward and Trottier should be considered	8/15/2025 4:49 PM
24	Reduce the scale. I understand the environmental aspect better now but would like the safe guards as part of the proposal.	8/15/2025 4:38 PM
25	Reducing cost, some of the proposed additions seemed unnecessary.	8/15/2025 1:59 PM
26	Better communication in regards to costs and how much each tax payer would actually be responsible for	8/15/2025 1:04 PM
27	I didn't like the idea of having 5th graders in the middle school.	8/15/2025 12:48 PM
28	I was in favor of original proposal but to sway people that were against it I think cost needs to be reevaluated or explained better.	8/15/2025 12:00 PM
29	It would have to substantially reduce cost and burden on the at risk tax payers.	8/15/2025 11:39 AM
30	I think people in the town are skeptical of increasing costs to them personally, and so I think a better job at justifying those costs would need to be done.	8/15/2025 11:39 AM
31	I don't know if there has ever been any discussion around increasing tax exemption for seniors or looking at the taxation differently? I know that would be complicated but the tax issue (particularly for seniors) seemed to be the largest issue, while families generally understood the benefits of the new Neary and may be willing to take on more of the cost.	8/15/2025 7:31 AM
32	Explain the problems faced by Neary in a better way and a deeper dive into alternatives	8/15/2025 7:08 AM
33	Is there a way we can do 4 grades at Finn	8/15/2025 7:07 AM
34	Better communication of benefits, and having multiple options instead of an "all or nothing" approach.	8/15/2025 6:57 AM
35	Better communication of benefits to community and detriments if project doesn't go through	8/15/2025 6:47 AM
36	All examples listed above	8/15/2025 5:21 AM
37	Cost is always a factor but especially more so given the current unpredictability of our economy	8/15/2025 12:45 AM
38	Reduce the cost of the project	8/14/2025 11:03 PM
39	Cost reduction. complete transparency of all options. better/more clear and concise communication with town members.	8/14/2025 9:55 PM
40	Not closing one of the other the schools	8/14/2025 9:34 PM
41	keeping finn and woodward in the school system, addressing environmental concerns, how we can protect vulnerable members of the community in the likely event of a recession- people may not be able to pay additional taxes.	8/14/2025 9:14 PM
42	Understanding the inputs of the No voters to attempt to come to a mutually beneficial plan	8/14/2025 9:11 PM
43	I think renovating or rebuilding the school would make more sense to me than completely	8/14/2025 9:06 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

rebuilding and blending schools. I like the small school of 2-3 grades and feel that would be sad to lose.

44	I would like to see evidence backing the claims of "learning neighborhoods" being good for a school community.	8/14/2025 9:00 PM
45	Reducing the scale/cost - my sense is that cost is the number one factor for those not in favor, and the only way we'll be able to get a plan across the finish line is if the scale - and thus the cost - of the project is reduced.	8/14/2025 8:16 PM
46	Reducing cost	8/14/2025 7:57 PM
47	Smaller scope.	8/14/2025 7:49 PM
48	I don't have a specific suggestion and I happily defer to the people who are much more knowledgeable and have worked tirelessly on this. I wonder if some revision needs to be offered in order for people to feel that they are being given a new option this time.	8/14/2025 7:31 PM
49	Reconfiguration— Finn- kindergarten to 2nd grade, Trottier- 3-6th grade and Woodward - 7th and 8th grades	8/14/2025 7:23 PM
50	Create a 7/8 grade at algonquin and split the cost with Northborough.	8/14/2025 6:45 PM
51	A school is more than just the infrastructure. Some want bells and whistles the town can't afford with our current plan structure. I would prefer to make practical refurbishments that provide safe spaces and with the savings, maybe increase salaries for teachers, or add other resources the school needs. Fancy state of the art buildings do not make a successful school!	8/14/2025 6:25 PM
52	I think a new location definitely needs to be considered	8/14/2025 6:22 PM
53	Na	8/14/2025 6:22 PM
54	I'd like to see other plans priced out, etc. for comparison. For instance, if Trottier could be reconfigured to house more grades, what would costs & timelines, etc. look like. I supported the proposal based on my trust in the committee, but would have felt more certain with additional comparison points.	8/14/2025 3:43 PM
55	The town is still smarting from the Safety Complex. It is a well off, but small town. We need a bridge strategy here, IMHO. Algonquin and Woodward are in terrific shape, and we are well positioned against the surrounding towns. Not sure we need massive investment in this area.	8/14/2025 3:26 PM
56	Over all we need a new school.its unsafe for everyone and no one should be spending 8 hours a day in unsafe environment.	8/14/2025 2:15 PM
57	The site is the most concerning. The asbestos in the old school and chemical release from underground.	8/14/2025 2:14 PM
58	No	8/14/2025 2:13 PM
59	Choosing a different location site would be one	8/14/2025 2:04 PM
60	I suspect a large portion of "NO" votes will vote "NO" on absolutely any proposal to address this issue. I suspect the persuadable "NO" voters are a mixed bag, but almost certainly did not receive reliable information about the project. There was a LOT of bad faith social media content circulating which incorrectly asserted that the project would bankrupt the town. We need to somehow find a way to cut through that noise and get even more people properly informed.	8/14/2025 2:00 PM
61	Better communication of benefits	8/14/2025 1:59 PM
62	First I want to see exactly what issue is being addressed. That is, the need for a new school building needs to be adequately justified. I want to see citations that shows the current buildings being inadequate and I want to see citations to scientific studies that explain the benefit a proposed new building might have. I want to see that the bidding process and selection of proposal process being transparent. I want detailed tax breakdown for the average resident. Have the town considered the fact that a tax hike would incentivise parents of young kids to move to other towns this negating the need for the tax hike in the first place?	8/14/2025 1:51 PM
63	better communication of benefits	8/14/2025 1:30 PM
64	I voted in favor of it the first time without reservations, I would vote in favor of it again. I would	8/14/2025 1:14 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

vote for a modification if it made sense. Mostly, I just want to see this passed and the project started so that my own kids can actually benefit from it and so that we don't keep senselessly delaying it.

65	Reducing project scale and scope.	8/14/2025 12:58 PM
66	I personally think the project was well planned so I don't think modifications are necessary. But if they had to be, reducing the size and scale would be consideration to take into account.	8/14/2025 12:42 PM
67	Different site, building more suited to future changes in education.	8/14/2025 12:21 PM
68	We would need to look at the cost since most voters expressed that as the biggest concern	8/14/2025 12:20 PM
69	Better communication of benefits and reducing cost to the extent possible.	8/14/2025 12:10 PM
70	Reducing the projects scale and reducing its cost	8/14/2025 12:09 PM
71	Reducing the projects cost and scale	8/14/2025 12:06 PM
72	Site, grade configurations, data on student needs (like we have X students that need pullout services, we have X events that need this type of equipment, the # of students that participate in X, we could alternatively cover X need with X), the newest theory on education says that we need X because our children/society have these new needs.	8/13/2025 8:45 AM
73	I would prefer that we create neighborhood schools with 1-5 in each building. Less transitions.	8/12/2025 11:34 AM
74	Better communication of benefits, different configuration	8/12/2025 10:47 AM
75	would possibly consider replacing or renovating a modest two grade school at Neary OR moving fifth grade to Trottier and fourth to Woodward	8/12/2025 7:01 AM
76	Look at other site options, consider costs and taxes, consider food prep for these kids getting food from Trottier and the water issues are my biggest concerns for the students today!	8/12/2025 6:17 AM
77	The town should not be buying what it cannot afford. The tax burden is key. The town should not be buying a Cadillac with all its fancy bells and whistles, all optioned out, when a Chevrolet would be more than adequate to get the job of education done.	8/11/2025 1:59 PM
78	It seemed cost was a big factor to many folks, especially the senior population. Addressing cost is important. For those concerned about the site itself, it should be addressed that if it's not suitable for a school, the town should not be able to use the property in any way.	8/11/2025 10:14 AM
79	no opinion	8/11/2025 9:58 AM
80	Hold off on the increased cost of tech/tech supplies. No screens on the hallways. Focus more on adequate storage/safe spaces for winter gear to keep hallways free of clutter and wet floors. Focus on the construction of clean and simple classrooms with limited screens. Try to coordinate the cost of lab equipment as donations from SOS fundraising in lieu of extravagant late night dances. Create a proper lounge/cafe area for teachers. Try to build the building around an enclosed courtyard area for outdoor enrichment and restorative "play". Use SOS and local business resources to "gift" unnecessary items. Clean and Safe school first.	8/11/2025 9:25 AM
81	I would only support modified projects that resulted in the best, most safe learning environment for our students and educators. I am not interested in anything that sacrifices the educational opportunities in this town or is simply a "quick fix"	8/11/2025 9:05 AM
82	Why do you folks not do annual maintenance every year and updating every 5 years. Instead of doing nothing and then realizing you need to update 20 years later.	8/10/2025 4:53 PM
83	Cost, environmental and better comm	8/10/2025 2:23 PM
84	I would be grateful for your feedback. Could the current	8/9/2025 3:26 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

Southborough golf course be moved to the Neary site and a school be moved to the current golf course site? Joe McManus ... McManus.Joe@gmail.com

85	Consider combining grades with other existing schools.	Keep Finn School.	8/9/2025 2:52 PM
86	changes.	I prefer the original plan with perhaps some small	8/9/2025 2:26 PM
87	by town officials. No reactionary comments by libertarian groups that want no spending for any town projects.	Better communication	8/9/2025 1:35 PM
88	Same cost with two-tier property tax to protect lower income earners over 65 from onerous tax increases, allocate more to billionaires who could pay for entire project and not even feel impact on personal finances		8/9/2025 8:06 AM
89	The sense I got from non supporters was that the scale and rising taxes were a primary concern.		8/9/2025 6:01 AM
90	In general I feel like the town has a lot of school buildings. Combining two buildings to reduce infrastructure and school overhead I think would be beneficial for a long term strategy.		8/8/2025 9:09 PM
91	My concern always centers on how Finn and Woodward are most efficiently used, and how to ensure that kids on all sides of town are educated together.		8/8/2025 3:46 PM
92	I have sent this proposal to the planning committee but I believe restructuring the schools would be the best idea. For example have Finn become a k-2 school building, and Woodward becomes 3-5. The preschool and central office can relocate to either a renovated Neary building, or tear Neary down and rebuild a much smaller building for central office and the preschool.		8/8/2025 12:00 PM
93	Continue to use Mary Finn!		8/8/2025 11:58 AM
94	Fewer grades at the Neary site.		8/7/2025 3:03 PM
95	configuration. Reducing scale of the project	Rethink grade	8/7/2025 1:51 PM
96	Much lower cost to create more moderate tax implications for local homeowners		8/7/2025 12:11 PM
97	I refuse to support anything that prioritizes being as cheap as possible to the detriment of the children and the facilities. I am, however willing to listen to ideas to better locations, cost effective alternatives etc. Any proposal put forth where the primary goal is to make sure nothing changes in southborough and to be a cheap as humanly possible will not be considered. Also any proposal geared at delaying the process will not be considered, anyone who has spent time in or at that school knows its borderline criminal that we have kids going there today.		8/7/2025 12:07 PM
98	Most of the alternatives seem short-sighted to me - throwing more money at short-term fixes. But something has to be done.		8/7/2025 9:56 AM
99	A plan that reduces spending (more focused) and has Capex stages - instead of committing too much all at once.		8/7/2025 8:11 AM
100	Confirmation land is safe to build on. Would also like to know what other options are available with less cost implications		8/6/2025 8:00 PM
101	Trying to reconfigure the schools does not make sense to me. The current configuration has worked well overall.		8/6/2025 7:13 PM
102	Larger picture must be included. What will happen to the rest of the town with the secondary benefits		8/6/2025 3:56 PM
103	Not sure		8/6/2025 2:31 PM
104	Fully utilizing Trottier School, e.g., add 5th grade		8/6/2025 2:25 PM
105	Confirm the need		8/6/2025 2:15 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

106	Site Considerations. We need to round up the school age families better. Get them involved. This project is a defining moment for the town. We need to make sure with think big picture. What haven't we considered?	8/6/2025 1:48 PM
107	Fuller examination of other options and reduction in costs	8/6/2025 1:01 PM
108	Different location, reduced cost, keep existing schools open	8/6/2025 12:13 PM
109	Better explanation of alternative options and costs to highlight what the most practical choice(s) should be. Including options with higher costs to reflect the practical nature of the May 2025 proposal.	8/6/2025 10:52 AM
110	Reviewing the needs of the entire school system rather than the specific school and grades	8/6/2025 10:09 AM
111	Reducing projects scale and cost and choosing a different site or configuration	8/6/2025 9:58 AM
112	reducing cost; possibly using Finn site;	8/6/2025 9:42 AM
113	different site or configuration of grades - particularly one that makes better use of Finn & Woodward Schools if possible, reduced cost	8/5/2025 11:14 PM
114	reducing the project's scale and cost	8/5/2025 9:06 PM
115	Need to vote remotely	8/5/2025 7:15 PM
116	Better communication of benefits and why other options are not viable	8/5/2025 6:59 PM
117	Better communication (closer to vote) of all options; objective matrix one pager	8/5/2025 5:47 PM
118	More options with well-thought-out pros/cons	8/5/2025 4:21 PM
119	Reducing the scale and cost of the project	8/5/2025 2:46 PM
120	While I personally had no initial concerns with the proposal, I understand that many residents raised questions during the town meeting and in various social media discussions—some of which were based on misinformation. To build broader support and trust, I would encourage the new building committee to present all options, including those previously rejected, along with a clear explanation of why they were not pursued. Transparency in this process is key. A full breakdown of costs for each proposal, even those not selected, would also help residents better understand the financial landscape. In particular, the committee should clearly outline the tax implications both with and without the new school, so residents can see the actual projected impact, which is likely much smaller than many assume. While the children are currently receiving a strong education, it's also important to listen to those working in the building every day. A survey of current educators in that facility should be shared to provide firsthand insight into the limitations and challenges of the current environment. While a new building may not directly change the curriculum or quality of instruction, research and real-world examples from other towns have shown that modern educational spaces can positively impact student learning, engagement, and overall well-being. While not part of the Neary project specifically, I would also suggest addressing the broader vision for Southborough's growth, particularly the town's interest in attracting more commercial development to offset residential taxes. It's important to clarify that while this is a goal, it falls outside the scope of the building committee's responsibilities, to avoid false expectations. As for a modified proposal, I would be open to supporting it if it included: Improved communication strategies to explain the project's long-term benefits to the town Environmental considerations integrated into the design and site planning A detailed look at alternative phasing or cost-saving measures that could still meet educational needs Ultimately, I believe the project could gain broader support if the town feels genuinely informed and heard throughout the process.	8/5/2025 2:15 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

121	multiple options fully vetted	better communication surrounding	8/5/2025 2:04 PM
122	of education and what the infrastructure provides that motivates teachers and students to go the extra mile	Emphasize on the purpose	8/5/2025 12:17 PM
123	Use the schools we have without Neary		8/5/2025 12:14 PM
124	to be reduced. I think looking at different grade configurations within existing buildings is important.	The cost needs	8/5/2025 12:01 PM
125	Have a better vision for Finn.		8/5/2025 11:53 AM
126	site, better communication	Choosing a different	8/5/2025 11:52 AM
127	No changes to the original plan. Would NOT support modifications that would require fifth grade to be at Trottier with 6-8		8/5/2025 11:23 AM
128	Less impact to taxes will improve the likelihood that the project is approved. I think the main opposition was due to a project increase of taxes by \$1,000/year per household. I was okay with this, but I think most "no" voters were not. \$500/year would probably be able to pass.		8/5/2025 11:07 AM
129	Lower cost		8/5/2025 11:02 AM
130	Better communication to all		8/5/2025 10:33 AM
131	Lower scale and cost		8/5/2025 10:31 AM
132	It seemed that cost was the biggest factor for thos who didn't vote so I'd suggest starting there		8/5/2025 10:21 AM
133	The cost makes no sense when it isn't educationally necessary to close finn		8/5/2025 10:21 AM
134	comparison to other options; it sounded like the Finn expansion was not feasible (do to the requirement to rezone, but future renovations were still required anyway) the explanation for that not being an option were due to involvement outside of the town for approval; while this is more difficult it wasn't clear that we explored that path		8/5/2025 9:59 AM
135	Better communication of benefits, detailed cost breakdown with tiss to the benefits		8/5/2025 9:58 AM
136	Reducing the cost...I found that my older neighbors just voted against it because of the impact to their taxes.		8/5/2025 9:48 AM
137	I liked the original proposal.		8/5/2025 9:46 AM
138	Better communication of configuration options (not clear if we could use existing buildings or not); better communication of risk of Neary with 3rd party evidence, better communication of grade configuration preference from 3rd party evidence. Detailed plan for how other school buildings will be updated / repurposed. We want to have an idea of figure spend and plan to make all buildings meet a higher standard for our kids. Explain our taxes are still lower than neighboring towns		8/5/2025 9:45 AM
139	Reducing costs. Having well thought out plan for Finn site if school is closed		8/5/2025 9:42 AM
140	JUST replacing Neary. Not closing, combining schools and also building a new school. I don't want vacant or mostly vacant properties. Also would consider reconfiguring grade levels within existing buildings and not building a new school but renovating what we already have		8/5/2025 9:33 AM
141	Reducing the cost is a big focus for me. Also improving communication and clearly explaining why other plans were		8/5/2025 9:30 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

decided against. Explaining the paths not taken is just as important as explaining why a particular plan was chosen.

142	I may support a 2 grade school option. However, I would like to see it compared to real assessments of other options such as adding on to Finn, adding a 5th grade to Trottier, etc.	8/5/2025 9:29 AM
143	I was open to the original plan and am not against a modified approach.	8/5/2025 9:25 AM
144	Reduce capital; Don't want to be burdened by a huge bill despite paying large taxes already for a small town	8/5/2025 9:25 AM
145	Better communication of benefits	8/5/2025 9:24 AM
146	I think the budget for the rebuild was astronomical and most residents could not see past the tax implications involved in such a project. I think residents are rightfully concerned we need other small businesses in the town to help offset the tax burden on residents if we are to support such a monumental financial project.	8/5/2025 9:22 AM
147	Better communication of benefits	8/5/2025 9:22 AM
148	I think switching to a project that replaces the current two grade model might be more palatable to those who voted against the initial proposal. I'm disappointed at the outcome of the vote because the original plan seemed like a better, more cost effective long term plan to consolidate the schools. I have serious concerns about the continued use of the current Neary because my high school was built in the same decade as Neary and the structural issues there caused health and safety problems for students. Even though it was built a few years after Neary, it was torn down and replaced a few years ago. Because of these concerns, I would be in support of pretty much any project that replaces the current school. I think switching to a 2 grade school would seem responsive to a lot of the concerns raised by those who voted against the original proposal. I don't necessarily think additional environmental safeguards would make a difference because the work on that front seemed very thorough, and I suspect many who voted environmental concerns didn't want to admit they just don't want their taxes to increase.	8/5/2025 9:20 AM
149	Better communication, lower costs	8/5/2025 9:17 AM
150	could you add more space to finn and redo the septic.	8/5/2025 9:16 AM
151	I am open to suggests but do not have specific examples	8/5/2025 9:13 AM
152	Clearly adding a new building on that unchanged old site will not pass. Perhaps the site needs to change more or selecting a different site to build a new school. Overall costs and long term costs (taxes, etc) need to be clearly explained and listed. Lastly Kathleen Valenti cannot be the principal and should be removed from the school and project.	8/5/2025 9:13 AM
153	Reductions to cost would probably make this more favorable. Configuration will have an impact on kids and their school experience so must be considered as a priority. Personally we like having multiple schools in southborough, and changing. This offers a lot of benefits to kids, less overwhelming. But this might also add to cost.	8/5/2025 9:10 AM
154	I love the idea of a new Neary. I'm upset that the town did not take proper care of the current building though. I need to trust that the money will be invest will be valued and the new school will be properly maintained. Also, a 4 grade school does not make the best sense. How would the additional traffic be handled in the Neary neighborhoods where we have no sidewalks and many walkers to the schools (my children included)? Closing the only school on the other side of route 9 will always alienate that side of town. I think a 2 grade new Neary that can show a responsible plan for maintenance would have more support. When I walk by Trottier now, many of the bushes on the property are brown and dead. How does that inspire us to believe the town will take care of the new building?	8/4/2025 10:10 PM
155	Using the buildings and resources we currently have to their	8/4/2025 9:22 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

fullest extent before considering a new build.

156	Reduction of scale, better communication, keep it as a 2 year school	8/4/2025 9:12 PM
157	I'm content with how it was done. Unfortunately, I am not your target "sway" audience. I am a school administrator and moved to this town because of the public schools.	8/4/2025 8:18 PM
158	make sure the project served the town for a long time	8/4/2025 11:05 AM
159	Less \$\$, focus on what will improve education directly	8/4/2025 10:59 AM
160	Keep Finn - we need a school on the South side of Town.	8/4/2025 10:30 AM
161	I think it is important to clearly show the pros and cons of the original and the modified proposal	8/4/2025 9:39 AM
162	Reducing cost	8/4/2025 8:31 AM
163	Reduce cost, keep Woodward and use it for more grades. Change Neary for town purposes instead; this probably avoids digging and old landfill concerns.	8/3/2025 7:28 PM
164	Cut out more unnecessary amenities. The amazing teachers we have will thrive in just a new and safe building. Anything will be better than what they have now at Neary.	8/3/2025 6:18 PM
165	Reducing the scale of the project	8/3/2025 4:43 PM
166	Different configuration of grades , reducing project cost	8/3/2025 2:37 PM
167	Would need cost reduction and town plan for increasing revenue via non tax payer methods. Unless the town starts to invest in a more fiscally sound budget that has revenue generation it will not be able to maintain necessary infrastructure. This is just one example but in the future other big ticket items will arise and the town must get to a more fiscally sound budget for long term stability	8/3/2025 1:22 PM
168	Less money-why does it have to be 106 million dollars? One of the previous questions mentioned closing Finn school. I didn't even know that ws recommended. Use resources we already have.	8/3/2025 10:39 AM
169	keeping Finn, closing Woodward	8/3/2025 9:57 AM
170	Reduce cost and environ impacts	8/3/2025 8:55 AM
171	Build a new Neary school for grades 4-5. Keep Woodward and Finn.	8/3/2025 6:08 AM
172	It was clear most of the voters were not in favor due to the cost. I would suggest bringing back a smaller project, and/or having plans on how the town may offset those costs in the future by tackling other areas such as bringing in more business and having sewer access in Rt. 9. Although I voted yes, my spouse would have voted no as it seems most costs keep increasing our tax rates and that is unsustainable.	8/2/2025 11:39 PM
173	Reduce cost, choose a different site, more transparency as to environmental impact, and additional environmental safeguards	8/2/2025 9:56 PM
174	Cost of the project	8/2/2025 4:43 PM
175	I am generally in support of the project, so I would be okay with changes that need to be made to get the "no" contingent on board. BUT I do not want to shoehorn 5th graders into Trottier without thoughtful changes to accommodate them and their teachers.	8/2/2025 2:04 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

176	Explain why we don't take Neary offline instead of Finn.	8/1/2025 9:38 PM
177	The committee needs to do a better job explaining the health risks at Neary. They need to explain the total costs of a big project vs a bunch of small projects with be roughly the same cost.	8/1/2025 3:43 PM
178	The Town of Southborough needs to take a harder line with the Teacher's union, as well as with public School Administrators in negotiating benefits , and step/ lane salaries. Additionally, the extra public costs of students with "special needs" has catapulted into nosebleed cost territory. I am not asking anything from public school administrators, teachers, Selectmen, finance, or Town Manager that has not been confronted by those working in private, non-government sectors for the past 50 years.	8/1/2025 10:37 AM
179	better communication of benefits	8/1/2025 10:00 AM
180	I believe the current spaces need to be fully vetted for possible grade reconfiguration.	8/1/2025 9:15 AM
181	Close Finn and consolidate footprint. Explicitly deal with environmental concerns at Neary. Raise the building up and put parking underneath if needed. Just take the environmental concerns off the table.	8/1/2025 9:15 AM
182	Reduce cost and scale of the project. Address issues for the other grade levels being displaced.	8/1/2025 7:24 AM
183	Reducing cost of project is most important to me. I am open to keeping the grade configuration to 4-5 versus expanding to more grades, too.	7/31/2025 9:52 PM
184	Not sure	7/31/2025 9:24 PM
185	Demolish Neary. Expand Finn to accommodate 2nd grade. If necessary, move pre-k out to a separate small location. After all, it's just day care! Make Woodward 3rd and 4th grade. Integrate 5th grade into Trottier due	7/31/2025 6:32 PM
186	Build a two grade school and keep Finn open	7/31/2025 5:27 PM
187	Maximizing the current infrastructure and building available - maintenance plans and focus on curriculum vs amenities and extras	7/31/2025 4:54 PM
188	Site configuration. I find the "kids can't keep changing physical schools" argument unpersuasive. Need to be more creative and open for how to use the Neary school in flexible way (grade configs) that takes into account declining enrollment. Funding a new school and closing another down while enrollment remains low is a hard sell to me	7/31/2025 3:49 PM
189	The cost was huge. But overall it is better communication of the benefits and removing the things were you have to "sell it". If you have to sell it, then we probably don't need it. Personally, I'd rather see the school built on the ball fields. That was said to be "more expensive" but I don't believe it. I'd like a clearer plan for Finn built in to the deal. I felt like the plan sold for Finn was lies and it would change after the project passed. Overall the proposal should feel like it came from the town and not a secret society who is presenting a project that represents their small sample's opinion on what is best.	7/31/2025 3:37 PM
190	I suggest looking into our current infrastructure as well as different grade-level configurations before building an entirely new school. I am a current educator and do not agree with the district's position that 5th grade can't possibly be in the same school as 6/7/8.	7/31/2025 3:04 PM
191	I would not consider the same site, especially because I believe we have enough schools for the town without Neary.	7/31/2025 2:46 PM
192	open conversation	7/31/2025 1:47 PM
193	better communication of the different options and not	7/31/2025 1:46 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

	having these discussions in the summer when a majority of the residents are disconnected	
194	I cannot say what I would support until I see it and the alternatives. If we were always able to bring other (non-MSBA funded) projects forward, why did we not do this the first time? I have not seen any alternatives since the decision was made to go forward with only one project. Also, it would be nice if I could review and edit these responses!	7/31/2025 1:40 PM
195	Reducing the project's scale cost, choosing a different site/additional environmental safeguards	7/31/2025 1:28 PM
196	Offset costs by selling Finn property for development. Pressure St. Marks to contribute.	7/31/2025 1:16 PM
197	reducing costs, new grade configurations	7/31/2025 12:24 PM
198	Neary School does not need to be as grandiose as the original project	7/31/2025 12:07 PM
199	choosing a different site - configuration knowing the PreK will return to Northborough along with the Superintendent's office?	7/31/2025 11:58 AM
200	Reducing project scale/cost would likely be helpful and most concrete modification. Environmental concerns and communication of benefits were all addressed extensively by the committee, so all that remains to sway 'no' voters seems to be cost reduction where possible. Reworking of the plan to focus on bringing the building up to code rather than being 'state of the art' might help alleviate cost concerns.	7/31/2025 11:52 AM
201	Reduced cost	7/31/2025 11:43 AM
202	Better communication of benefits and why other options aren't best and new neary is best solution. Possible tax break for people living in 55+ community would sway older voters and also encourage residents to move out of larger homes who influenced then no vote	7/31/2025 11:02 AM
203	I'm not sure if I would support a modified new building proposal or a reconfiguration of the grades into the other 3 buildings we have	7/31/2025 11:00 AM
204	It felt like the new Southborough vs. the old. The new are often parents of young children making town meetings impossible to attend. Stop over complicating this. Clearly message the proposal and options, and make the vote not in a town meeting.	7/31/2025 10:51 AM
205	I think the town should reduce the project's scale. I believe that from the beginning, the grade configurations should have stayed the same. A similar size building should replace Neary and continue to house grades 4 and 5.	7/31/2025 10:32 AM
206	reducing cost	7/31/2025 9:40 AM
207	I would support a lower cost decreasing some of the building benefits	7/31/2025 9:13 AM
208	Reduce cast on tax payers and choosing and different site	7/31/2025 8:36 AM
209	Reducing the project's scale, better communication, keep the PAID professionals out of the process (they have already opined), conduct meetings that do NOT intimidate commenters.	7/31/2025 8:23 AM
210	Explaining better the impact on our taxes.	7/31/2025 8:20 AM
211	The scale seemed more excessive than needed. I kept hearing about an aerial bridge/walkway and I didn't ever understand why that was needed.	7/31/2025 7:53 AM
212	It's obvious the problem is the cost, which was driven up by unnecessary boutique features the committee opted into in the absence of voter support	7/31/2025 7:51 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

213	drastic reduction in cost, better utilize current schools, not building on toxic site	7/31/2025 7:25 AM
214	All of the above	7/31/2025 7:08 AM
215	Keep Neary as grades 4 and 5.	7/31/2025 5:49 AM
216	Reduced cost	7/31/2025 5:37 AM
217	Environmental issues and cost reduction	7/31/2025 5:08 AM
218	reduce scale, confirm environmental safety, gala/raise funds?	7/31/2025 4:52 AM
219	Reducing the cost and additional safeguards	7/30/2025 10:11 PM
220	Reducing total cost. Laying out a better 30 year town tax plan. Addressing how changing demographics and housing turnover (seniors downsizing or dying), apartment complexes, 40B developments, etc could affect enrollment projections. Consideration of a "band aid" solution today and a more thorough investment in 15 or so years with hopefully a more diverse tax base.	7/30/2025 9:52 PM
221	The cost would obviously have to be less and Finn would have to remain a school. I would likely have supported a smaller new Neary for 2 grades (same as now) or renovating the current school	7/30/2025 9:37 PM
222	There needs to be professionals supporting the design build process that understand how to navigate between the design team and the content experts in order to bring the cost down. The project is overpriced for scope. I would be open to reconsidering if it was professionally managed.	7/30/2025 9:15 PM
223	Explain again the benefits and increasing costs as the building has to be fixed no matter what.	7/30/2025 9:11 PM
224	Get real contractor budgets or proposal based off of schematic level design documents, utilize the current state of the market to leverage competitive numbers rather than a 3rd party guesstimate based off historical or sq foot pricing.	7/30/2025 8:31 PM
225	Consider alternatives or less cost.	7/30/2025 8:14 PM
226	I honestly don't know because I'm not an expert in this. It seems like the overall cost was a significant issue for people, so perhaps trying to reduce cost while not sacrificing the biggest needs within the school. It also seemed like some people thought the site was an issue, but I thought the expert on the committee did a great job explaining why that's a non-issue, and I don't think a lot of those opposed would really care where the school is - I think that was just an easy way to say they oppose it even though it's really all about money.	7/30/2025 8:13 PM
227	I supported the original proposal and don't want to indicate that I'd support something else without knowing details of that. I would support an option that retains small class sizes, k-5 in elementary setting and is a safe place for students and staff to learn and work.	7/30/2025 8:10 PM
228	Better communication of cost estimate of by how exorbitant it would be to renovate from ground up instead of building new. Highlight the significant drawbacks of having 5-th graders in the same building with 8-th graders: education experts strongly advise against that.	7/30/2025 7:49 PM
229	Make it more affordable. The tax burden on current residents is already extremely high.	7/30/2025 7:46 PM
230	Reduce costs, not use trailers as temporary classrooms during construction	7/30/2025 7:39 PM
231	Try	7/30/2025 7:19 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

232	Lower cost	7/30/2025 6:50 PM
233	Reducing the project's cost; different configuration; better communication of benefits	7/30/2025 6:45 PM
234	Reducing project cost, showing greater reconfiguration and if Finn became something other than a school have that identified now. Have schooling in both side of town reflects greater equitability as there is definitely a wealth divide between Southborough center and the Cordaville side of town	7/30/2025 6:41 PM
235	Use existing schools with a plan to satisfy most of the Southborough population.	7/30/2025 6:13 PM
236	Combining with a plan for Finn. People were upset about closing that school.	7/30/2025 5:57 PM
237	Anything that would get it to pass and improve the aging facilities	7/30/2025 5:22 PM
238	Grade reconfiguration: K-2, 3-6, 7-8. Also, do not build in an environmentally vulnerable area such as Neary and the old landfill	7/30/2025 5:21 PM
239	Reduce cost	7/30/2025 5:07 PM
240	choosing a different site or configuration	7/30/2025 5:06 PM
241	Review of how the plan can be altered to lower cost? I think many voted no because of the sticker shock.	7/30/2025 5:05 PM
242	Reducing scale and cost	7/30/2025 4:57 PM
243	Reduce costs	7/30/2025 4:56 PM
244	How it will be funded and the impact to tax payers.	7/30/2025 4:47 PM
245	I think the modifications would have to address the biggest concerns from those who voted against it to get it to pass.	7/30/2025 4:41 PM
246	I am in/was in favor of the new building. But I am also aware that we will not get a vote through that is not significantly different- different cost, different engagement approach, and different opportunities for assessing options. The reality is, our most active town majority are not interested or invested in the schools- they don't have kids and many didn't even send their kids to the schools when they were younger. It's a demographic we need to engage differently or we'll face the same issues we faced in the last vote. As an informed person in the K-12 space, I believe there are lower cost and quality options, and if we can do a better job assessing all town investments and being clear about trade-offs, I believe we can make a modified plan work.	7/30/2025 4:24 PM
247	Two schools with equal amount of grades. It would be easiest for staff, buses, and transitions.	7/30/2025 4:21 PM
248	I would probably not support a modified version.	7/30/2025 4:21 PM
249	Reduce cost, keep neary where it is in town	7/30/2025 4:14 PM
250	Not sure why we're absorbing Finn as a school completely? Seems wasteful. Environmental hazards should always be taken seriously. I agree school should be updated, but in a more responsible way.	7/30/2025 4:07 PM
251	Try to get more outside funding so that the older tax payers have to pay less than what the amount was (\$50 a month, previously)	7/30/2025 4:03 PM
252	No concerns, I trust that the appointed committee did a good job and had a good proposal. We don't have time to wait for sewer on Rte 9 to be approved and implemented and businesses to	7/30/2025 3:57 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

	move in to pay for the new school	
253	Do a better job making it clear to all the uninformed no voters that this is the only viable option and they can't just ignore it.	7/30/2025 3:56 PM
254	Cost implications, grade configurations and utilization of existing resources	7/30/2025 3:51 PM
255	Reduced cost	7/30/2025 3:51 PM
256	trottier grades 3-6, woodward grades 7 and 8. No new school	7/30/2025 3:47 PM
257	Replacing Neary with a two school building and keeping Finn	7/30/2025 3:44 PM
258	I am in favor of the original proposal. It seems like cost was an issue for people that voted for it.	7/30/2025 3:44 PM
259	Project plan, reduced increase in taxes	7/30/2025 3:43 PM
260	I'd like more businesses in town to help absorb the tax hit. The citizens who led the charge against Neary are the same group not supporting new business in town. Can't have it both ways! Our children and schools are an investment must!	7/30/2025 3:39 PM
261	Reduced cost/scale , clarity on benefits and overall costs to town outside of just for the school specifically,	7/30/2025 3:38 PM
262	Use of Finn- a perfectly good building. Better use of the 3 good buildings we have. Woodward, trottier and Finn	7/30/2025 3:33 PM
263	I am in favor of a project that would be less of a cost to the town tax payers. However, I am strongly and fully against any proposal to bring 5th grade up to the middle school, as some have suggested.	7/30/2025 3:31 PM
264	The town should work to leverage existing resources and minimize impact on taxpayers.	7/30/2025 3:29 PM
265	Not destroying the building and just fixing what needs to be fixed	7/30/2025 3:28 PM
266	Reducing costs, if possible without sacrificing the true needs of the district.	7/30/2025 3:24 PM
267	1. Avoid 4 grade new school. 2. Please don't shut down Finn. 3. Seriously consider renovations to Neary.	7/30/2025 3:22 PM
268	Whatever it takes to get the proposal to pass. This is too important for our children.	7/30/2025 3:21 PM
269	i'm not a civic or educational planner, but it strikes me that consolidating the schools in Sboro could/should be a priority. there might be a case that neary taking 2-5 doesn't go far enough and that finn could be considered to be rolled in as well	7/30/2025 3:20 PM
270	It would be acceptable to me to keep Neary as 2 grades and remodel it and keep Finn as a school. I fear the town will not consider this because they want Finn for their own purposes but I live on the south side of town and Finn has been a wonderful school for my three children and it was built with taxpayer money for a school and I think that's how it should continue to be used	7/30/2025 3:20 PM
271	More quantifiable data on why a particular proposal is chosen over others; some objective criteria for making the decision	7/30/2025 3:17 PM
272	A reduction of project's cost seems to be the biggest concern of some people. Some mention the environmental safeguards, but I feel they were only using that to bolster their unhappiness about spending money on a new school.	7/30/2025 3:17 PM
273	No concerns with the new building pla	7/30/2025 3:16 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

274	I would support a reconfiguration provided it deeply considered developmental needs and modern teaching methods. I am strongly opposed to grouping grades 5-8 together.	7/30/2025 3:14 PM
275	Lower cost to individual taxpayers, additional environmental safeguards, open to a different site as well	7/30/2025 3:13 PM
276	Reducing the project's scale or cost- remodelling the current building	7/30/2025 3:13 PM
277	Potentially reducing scale and or tax implications on residents.	7/30/2025 3:09 PM
278	Less \$	7/30/2025 3:08 PM
279	I didn't have concerns but believe the cost to voters was the biggest obstacle. That is the issue that must be addressed	7/30/2025 3:07 PM
280	Perhaps a different site might make it more attractive.	7/30/2025 3:07 PM
281	I would be open to any option that focuses on our students and their expereinces.	7/30/2025 3:06 PM
282	better communication of benefits, additional environmental safeguards, choosing a different site or configuration	7/30/2025 3:06 PM
283	Reducing the cost somehow	7/30/2025 2:37 PM
284	No last minute keyboard warriors confusing people about a reasonable option plan b. There was none.	7/30/2025 2:00 PM
285	The project should better identify what will happen to the Finn school and at what cost. The project should also evaluate actually using the Finn school and either conclude that it can be used as a school or provide better justification as to why it should not be used as a school.	7/30/2025 1:38 PM
286	Please present a big-picture view (with associated costs) of what would be happening with any town buildings affected by the plan. Also, comparative costs for each option moving forward.	7/30/2025 12:20 PM
287	Better communication of benefits and why other alternatives are not viable despite online rhetoric	7/30/2025 12:07 PM
288	I liked the plan, the grade configuration and scale of new and updated offerings that this design had. The sight is exactly the same as the current school, which opponents haven't brought up as an issue until the new school proposal. If it isn't good for a new school, how is it good for the existing?? Seems senseless to pour money into any updates on the existing school, which is dilapidated, outdated and small.	7/30/2025 11:21 AM
289	Would love to see a grade configuration of K-3, 4-5 and 6-8.	7/30/2025 10:30 AM
290	If reducing number of transitions is the end goal, I would like to see a grade configuration of K-3, 4-5, 6-8. I think having grades 4-5 separate from lower elementary and middle school is the most ideal.	7/30/2025 9:42 AM
291	Reducing cost	7/30/2025 8:36 AM
292	Pressure the planning board to attract commercial business to reduce the tack burden	7/30/2025 8:31 AM
293	I think if the project was for a 2 year school it would be more popular however the NO's are to strong in this town so nothing will get passed...what is the point trying to build a new school other then just making from renovations and continuing to put band aids on it and kicking the can down the road.	7/30/2025 8:30 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

294	needs. Better communication about site safety	Better communication of	7/30/2025 8:08 AM
295	I was told there was a plan B, certainly some of those proud sign owners have plenty of ideas		7/30/2025 6:58 AM
296	grade school, keeping Finn open.	Reduce the size to a two	7/30/2025 6:23 AM
297	lower costs		7/30/2025 6:11 AM
298	Better communication of the benefits. I think the Plan B folks were more active and organized than the town. The site makes sense though maybe more environmental protections. More data on alternatives- including why they aren't the best option for the town.		7/30/2025 5:56 AM
299	Fighting voter apathy - both sides, especially proponents. Responding to misinformation put forth by opponents.	Better community education.	7/30/2025 3:11 AM
300	Environmental safeguards		7/30/2025 1:56 AM
301	1) The building design was really unappealing with all the open space, 2) The need to go to a 4-grade model should be clearer, 3) alternate options should be explained in more detail.		7/30/2025 1:03 AM
302	if able	Would prefer to keep grades different schools as is	7/29/2025 10:10 PM
303	Building on to another school If possible		7/29/2025 9:58 PM
304	plan for the Finn property or it needs to be a proposal for a 2 year school	There MUST be a very specific	7/29/2025 9:23 PM
305	and possibly a phsed approach - maybe build classroom spaces adjacent to existing neary, while still using it, then in several years do an addition for the additional spaces	reduced scale -	7/29/2025 9:22 PM
306	The financial implications were my biggest concern, yet I also know that aging schools can affect the quality of teachers and education, therefore affecting our town's reputation and therefore real estate value. To me, from what I saw at the town meeting, the greatest concern comes from the cost. Unfortunatley, those with the strongest opinions, who were most scared of the financial impact, they were not part of the process all along, so they did not understand the impact of the other choices. This was their fault, not the fault of the committee, but I think engaging the community to help narrow down the choices, will force people to be invested in the solution and therefore vote for "their idea" when the time comes. I was shocked to see how influential the opposition was at the last minute. I was not expecting that and was also not expecting how influential and vote moving it could be.		7/29/2025 9:22 PM
307	of the new school versus combining 4 grades into the current middle school.	Data regarding the benefits	7/29/2025 8:44 PM
308	efficient scale/cost factors and don't use a questionable site.	Exactly your first two considerations: more	7/29/2025 8:37 PM
309	Better communication		7/29/2025 8:33 PM
310	grade school and using other money to update finn	renovating current school for 2	7/29/2025 8:05 PM
311	I am really not sure. It just does not make sense		7/29/2025 8:03 PM
312	Better communication of benefits		7/29/2025 8:00 PM
313	I believe better communicating the costs of various alternatives would make the proposal more acceptable to the town, and support the current committee's effort to create an apples-to-apples comparison (to the extent possible) of the different options. Doing nothing is not an option, so we need additional information on not only costs but educational benefits to be able to compare the options available to us.		7/29/2025 7:56 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

314	Better communication with multiple options	7/29/2025 7:44 PM
315	Declining enrollment makes a major project untenable	7/29/2025 7:34 PM
316	Before supporting a modified proposal, I would like to have a better understanding of the other options various opponents came up with, and the objections of the residents near Finn School.	7/29/2025 7:32 PM
317	Better communication of benefits	7/29/2025 7:25 PM
318	Want more educator's input. Some ideas like classrooms in the hallway made no sense.	7/29/2025 7:22 PM
319	Reducing cost so perhaps simply making it a straight replacement for a 2 grade Neary	7/29/2025 7:05 PM
320	Size of building needs to be smaller without all the bells and whistles. Should be new and effective but not the "best money can buy"	7/29/2025 6:22 PM
321	Clarity on what will happen at Finn & better answers on contamination at the site.	7/29/2025 6:15 PM
322	I think reducing tax burden will go a long way with the town	7/29/2025 6:06 PM
323	an ACCURATE truthful side by side comparison of pros and cons of various models/grade configurations. accurate numbers, not giving people the best case scenario that is wildly unlikely. real reasons for why an option might not be viable (see ridiculous excuses for not using Finn), not spending a ton of money studying Woodward the one building it has been known we cant change much with or close. the cost was way too high and was going to tax long time residents out of town. the plan was so bad we never even got to discuss the educational qualities which were dubious. who decided windows in an elementary school classroom was a good idea? an open concept hallway is also a horrible idea. the whole layout continues to show how much this district refuses to accomodate special needs kids. the operational savings were also clearly made up.	7/29/2025 6:02 PM
324	good analysis; good plan; needs better communication	7/29/2025 5:50 PM
325	Better communication of benefits and better communication of why the alternates just don't make sense in the long term.	7/29/2025 5:44 PM
326	The cost.	7/29/2025 5:07 PM
327	I refuse to support any proposal who's primary goal is to save as much money as possible. I would be willing to support a proposal that prioritizes what best for the kids, and if that includes cost savings all the better I. If the new committee comes back with a proposal that goes directly against the research done or advice of the experts and tries to pass it off as anything other than being as cheap as possible I will not support.	7/29/2025 5:02 PM
328	Reduction in cost would be a plus	7/29/2025 4:06 PM
329	Lowering the projected cost will likely have the biggest impact for the town to be able to agree to pass.	7/29/2025 4:04 PM
330	Lower cost to taxpayers	7/29/2025 3:42 PM
331	overall cost reduction, tax implications, funding from the state	7/29/2025 3:15 PM
332	Reducing the projects cost, rethinking using glass walls within for safety and security reasons and using more traditional materials with lower cost as glasses very expensive. Also consider moving location of the school since that seem to be a concern for many	7/29/2025 3:11 PM
333	No added tax costs for seniors! We have been paying	7/29/2025 3:10 PM

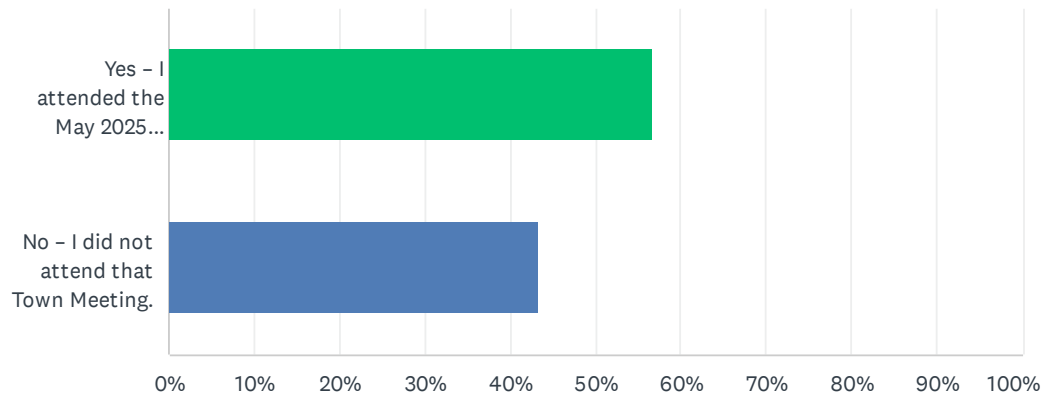
Neary School Project Feedback

school taxes for 42 years and have had no child in school since 1997. We are all on fixed income!

334	Reducing cost, less disruption to other buildings	7/29/2025 3:04 PM
335	Look at additions to other schools. Then close	7/29/2025 2:36 PM
	Neary	
336	Would consider building a new school on smaller scale to house existing grade. Maybe remove administrative offices so we don't need such a big new school	7/29/2025 2:34 PM
337	Better planning for what to do with Finn (eg community center, town offices, etc, and a breakdown of those costs as well)	7/29/2025 2:03 PM
338	A more definitive plan for Finn	7/29/2025 1:48 PM
339	Decreased cost and scale of project	7/29/2025 1:40 PM
340	I support anything that doesn't involve putting 5th grade at Trottier	7/29/2025 1:35 PM
341	Cost reduction	7/29/2025 1:32 PM
342	Reducing cost is most important if this project has a chance to be approved	7/29/2025 1:32 PM
343	The transparency of the project was good- I think the education around other hypotheticals was lacking. A lot of misinformation was presented towards the end and also a lot of fear about the site that was not accurate. People are going to believe what they want but having the key players (the committee) be very clear on addressing that misinformation would be beneficial	7/29/2025 1:30 PM
344	Different site, grade configuration, reducing scale and cost	7/29/2025 1:21 PM
345	Reduce tax implications. Our taxes are too high as is and continue to rise.	7/29/2025 1:15 PM
346	Different site. I have concerns over the landfill on the existing land. We already saw the quagmire that is an ignored problem made worse at Breakneck.	7/29/2025 1:03 PM
347	Use the schools we currently have in town.	7/29/2025 12:58 PM
348	I'm in favor of any option that makes Neary safer for our students and staff. I would want any options to be approved by the school board ahead of time as "Plan B" in my opinion was just an idea that a few citizens had an ran with it without the appropriate research and approvals. Education decisions shouldn't be made by everyday citizens we should lean on the educators and faculty we have in our great community to guide us.	7/29/2025 12:56 PM
349	Additional environmental safeguards or alternative site	7/29/2025 12:47 PM
350	No changes. The proposal was great as is.	7/29/2025 12:39 PM
351	Lower cost, eliminating open concept hallways	7/29/2025 12:38 PM
352	Cost efficiency	7/29/2025 11:59 AM
353	Just getting neary up to code. No need to expand the scope.	7/29/2025 11:00 AM
354	Cost was clearly a factor for concern as well as location for the school. Recommend an updated proposal tackle head on the concerns raised.	7/29/2025 10:00 AM

Q12 Did you attend the Special Town Meeting on May 10, 2025 where the Neary School Building Project was discussed and voted on?

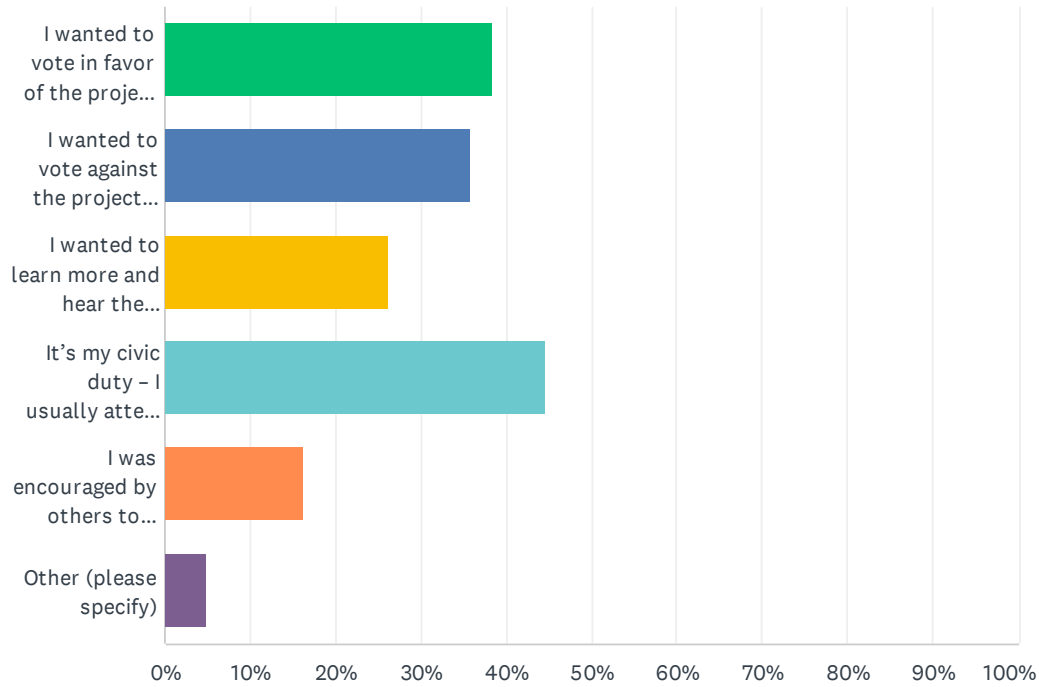
Answered: 725 Skipped: 64



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes – I attended the May 2025 Special Town Meeting.	56.69%	411
No – I did not attend that Town Meeting.	43.31%	314
TOTAL		725

Q13 What were the main reason(s) you decided to attend the Special Town Meeting? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 416 Skipped: 373



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I wanted to vote in favor of the project (support the project in person).	38.46%	160
I wanted to vote against the project (oppose the project in person).	35.82%	149
I wanted to learn more and hear the presentation and debate before deciding.	26.20%	109
It's my civic duty – I usually attend Town Meetings to participate in important decisions.	44.47%	185
I was encouraged by others to attend (for example, friends, neighbors, or officials urged me to go).	16.11%	67
Other (please specify)	4.81%	20
Total Respondents: 416		

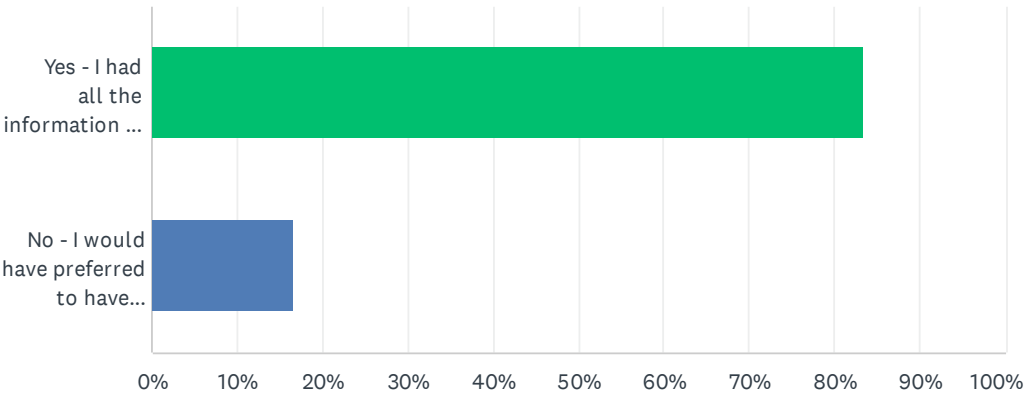
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	It was important decision and wanted to be part of it.	8/18/2025 9:43 PM
2	I wanted the opportunity to speak to over-riding issues for making the right choice - providing a safe and healthy environment where students and staff can excel.	8/18/2025 6:38 PM
3	I didnt get to vite the meeting ran too long	8/17/2025 12:43 PM
4	My child is entering the public school system this year	8/14/2025 6:42 PM
5	I wanted to hear what others had to say	8/6/2025 4:06 PM
6	it's the only possible way to vote, which is archaic at this point in time and highly unequitable	8/5/2025 12:34 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

7	I did a lot of research beforehand. The debates at town meeting rarely change my mind, and are generally not a good use of time	8/5/2025 9:30 AM
8	I wanted to sway people to vote for the project	8/5/2025 9:14 AM
9	There are no state or federal grants right now with the tyrant in charge right now. This project needs grants, your gonna have to get a different administration to get this through voting.	8/1/2025 9:52 AM
10	This is such a huge issue, every vote counts.	7/31/2025 6:34 PM
11	I do not trust the select board are far as I can throw it. They have a long anti-democratic history	7/31/2025 5:44 PM
12	Unless I am sick, I ALWAYS attend Town Meeting	7/31/2025 1:41 PM
13	Still question the site and its safety because of the water in the area	7/31/2025 12:01 PM
14	I have young children and felt a duty to vote "yes" to support their education, despite the flawed plan	7/31/2025 7:53 AM
15	I always attend Town Meetings	7/31/2025 7:26 AM
16	I wanted to know what the community members had to say about the project and to see if they had different insights than I had already heard	7/30/2025 5:07 PM
17	To be more educated and help decide	7/30/2025 4:24 PM
18	I feel strongly about progress and a deteriorating school is below the standard of our town	7/29/2025 5:05 PM
19	new to town - wanted to understand impact and listen to both sides before deciding	7/29/2025 5:02 PM
20	Tax increases	7/29/2025 1:01 PM

Q14 Before or during the Special Town Meeting, did you feel you had all the information you needed to make an informed vote on the project?

Answered: 415 Skipped: 374



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes - I had all the information I needed	83.37%	346
No - I would have preferred to have additional information.	16.63%	69
TOTAL		415

Q15 What information do you wish you had received prior to the special town meeting?

Answered: 58 Skipped: 731

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Other options (didn't understand it was all or. Nothing)	8/19/2025 2:34 PM
2	Options evaluated, when all taxes have increased in the past, what's in the pipeline that could increase taxes further. Property evaluation if Mary Finn school is closed.	8/18/2025 9:45 PM
3	Environmental impacts of the selected site.	8/18/2025 9:45 PM
4	The opponents put up signs about Plan B. It would have been nice to understand options with pros and cons. I want this vote to pass. I think the committee was unpersuasive for the audience.	8/18/2025 1:18 PM
5	More of breakdown of the costs	8/17/2025 12:43 PM
6	More details of the plan in advance	8/16/2025 2:07 PM
7	Was the plan the best plan/strikes the best balance, regardless of MSBA eligible or not?	8/15/2025 5:48 PM
8	What were the plans for Finn. Seems a shame to not use the facility.	8/15/2025 4:40 PM
9	more about additional options	8/14/2025 9:15 PM
10	Educational benefits	8/13/2025 8:46 AM
11	pros and cons, discussion of alternative proposals	8/12/2025 3:17 PM
12	Integrated strategic plan for school assets over the next 2-3 decades in the context of the overall financial health of the Town.	8/12/2025 10:34 AM
13	All of it. Let people know you were thinking of doing this. Being sneaky is not the way to go.	8/10/2025 4:59 PM
14	Town vision for all the schools and immediate neighborhood vicinity impact	8/9/2025 9:40 AM
15	Details on why Mary Finn would be closed.	8/8/2025 12:07 PM
16	There needs to be training and news letters. Town meetings should be broken out into three or four sessions that are shorter.	8/6/2025 3:58 PM
17	Alternative plans considered	8/6/2025 2:26 PM
18	More information about other options to be able to compare. I felt there was only one option take it or leave it	8/6/2025 1:03 PM
19	Building Plans	8/6/2025 6:12 AM
20	The were no alternative options, we have declining enrollment, and our students will fit into existing schools.	8/5/2025 12:51 PM
21	I wanted to better understand the cost of the proposed school and why it was so expensive. I also need wanted to know more about the other school proposals and why they were not explored.	8/5/2025 9:31 AM
22	Tax impacts, plans and costs for the other schools that would be impacted (finn)	8/5/2025 9:15 AM
23	Alternatives considered, in depth. Show your work.	8/4/2025 3:43 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

24	Noted above	8/2/2025 9:56 PM
25	I was confused about the tax implications, the environmental concerns, and why the "no" contingent was so adamant about being against the project.	8/2/2025 2:06 PM
26	The required minimum expenditure following a "No" vote.	8/1/2025 9:39 PM
27	More examination of historical and current operating costs, including median wages for teachers, Administrators, provisional specialists/teachers, and substitute teachers; more trending detail on historical, current, and projected enrollment for students within Southborough's public schools; Inclusion of ** Fully-Loaded** salary, benefits, disability insurance payouts, and liability insurance to Southborough costs. Divide the aggregate cost by total number of students and employees for each school; historical/current facility maintenance costs for each school. Use trend charts for so that we can understand the direction of these financial dynamics	8/1/2025 10:55 AM
28	A clear and detailed flyer or slide deck. The slide deck slides presented were poorly formatted and superficial. The 5 educational reasons not to move 5th grade to Trottier were poorly presented and not compelling at all.	8/1/2025 9:17 AM
29	more options that considered using the existing schools	8/1/2025 7:21 AM
30	Advance hard copy of proposal details with advantages and disadvantages detailed and mailed to all town residents.	8/1/2025 4:26 AM
31	More of a breakdown that studied all aspects of building a new school vs going through and breaking down the pros and cons of adding additions to the current schools. This was not presented properly	7/31/2025 8:49 PM
32	Finn	7/31/2025 1:41 PM
33	Why did we the voters only had one option to choose from. Why not have more than one course of action?	7/31/2025 1:30 PM
34	Other options that were considered	7/31/2025 12:07 PM
35	I don't think it's a question of having enough information or not, I think the issue at town meeting came down to how the process was handled and shared out with residents	7/31/2025 11:00 AM
36	What will happen to Finn	7/31/2025 10:57 AM
37	More information about why other school buildings that already exist were not chosen, more information about the landfill and environmental implications of building on the Neary site.	7/31/2025 8:39 AM
38	I really didn't understand the tax implications. I consider myself an intelligent and informed person but I was confused.	7/31/2025 7:54 AM
39	Full explanation of tax implications and a more clear picture of alternative options	7/31/2025 7:09 AM
40	Better information with real details on what "no" meant. What options could be on the table and cost, not from the distant past	7/30/2025 9:53 PM
41	Actual cost estimates highlighting how exorbitantly expensive it would be to renovate from ground up instead of building a new building with MA assistance.	7/30/2025 7:52 PM
42	I found the towns presentation to be far to one side	7/30/2025 7:50 PM
43	Plan for Finn.	7/30/2025 5:58 PM
44	turf and landfill/soil remediation	7/30/2025 4:25 PM
45	I felt as though the board just	7/30/2025 4:01 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

made a decision to spend millions of dollars without any other options thinking it was in the towns best interest.

46	Other alternatives	7/30/2025 3:33 PM
47	We needed a clear, concise summary of the project, what would happen if approved, and what would happen if not approved. Maybe a 2-3 page pamphlet, mailed out a few weeks prior to the meeting.	7/30/2025 1:39 PM
48	What the entire range of options for all schools across the town could be	7/30/2025 12:18 PM
49	Actual cost and Tax increase, a solid attempt to renovate Neary at a low cost strategy	7/30/2025 8:35 AM
50	The details in the original evaluation of the repair and 2-grade options were quite thin. I also understood that the building did not comply with special ed requirements. Also, the risks of cost overruns were REALLY papered over by the committee. I still supported it but was very unsure of myself.	7/30/2025 1:05 AM
51	Specific floorplans and costs for the renovation of Finn for town use	7/29/2025 9:24 PM
52	not sure	7/29/2025 9:23 PM
53	I wish I had taken time to read and research more about the opposition's points. I do think there was some value in their questioning but by the time I heard those questions, there wasn't much time to do more research before the vote.	7/29/2025 9:23 PM
54	I understand that the state required one proposal, but I wasn't tuned in enough before that proposal was chosen, so I guess I wanted to understand better why this was chosen.	7/29/2025 7:33 PM
55	Specifics of alternate options	7/29/2025 7:26 PM
56	Found the Neary website confusing, trying to understand the impact	7/29/2025 5:02 PM
57	More in-depth and unbiased consideration of the alternatives. It often felt like scare tactics were being used to sway the vote in favor of the Neary proposal.	7/29/2025 2:23 PM
58	I didnt even have all the info at the meeting as there was not enough paperwork to go around. I would like to have this paperwork info in advance in the mail.	7/29/2025 1:04 PM

Q16 Thinking about your experience at the Special Town Meeting itself, what (if anything) do you think could have been improved about the meeting to make it more effective or comfortable for voters? (Open-ended – for example, you might comment on the format of debate, the length of the meeting, the voting process, venue, etc.)

Answered: 302 Skipped: 487

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	A better showcase of the value and new features the new school would bring rather than focus on cost. Also the presenter was only given a short amount of time a very important financial decision.	8/19/2025 3:58 PM
2	Clarity as to voting procedures going into the mtg	8/19/2025 2:34 PM
3	More facts needed	8/18/2025 7:40 PM
4	There was no debate...there should have been a more detailed discussion of the proposal, and if a misstatement was made, the committee should have had a chance to respond. It was poorly managed by the moderator.	8/18/2025 6:40 PM
5	keeping questions or comments at a minimum	8/18/2025 1:46 PM
6	The meeting derailed due to emotive arguments and the committee lacked data to refute it. It felt like our national elections in that the loudest voice, not the informed voice, won out.	8/18/2025 1:20 PM
7	No, it was fine. If anything, the discussion went on for too long when minds were already made up and were not going to be changed.	8/17/2025 9:45 PM
8	It was very hard to be there with two little kids and even almost missed the. It's because we were watching kids.	8/17/2025 8:49 PM
9	The town meeting scheduled for Saturday morning with no voting timeline prohibited many families from attending the meeting due to sports and other conflicts. There needs to be a more equitable forum / form / way of voting.	8/17/2025 8:36 PM
10	I sat in the main hall but it seemed a bit chaotic in the gym.	8/17/2025 5:22 PM
11	I did not have a concern.	8/17/2025 5:19 PM
12	Way too long for the meeting	8/17/2025 12:44 PM
13	Too long, the moderator, while very sensitive to making sure everyone was heard should have cut off debate sooner. It was challenging for people with children to keep them entertained or under control that long. Other childcare options (perhaps the extend day program could assist), would be helpful.	8/16/2025 4:57 PM
14	Please limit overall debate timing, and time for each presentation.	8/16/2025 3:28 PM
15	More open debate and discussion	8/16/2025 2:07 PM
16	Who's they could have show better that tons of effort went into it and there is no plan b...still waiting on those people to show what plan b is	8/16/2025 6:43 AM
17	This is a question for a different survey	8/15/2025 10:05 PM
18	Enough time for the NBC to address concerns was not given. It feels like citizens state misinformation that the committee members are not able to fully discuss or give rebuttals.	8/15/2025 10:02 PM
19	I think there were some problems with the voting equipment.	8/15/2025 5:49 PM
20	I thought the meeting was very well run.	8/15/2025 5:16 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

21	I think under the circumstances the Moderator did an excellent job. Don't know of a way for people to not bring up the same thing over and over.	8/15/2025 4:42 PM
22	Voting process definitely needs improvement.	8/15/2025 2:10 PM
23	Go right to vote! That meeting was a waste of time and didnt away any vote one way or another. It was also insulting to parents to keep everyone with young children hostage at the school!	8/15/2025 2:00 PM
24	The voting process	8/15/2025 1:04 PM
25	It is extremely difficult for people with young children to attend. We had to arrange a babysitter for our 3 children and almost had to leave early to attend their activities. It's too long and the expectation to be in person is not appropriate for modern day families.	8/15/2025 12:01 PM
26	I think the timing of the meeting is extremely difficult for families. The length of the meeting as well. This exacerbates the issues around the lack of a central, easy to use repository for information is also problematic. Overall, the Town of Southborough has a poor UX and information architecture. Information is buried below many clicks.	8/15/2025 11:44 AM
27	Debate was too long - not interested in hear multiple people express their personal opinions about the project. Would like the factual presentations and keep emotions/soap box speeches out of it.	8/15/2025 8:55 AM
28	That the clickers can't be relied on at this point indicates a lack of competence and accountability.	8/15/2025 8:38 AM
29	The voting process should be more automated.	8/15/2025 7:10 AM
30	Moderator lets it go on too long	8/15/2025 7:08 AM
31	I think many voters were misinformed prior to the mtg.	8/15/2025 6:49 AM
32	i thought they did a great job managing a big crowd. I have watched other town meetings that were much more disorganized and it appeared the moderator wasn't open to ideas. great job listening to the public and also moving things along	8/14/2025 9:17 PM
33	The crowd and town was very divided between younger voters with kids in the school system and longstanding voters who didn't want taxes to increase. I'm not sure if any No voters would ever reconsider a modified plan but it would need to directly counteract their strong opinions on why they voted No	8/14/2025 9:13 PM
34	The length of the meeting was too long. The fact that you had to be present to vote was ridiculous. If this was 100% necessary, should have allowed people to come in and vote and leave. If they were still undecided, then they could have stayed for the meeting to learn more.	8/14/2025 8:40 PM
35	Definitely need better control of public debate. Too many speakers with too long to speak. Look forward to using clickers in the future	8/14/2025 7:59 PM
36	Too many people allowed to comment.	8/14/2025 7:57 PM
37	I would have liked to see an actual vote count. Sitting in the back of the gym, I heard people say "the gym was clearly a yes" and "the gym was clearly a no" - it seems that a rough visual guess at the vote can not be accurate. I would have had much more faith in the vote if we had used the counting mechanism described. (Please don't make people stay until the tags are counted though!). A visual assessment also seems very prone to the bias of the person assessing - I don't think the town should subject itself to this possible appearance of bias, or it really risks losing people's trust.	8/14/2025 7:33 PM
38	True information versus false	8/14/2025 7:03 PM
39	Voting process needed to be pre-determined and better organized.	8/14/2025 6:43 PM
40	I wish they were ballot votes only. These long meetings are not conducive to the entire community participating	8/14/2025 6:26 PM
41	We need a voting procedure that isn't archaic and people can't be allowed to talk and repeat themselves and each other for hours. It's exhausting for everyone.	8/14/2025 6:24 PM
42	Keep the kids space, my family cannot attend without some form of childcare/noisy space	8/14/2025 6:24 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

43	Shorter meetings, or more certainty about when the vote would occur (eg debate and presentations one day, vote the following day) would help. My husband had to leave before the vote was taken due to the length of debate/comments at the special meeting.	8/14/2025 3:46 PM
44	Honestly I'm not sure how much it could be improved, the fact is families with children are at a disadvantage in a forum like this. You've got to drag the kids down there for possibly several hours and somehow keep them under control. If it were up to me, we would do away with the requirement that everyone be in attendance for a meeting/vote like this, I think it has a meaningful bias towards families without young kids.	8/14/2025 2:03 PM
45	the length of the meeting made it hard for families with small kids (precisely the ones who would benefit most from a new neary). I saw a lot of single parents there (presumably because one spouse had to be with the kids) and a lot of families who were struggling to stay the course for such a long stretch of time in a gym with multiple kids in tow	8/14/2025 1:16 PM
46	It would help if the presentation and discussions could be streamed/zoomed, and then a break before voting to allow viewers to drive to the school.	8/14/2025 12:23 PM
47	Format of the debate and voting process. The hand raising process may have pressured people and the way the voting was conducted may have been confusing for some. Additionally, the "Plan B" option took a lot of time without providing a solution in my opinion and therefore that presentation should have been available / presented prior to the day of voting.	8/14/2025 12:14 PM
48	The length of the meeting and the voting process. People had to leave before they could vote due to the length of the meeting.	8/14/2025 12:11 PM
49	Information needs to be shared more succinctly beforehand. There was too much information online and most don't have time to sift through it all before the meeting.	8/14/2025 6:31 AM
50	I thought it went pretty well	8/12/2025 11:36 AM
51	Have a clock for comments from the floor and use it. Use the clickers; many towns use them successfully for every meeting. Meeting was too long given the electorate was ready to vote early in the meeting.	8/12/2025 10:36 AM
52	There needs to be a timer for each person who gets up to speak. Moderator needs to control time better. Needs to cut off comments at earlier point...people say same thing over and over. Meeting just took too long.	8/12/2025 7:05 AM
53	3 hours were wasted listening to the same arguments over and over again ad nauseam. The fake moderator refused to allow the vote to be held. The moderator was clearly biased in favor of the proposal. It's the same behavior he exhibits at regular town meetings. He either extends or curtails discussion of issues, depending on whether or not he wants to see the article or item succeed or be defeated. We need a new, better, fairer moderator!	8/11/2025 4:57 PM
54	The debate felt imbalanced the moderator cut people off and I wish the committee could have replied to each comment to add or respond. One side of the opinion held all the power	8/11/2025 3:39 PM
55	Town Moderator did an excellent job in conducting the Town Meeting.	8/11/2025 2:03 PM
56	I was disappointed in how rude people were both to the committee and other townspeople. I was wishing the moderator would have stepped in sooner in some instances and let folks who had been standing (especially in gym) for a long time voice their opinions. I wanted speaking time capped to shorter than was allowed. I wanted more input from teachers and staff. I wanted more information on WHY this project was done - what is wrong with Neary and WHY this was the decision that presented.	8/11/2025 10:16 AM
57	Ask people to weight the cost and benefit of the well being of all children. It's not about new and shiny-it's about overall mental, physical and emotional health. Children today are in trouble, and they spend most of their childhood within school walls. All of our duties depend on their functioning into adulthood.	8/11/2025 9:27 AM
58	The debate and discussion needed to be better controlled so comments were not repetitive. The Moderator seemed to favor voters in the auditorium and could not see the voters waiting to speak in the gym.	8/11/2025 9:06 AM

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59	Hold it in Southborough	8/10/2025 5:18 PM
60	Use clickers, limit time to speak	8/10/2025 10:35 AM
61	The meeting was fine. I think parents with unruly children in the cafeteria should have been made to control their children or leave the meeting. These children were unfairly disruptive to the process.	8/9/2025 3:23 PM
62	Unsure	8/9/2025 2:53 PM
63	Town board needs to get involvement of town's people to get better understanding of the pulse of the town.	8/9/2025 9:48 AM
64	The length of the meeting made it difficult for supporters with families to stay and have their votes counted.	8/9/2025 6:03 AM
65	Avoid noisy children in the gym.	8/8/2025 12:07 PM
66	As with most of our town meetings, it was too long.	8/8/2025 10:08 AM
67	Control speaking time. (Though I thought the moderator did a good job)	8/7/2025 7:20 PM
68	control of young children during meeting. Parents should have done a better job.	8/7/2025 1:53 PM
69	Everything could have been improved. I think questions should be provided before the meeting, and answers queued up to provide who needs information with those answers on the day of the vote. People standing up to proclaim how they dont understand something and then people cheering for them is a joke. There should be no open session for questions, that people dont want the answers to. There should be no multi hour catastrophe to burden people. There should be ample opportunity to get questions posed ahead of time, the meeting goes over all those questions if necessary, and then a vote.	8/7/2025 12:10 PM
70	Too many people saying the same thing over and over, even though their points had been disproved. For example, saying that it wouldn't affect the learning environment even though the teachers submitted a letter saying how much they need building improvements.	8/7/2025 9:59 AM
71	Nothing	8/7/2025 7:21 AM
72	Moderator went overboard in making sure everyone was heard, even when the general mood of the audience was in favor of closing debate and voting.	8/6/2025 5:47 PM
73	The meeting ran very long with speakers repeatedly commenting. It became a game of who can last the longest before voting.	8/6/2025 4:57 PM
74	The town cannot afford this project. The town meeting should never had happened. The elected officials should never have presented a proposal that was fiscally unsound	8/6/2025 4:08 PM
75	Shorter. Collect responses. Pivot message. Then once the general population is at 65% cast the vote.	8/6/2025 3:59 PM
76	The meeting was fine, it's a controversial topic that will generate much debate - but it all comes down to the financial burden.	8/6/2025 3:26 PM
77	Unfortunately a long town meeting is unavoidable if an important subject is to be discussed.	8/6/2025 1:06 PM
78	Nothing comes to mind.	8/6/2025 11:00 AM
79	(1) More data on the specific costs of reasonable alternative options. (2) The history and trends of Southboro elementary schools and population/ enrollment trends over recent decades. (3) Limited the opportunity for any single resident (in audience) to speak only one time. (4) Better clarity on the differences between the vote taken at the Town Meeting versus the ballot measure the following week. (5) A specific time parameter around the comment/question that each person had at the microphone (not board/ committee members). For example, 90 seconds. Unless there were further Q/A between committee members and the resident at the	8/6/2025 10:58 AM

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microphone. (6) A defined schedule of the order of events, with a time window on when the vote would be scheduled to take place. Many families with small children attended the meeting for hours but had to leave prior to voting. Older residents with no such obligations were able to remain in voting hall.

80	The debates went on too long, similar points were commented on multiple times	8/6/2025 9:58 AM
81	Length much to long	8/6/2025 7:41 AM
82	Food	8/6/2025 6:12 AM
83	Voting process and debate format.	8/6/2025 4:49 AM
84	I thought the moderator and others did a reasonable job of managing the process.	8/5/2025 9:09 PM
85	Gymnasium was difficult to hear	8/5/2025 5:49 PM
86	Length of meeting was very long	8/5/2025 4:28 PM
87	The question and answer session went on too long and the actual wording around voting was confusing and felt a bit rushed. The outcome was clear once we voted but I thought the moderator could have managed it better. With that said, I appreciate that it's a tricky position to be in and nearly impossible to please all.	8/5/2025 2:51 PM
88	The Special Town Meeting would have been significantly more effective with stricter time limits for speakers and a one-time opportunity per person to speak at the microphone. Too much time was spent on lengthy personal anecdotes or reminiscing about the past, which, while heartfelt, did not contribute meaningfully to the discussion of the current proposal. Additionally, when multiple residents were clearly calling for a vote, it was frustrating to see the moderator allow the conversation to continue for another 30–40 minutes without action. Once it's evident that the discussion is no longer adding value, the moderator should be empowered, and willing, to move more efficiently toward a vote. Overall, a more focused and tightly moderated meeting would better respect everyone's time and ensure a more productive and respectful exchange of ideas.	8/5/2025 2:19 PM
89	I mean is this the 1800s... why are we raising our hands	8/5/2025 12:52 PM
90	If people want the ability to go and discuss they should be allowed that option, but voting at the polls would seem more than sufficient to cover everyone in town.	8/5/2025 12:35 PM
91	The town meeting process feels outdated and unnecessarily lengthy. It does not adequately consider the needs or voices of young parents, who are key stakeholders in many of the decisions being made. Meetings that last 3 to 4 hours are simply not practical for parents with young children, making it difficult for them to participate fully. As a result, the process unintentionally favors those without childcare responsibilities, leading to an imbalanced representation of the community. Updating the format to be more inclusive and time-efficient would make the meeting more effective and equitable for all voters.	8/5/2025 12:26 PM
92	it was lengthy which is challenging for families with kids (whom this proposal impacts), could find a way to screen questions/comments so that the conversation is more focused	8/5/2025 12:20 PM
93	The overflow space was unruly	8/5/2025 12:16 PM
94	It was great to have such a large secondary venue that was welcoming to children. My son enjoyed listening in on the process. However, it was loud/chaotic and it made it challenging for people in the gym. It was also unclear to people speaking at the microphone that they would not necessarily be able to speak more than once due to time constraints, so that should be said in advance next time so that people who get up to speak will know they have one chance.	8/5/2025 12:02 PM
95	The moderator needed to do a better job of limiting repetitive comments. Additionally, it was unclear to me why he stopped one citizen from reading a statement from the teachers' association, which provides a valuable perspective.	8/5/2025 11:54 AM
96	Having the Neary Committee actually able to respond to	8/5/2025 11:26 AM

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open comments and push back with their knowledge and learnings. The communication and packaging of the project can be significantly improved leading up to the meeting.

97	It was made difficult for parents whom have young children to attend. We were felt as we incoinvienced people, were not welcomed. Were met with over rude and mean comments being personally accosted by town people and felt we were doing a disservice to this small town which owes our children a quality place to learn. Very dissapointed with the outcome and the agism this town has towards young familys. Young familys are the reason this town is more prospourous and it should be investing in that segment not that portion that can "barley afford the taxes". The town needs to change its mindset from a select board perspective and allow more business to move here. You cant have a old town feel that only the agining population seems to want and maintin "lower" taxes. That money needs to come from some place and brining new business to this town and modernizing our infrastructure should be paramount. Why are town meetings also note made to be online? Old peole with no jobs, kids to watch attend these meetings and the people whom are mostly affected are not able to attend. .	8/5/2025 10:55 AM
98	Had a pre vote at the beginning to show that it was likely going to lose and limit the time spent debating a subject that was dead upon arrival (unfortunately)	8/5/2025 10:30 AM
99	I was in the gym and there were people heckling speakers. This is uncalled for- especially in front of the children	8/5/2025 9:49 AM
100	It is a terrible way to make huge decisions. We had to get childcare and spend half of a Saturday listening to people argue. This format is not sustainable and not inclusive to all members of the community. It should be a question on the ballot. How can we make this happen?	8/5/2025 9:47 AM
101	Yes, as someone with 3 kids (including a baby), it was unacceptable to be there for hours. I also felt we were disrespected and told to be quiet by those in charge. There needs to be a way to vote faster. I suggest a day prior for voices to be heard. Then next day is voting OR just make it a ballot question.	8/5/2025 9:47 AM
102	A day camp for small children during the meeting, so parents with children could better participate in the discussion.	8/5/2025 9:46 AM
103	Nothing for me. I was open to hearing something that would change my mind but it made me more convinced to oppose the project.	8/5/2025 9:35 AM
104	There needed to be a better process for reacting to noise complaints in the family friendly section. When partitions were abruptly rolled out in response to one resident complaining about noise, it was unsafe for the young kids in that area and made it harder for parents to participate in the remainder of the meeting. I think there needed to be a better way to get an accurate vote count, especially since I have only lived here a year but have seen the moderator get visual votes wrong multiple times. I don't really know what can be done about the problem that open town meetings are an undemocratic form of government. It was challenging just to attend so that I could vote with 3 kids ranging from 1-8, but there was no way my husband or I could have participated in the debate. Also, many sports were not delayed enough, so some parents had to leave. I don't think there was clear enough communication about how long the meeting would last.	8/5/2025 9:33 AM
105	I think this vote should have been a ballot vote following a town meeting where people could ask questions. This has huge financial impacts for the town and letting only those that can come to town meeting decide seems exclusionary. (I say this as someone who regularly attends town meeting.)	8/5/2025 9:32 AM
106	The speakers kept making the same points - the moderator should be more forceful if there is not a new comment. We also need to seriously look at remote voting options. Other towns such as Wayland are utilizing it, and we should seriously explore it.	8/5/2025 9:32 AM
107	It's not great to hear the redundant comments but there is little ability to control that so no suggestions to improve.	8/5/2025 9:28 AM
108	No	8/5/2025 9:27 AM

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109	accessible sound/audio for families in the gym - noise was loud and parents were doing their best to hear, but audio needs to be improved or child care should be provided as an option.	8/5/2025 9:20 AM
110	The voting process by hands was a joke and should be removed. Next time ballots should be used, as counting hands is not accurate and leads to peer pressure. There should be more large format diagrams and printed materials explaining details of the project	8/5/2025 9:17 AM
111	I think it was well organized. But prefer voting on paper.	8/5/2025 9:12 AM
112	I believe that everyone should have the right to voice their opinions, concerns and questions at town meeting. Unfortunately, that means they run way too long and many similar opinions are expressed over and over. I would much prefer an open meeting to voice concerns, opinions and questions, and then a ballot vote at a later time. I think you would get many more people voting at a ballot over a town meeting.	8/4/2025 10:12 PM
113	Unfortunately, a meeting like that benefits those who are more likely to vote "no". While we appreciated the efforts to provide child care during the meeting, it was still a significant barrier. Then, when it went to open ballot, I think a lot of people had already lost hope and then didn't turn out to vote. They were swayed by the clear "no" vote in the Special Town Meeting.	8/4/2025 8:20 PM
114	More regulation on disruptions, remote access to viewing and voting.	8/4/2025 1:07 PM
115	The paid consultants in the front where not introduced. A member of the audience had to point this fact out.	8/4/2025 11:34 AM
116	The proponents need to demonstrate the educational need for selecting the most expensive option vs. ongoing maintenance and repairs.	8/4/2025 10:32 AM
117	I think there needs to be a way to vote even if not present at the meeting.	8/4/2025 8:33 AM
118	Limit the speakers time when you know you're going to have so many people getting up there. 2 minutes per person. And cut people off as soon as it's redundant.	8/3/2025 6:19 PM
119	The meeting was ok	8/3/2025 4:44 PM
120	Length of the meeting was difficult as I had to leave kids home alone or get a babysitter	8/3/2025 2:38 PM
121	No secret ballot	8/3/2025 10:30 AM
122	Our vote counting procedures need improvement! Hand raising isn't very accurate! Paper ballots for privacy and accuracy!	8/3/2025 6:09 AM
123	It was too long.	8/3/2025 6:05 AM
124	Probably not possible, but having an idea when the vote would take place would have been helpful. Some families could not attend because the time is unpredictable. The volunteers did a great job allowing kids to come, but if there is a timeframe when the vote could happen, more people could have participated to vote for or gains the project.	8/2/2025 11:42 PM
125	Larger venue to accommodate all, questions submitted and answered in advance	8/2/2025 9:58 PM
126	I think the Neary Building Committee should have done more to advocate for their position, knowing the "no" side was going to have a chance to present.	8/2/2025 2:08 PM
127	Those of us in the gym had a hard time with all the commotion-parents being too busy socializing while their children were unsupervised and noisy. It seemed some people repeated what had already been said at the microphones.	8/2/2025 9:18 AM
128	(Nothing.)	8/1/2025 9:40 PM
129	too much debate of the same points	8/1/2025 7:36 PM

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130	I had no issues with the town meeting.	8/1/2025 3:44 PM
131	Length of meeting. Too many people repeat what someone else said. Moderator needs to cut people off who ramble.	8/1/2025 1:48 PM
132	Venue was fine. Need to work on synthesizing easy-to-understand cost / expense factors.	8/1/2025 10:58 AM
133	Fix what we have, enough with raising our taxes for a project that can be done more cheaply. There are no grants with this freaking administration, we can't afford the taxes on this project especially with all the money that is held up by this administration.	8/1/2025 9:56 AM
134	A well planned and thought our presentation made by School Committee Admin and the NSB committee.	8/1/2025 9:17 AM
135	we were only provided one option, very specific pros and cons of each option that could be used, more creative solutions as to what to do with Neary and the land, more demographic information, more discussion of this item in context with everything going on in town, where and how resources should be allocated, this seemed like all options were done in a closed forum and 1 option used to obtain the grant, focus should not be on grant money but how we can best use resources to keep all infrastructure solidly maintained, focus on our teachers and the education provided to students, how does new vs. existing buildings impact quality of education	8/1/2025 7:28 AM
136	The length of the meeting was discouraging, but the up side is that everyone was heard. The lack of answers to voter questions by the project presenter was frustrating. I think it became very clear to voters that the committee did not look at alternatives to a new building.	8/1/2025 4:27 AM
137	The debate went to long. The discussion became repetitive	7/31/2025 9:38 PM
138	Limit speaking more effectively. Eliminate redundant comments from audience, cut them off!	7/31/2025 6:35 PM
139	The meeting was painfully toooo long. Too many redundant public comments. the voting process was good. Did not need the town clerk's overdone explanation on the voting procedure.	7/31/2025 6:21 PM
140	It was hard to hear. Would have been nice to show up just to vote.	7/31/2025 6:19 PM
141	I don't know who wants this, but the voters clearly don't. This keeps on coming back like it's some kind of disease. We have voted no multiple times. The answer is no. Hear us.	7/31/2025 5:45 PM
142	The audience was very negative from the start. Before the meeting started, people around me, who I didn't know, told me they were angry and voting against it.	7/31/2025 5:30 PM
143	Length of the meeting could be reduced	7/31/2025 5:11 PM
144	The moderator needs to have a strict time limit for each speaker. Other towns use a clock to which speakers must adhere. Those meetings are much shorter and more efficient.	7/31/2025 4:41 PM
145	Too long, repetitive commenting, took forever to move to a vote. Would have preferred a pre-vote night for debate/comments/discussion that could be viewed online (or via recording) followed by an in person vote on another day...with an entire day of hours to go in to vote on this single issue. My husband travels for work so couldn't vote. Others have conflicts. The whole process is not useful for the way people live and travel. People are disenfranchised for a variety of reasons (kids, sitters, seniors, work travel)	7/31/2025 3:53 PM
146	to vote faster and not have such a lengthy debate.	7/31/2025 3:26 PM
147	Make it easier for project opponents to present their side.	7/31/2025 3:24 PM
148	The people in the gym could not always hear which is problematic. People also need to understand that they may be given only one	7/31/2025 3:06 PM

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chance to speak (for time purposes. There were many people who wanted to make repeat comments and if they had known this prior they may have better articulated what they wanted to say).

149	Some people were shut down and others who rambled on were not.	7/31/2025 2:47 PM
150	Allow people to ask questions and get answers from experts instead of having townspeople speak as if they are experts on a topic they may have no expertise in.	7/31/2025 2:39 PM
151	There is still a cost to do nothing. I think that could have and should have been discussed more.	7/31/2025 2:17 PM
152	venu location	7/31/2025 1:47 PM
153	STM was fine. I thought the Moderator did a great job. I thought Supt. Martineau should not give his address as "53 Parkerville Road" Some people around me said "I didn't know the Supt. lived in Southborough" I have been told he thinks it's a funny joke but it is misleading. I spoke to the Moderator after the meeting and asked him to correct Mr. Martineau if this comes up at a future meeting. The taxpayers of Southborough thinking the Supt. is also a taxpayer is misleading and may be material to some.	7/31/2025 1:43 PM
154	Fewer public comments	7/31/2025 1:42 PM
155	It was great to hear different views which helps make a decision.	7/31/2025 1:39 PM
156	Have electronic voting devices available. Town meeting/special meeting format is not conducive in getting younger adults with families to participate.	7/31/2025 1:32 PM
157	it was too long	7/31/2025 12:25 PM
158	Let everyone who was in line at the mics speak	7/31/2025 12:08 PM
159	The Building Committee did not debate any miss information is there was any and the hand out had little site information information "Landfill" the	7/31/2025 12:04 PM
160	It was very difficult for parents of young children (the most likely 'yes' voters, I'd assume) to attend a single meeting on a Saturday morning that lasted several hours before the vote. For example, I had to attend alone while my wife took our daughter to a dance class, and given that all voters were supposed to attend the full meeting, we were under the impression that she would not be allowed to vote if she came late. Being that this first vote at the in-person meeting was necessary for the project to move forward, I feel that the result of it likely also reduced turnout at the town vote that followed. I'm glad that I was able to attend the town meeting, but I wish that this meeting had been broadcast and saved, and that the vote was carried out only at the town election in order to promote accessibility.	7/31/2025 12:04 PM
161	Need to automate voting process	7/31/2025 11:34 AM
162	Limit the length of time for individual comments.	7/31/2025 11:17 AM
163	Although it was a long meeting, I felt that Southborough did an excellent job facilitating such a meeting.	7/31/2025 11:07 AM
164	I thought it was handled well; knowing a specific cut-off time for discusion would be helpful	7/31/2025 11:04 AM
165	Online and mail in ballot option	7/31/2025 11:03 AM
166	The voting process was confusing. It was a no vote twice but yet here we are, still. I think that makes voters feel unsure about their rights as voters in general.	7/31/2025 11:00 AM
167	The meeting was much too long. Everyone who spoke simply reiterated points others had already made earlier in the meeting as well as for months on social media. There need to be better time limits or only a certain number of speakers.	7/31/2025 10:59 AM

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168	At Town Meeting, I was really discouraged by the fact that those opposed to the Neary Project were allowed to present their arguments as though there were a vetted, legitimately researched, alternative option - a so-called Plan B. There was not. And it was strange and frustrating that when people opposed to the project had their turn at the mic to have their say (often consecutively), there was no default opportunity for rebuttal or fact-checking from any member of the NBC, school committee, or school administration unless the next person at a mic gave up their chance to speak in favor of asking for that response. Such a back and forth may not have changed the vote, but it would have provided a more even distribution of opinions and information.	7/31/2025 10:37 AM
169	The length of Town Meeting is always an issue. I think one day should be discussion and then the next day an in person vote should be taken. Therefore, you can hear the discussion if you want to/need to.	7/31/2025 10:34 AM
170	I did not like the voting process. I felt like it was rushed and at one point I wasn't sure everyone in the gym her the directive to vote.	7/31/2025 9:15 AM
171	It was very difficult for families with children to attend and if they did attend, the meeting was so long that some families had to leave before voting. A virtual watching option with a mail in vote would be optimal.	7/31/2025 8:41 AM
172	I thought the STM was VERY well done. Most people had already made up their mind and there was little that could be discussed to change most minds.	7/31/2025 8:25 AM
173	It felt like you needed to get there super early to get a "good" seat. I have a disability and couldn't even get a seat because I arrived after work.	7/31/2025 7:56 AM
174	The meeting itself was fine. Mocking the parents and children for becoming restless after hours of being forced to sit around was in poor taste; anyone who knows children knows they can't operate like that	7/31/2025 7:56 AM
175	Have a moderator limit the debate to 2 minutes per person. Be more open to using the clickers for voting	7/31/2025 7:27 AM
176	I felt it was effective as is	7/31/2025 7:10 AM
177	Not mother's day weekend, length, the never ending sarcastic discussion	7/31/2025 6:42 AM
178	Town meetings are too long and it seems that a lot of the voting takes place without clear understanding of how they will affect taxes. It should be relayed the total cost to taxes if all the measures are voted in.	7/31/2025 6:31 AM
179	The length is too long, young kids are not easy to bring. One parent had to skip the meeting because of childcare. The gym kid opportunity would've been near impossible for any sizable length of time with a 2 year old and infant.	7/30/2025 9:55 PM
180	It was fine	7/30/2025 9:39 PM
181	The voting process must change: hands up is not an accurate process.	7/30/2025 9:12 PM
182	I rambled a bit about this in a previous question but I think the committee presentation was too limited in its details to kick off the meeting. I remember thinking that if I hadn't watched virtual meetings ahead of time and done the tax calculator on my own, I would not have felt informed enough at the Town Meeting. There is so much literature out there (and provided in the packet at the meeting) but I think the unfortunate reality is that most people don't read, and if they do, they might not understand more complex budgets and research. So I think the opening presentation could have been slightly more extensive (I understand time is an issue) and specific about why this direction was the best direction for the town.	7/30/2025 8:38 PM
183	If I try was any longer I would've left.	7/30/2025 8:19 PM
184	The members in town who were against took control and it felt as if though the nbc didn't have items on hand to respond/correct. The members from the schools didn't speak up about condition of Neary and thoughts/feelings from staff, other than the letter from union which was lost in noise.	7/30/2025 8:13 PM
185	The special town meeting was organized pretty well.	7/30/2025 7:54 PM

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186	It went to long	7/30/2025 7:50 PM
187	Make it a ballot vote!!!!	7/30/2025 7:09 PM
188	I think that the meeting went on for far too long. After a short presentation from both sides a "sense if the meeting" non-binding vote should have been taken. If the vote was close then debate should continue but if not we should move to a final vote. Those in favor were never going to get 2/3 no matter how long the meeting went on.	7/30/2025 6:38 PM
189	It was just so long. Hard to give up that much time to hear people say the same thing over and over.	7/30/2025 5:59 PM
190	the meeting was too long, maybe there could be babysitters for the students so parents could fully listen in the gym	7/30/2025 5:08 PM
191	Venue (being in Northboro) and timing (in the middle of Saturday sports activities)	7/30/2025 5:06 PM
192	generally people don't know how to speak publicly and they add zero value	7/30/2025 4:54 PM
193	Unfortunately, it was mostly detractors complaining about the project. I wanted to go and vote yes and be done.	7/30/2025 4:42 PM
194	Meeting is too long as we already has all kinds of info and our own opinion, no need to repeat the material can clearly stated	7/30/2025 4:39 PM
195	The town meeting process was fine and appropriate.	7/30/2025 4:32 PM
196	It was the most ineffective format you could ask for, if you wanted the proposal to pass. All the advantage was to the Nays - it was too long, full of unnecessary filibusters, and while there was an attempt to be kid friendly, there was also palpable hostility to their presence - even though the vote was about kids! It needs to be completely overhauled if you are ever expect significant representation from families, or to get close to an even representation of voices.	7/30/2025 4:27 PM
197	Fact-check the information being presented by some speakers. I feel like some of the comments being made were misleading and innacurate	7/30/2025 4:19 PM
198	less debate - the moderator seemed to keep the meeting going just because he was enjoying it. I had a young child that didn't have such patience.	7/30/2025 4:06 PM
199	Different options that were equally as thought through and believed in. The board make it seem like it's their way or the highway without actually investing time into other options. I understand it was stated that other options were on the table but where are those options now that it didn't pass? There were no other options that they had faith in besides this ONE.	7/30/2025 4:02 PM
200	We should be able to vote outside of a town meeting. The meeting itself was a waste if time.	7/30/2025 3:57 PM
201	Resident questions/comments too long and repetitive. Needs to be a limit on how long people can speak.	7/30/2025 3:48 PM
202	It wasn't a conversation. It was a lot of the town opposed and wanting to speak out and a committee of people who didn't want to consider it. It was a very frustrating few months leading up to the meeting	7/30/2025 3:47 PM
203	Town has to explain where our taxes go. Over 6 years there was significant increase of taxes. Town does not collect trash. Town does not supply water in many areas. Town should spend money on improving quality of teachers and repair bathrooms at neary.	7/30/2025 3:44 PM
204	I found the moderator leaned towards a yes vote allowing certain speakers more time to speak.. Proced	7/30/2025 3:42 PM
205	too much grandstanding	7/30/2025 3:40 PM

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206	Moderator needs to stop being a prick.	7/30/2025 3:36 PM
207	Meeting was unnecessarily long. Commentary went on too long.	7/30/2025 3:30 PM
208	The length of these meetings are tough for parents to attend and stay. While I understand and appreciate the need for everyone to have the ability to voice their view, sometimes the same thing is said over and over. It would be amazing if a ballot vote alone would be an option - maybe there is an open forum before hand for people to voice their opinions and then the vote takes place separately. If I can't make a meeting in person, I do usually view it online, but that doesn't give me the ability to vote.	7/30/2025 3:28 PM
209	I appreciated that there was a space to bring children so that both parents could vote. I did wish that the time for questions had been limited as I almost had to leave with my kids before getting a chance to vote.	7/30/2025 3:26 PM
210	I think many people on both sides at Town Meeting made the meeting particularly uncivil and unbecoming of Southborough. From accusations of the Neary Building Committee plagiarizing a calculator to a failure to address questions about the proposal, up to audible booing by the end of the meeting as other voters were trying to speak and confusion with the secondary meeting room, I came away thinking "Why do we even have Open Town Meeting if we can't act civilly?" The For-Against structure of Town Meeting is ill-suited for fact-finding; the format is better-suited for debating values and opinions. There should either be a dedicated opening for questions, the solicitation of written questions to be answered during the meeting, or a better establishment of facts before the meeting. One particularly galling example was when a voter stood up to read an email (I believe written by Mr. Malinowski, sourced from a public records request) insinuating (by vocal tone) that comments like "A majority of Southborough schoolchildren live closer to the Neary School site than the Finn School site" (paraphrasing). Was this actually true? I have no idea, because not only was it never addressed, it was never directly contradicted. As a Town, we should better establish a common set of facts *both sides* agree on before debating at Town Meeting. Although there is no formal mechanism to do this, this could certainly be taken into consideration by the sponsoring committees.	7/30/2025 3:26 PM
211	The length of the meeting was basically prohibitive towards people with kids. It should have been a quicker vote. Also, why require a town meeting when we could vote via ballot? The whole format is prohibitive.	7/30/2025 3:25 PM
212	while i thought the moderator did a fine job, there was too many redundant, self-aggrandizing paeans. i don't know how you prevent this from happening. it felt like people weren't really there to be swayed, just there to INSIST on their opinions	7/30/2025 3:23 PM
213	The meeting was too long but I don't know how that can be avoided since so many people want to talk and ask questions, I felt like the town was not being as transparent as they should have been about their intentions and reasons for the four grade project that they want. The way it was handled felt sneaky to me	7/30/2025 3:22 PM
214	Shorten discussion time. It is as unnecessarily long. Individual citizens campaigning for their choice at the microphone without proving new information is not useful	7/30/2025 3:20 PM
215	Offering it virtually and limiting the length of comments.	7/30/2025 3:16 PM
216	Should be able to vote regardless if timing, as long as you attend the meeting virtually or in person. Length of the meeting was too long.	7/30/2025 3:15 PM
217	Meeting went too long. Too many people gave their own random personal stories and opinions without facts relevant to the issue. The main issue wa in the school gym where all families with young children were sent we were a 'second-class' citizens, at times town moderators were scolding us for kids being too loud as they made us sit through 3 hours of unending public comment when we wanted to just vote. Town officials were quite rude and blaming us , adults with children most likely to be impacted by the vote for not being quiet. Town officials	7/30/2025 3:13 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

gave preference to speakers in the other room. It felt very undemocratic and a waste of time. It disenfranchises citizens with children. Is Southborough going to pay for childcare if they claim our children are disruptive? Just let us vote then and be over with it.

218	Meeting and voting need to be available online to allow more participation	7/30/2025 3:08 PM
219	I think they needed to do a better job of only highlighting the incremental cost of the specific project on the tax bill. Rather than including a fully loaded changing in taxes because there are elements that are going to happen no matter what that are contributing to higher tax bills and I feel like the incremental cost just from this project was lost in that.	7/30/2025 3:08 PM
220	The questions went on way too long	7/30/2025 3:07 PM
221	it should have been Ballot voting process	7/30/2025 3:07 PM
222	Too long, bad timing.	7/30/2025 3:06 PM
223	The Moderator needs to be more comfortable limiting the length of presentations as well as individual commenters and limiting repeat commenters.	7/30/2025 3:06 PM
224	In person voting for a project of this magnitude is not feasible. For example, I have three children, two needed to nap. I was not willing to pay for a babysitter to watch my children nap. My husband stayed home so we lost a vote that way. I feel others may have been in the same position I was. In fact, I was sitting next to the husband whose wife was at home with napping children. This should not have been done in person, people need flexibility to vote during different times of the day. Also, my husband is not on social media so he only heard of town happenings from me. If he did not live with me, he only saw the STM signs posted, but received nothing by mail of this important vote.	7/30/2025 2:40 PM
225	I appreciate the need to have time for people to share their opinions but so many comments were duplicative and unhelpful	7/30/2025 2:01 PM
226	An important topic like this should use some form of quantitative vote counting versus estimating the number of raised hands. This is especially true when the voters are spread across multiple rooms and citizens cannot see the other room.	7/30/2025 12:25 PM
227	Town meetings are flawed in and of itself. It's a very small demographic that can actually attend and then to sit through hours of debates before the actual vote is a deal breaker for many.	7/30/2025 12:22 PM
228	I think the presentation was missing some critical components, such as what would be happening with Finn (specific plan and cost) and what expenses the Town will incur by not moving forward with a new school (specific cost to repair Neary).	7/30/2025 12:22 PM
229	Limit presentation times. Moderator should stop people who are being redundant. It could have been a much tighter meeting. Have Advisory give more feedback.	7/30/2025 12:19 PM
230	The format of the debate was not much of a debate at all. Most people that came to the microphone did not actually ask questions, rather they shared an in opinion. The overall length of the meeting was not conducive to engaging more of the community and made it difficult for families with young children to attend/stay for its entirety. The voting process of raising hands is archaic and not an effective way to measure support or opposition given that the moderator was the only person able to see both rooms.	7/30/2025 12:10 PM
231	Shorter meeting	7/30/2025 10:31 AM
232	Meeting was fine. The project plan was the problem	7/30/2025 10:17 AM
233	It was a great metting.	7/30/2025 10:12 AM
234	Voting clickers, limit rambling.	7/30/2025 8:37 AM
235	The meeting was informative however it went on to long and for a project like this the voting should be open all day not just	7/30/2025 8:33 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

for that moment in the town meeting. It favors people who do not have kids and activities on a Saturday morning.

236	Bring the meeting to Southborough, Didn't make sense for Southborough voters to travel to Northboro	7/30/2025 8:00 AM
237	I was fine with the meeting. I thought the time given for debate was appropriate and adequate and all sides got to be heard. I very much appreciated the noisy room that was provided so parents could attend with their children. I think the town has made great strides in trying to accommodate parents with young children.	7/30/2025 7:53 AM
238	Town meeting was great - well attended and well rounded discussion.	7/30/2025 7:42 AM
239	Town moderator ran a terrible meeting. Instead of information we got mush. Meeting was 10% information; 90% bluster.	7/30/2025 7:41 AM
240	The length of the meeting makes it difficult for parents to attend. The vote being noon makes it clash with common nap times. Certainly a voting time can be scheduled that doesn't eliminate a portion of the electorate	7/30/2025 7:00 AM
241	Perhaps tracking visibly the questions folks brought up, so you could point back to where it was already covered. So many people came up to the mic with variations of the same question. It added so much time, everyone was frustrated and locked into their vote already	7/30/2025 6:00 AM
242	A competent moderator. Better responses from proponents. Wake up the town clerk, who was confused when asked about secret ballot.	7/30/2025 3:16 AM
243	The length. having kids made it almost impossible so i came at 11:30. Some absentee voting option is really necessary.	7/30/2025 1:07 AM
244	Moderator was rude to some residents asking questions, questions didn't all get addressed but there was debate about smaller topics that went on way too long!	7/29/2025 11:21 PM
245	A time limit should be placed on citizen questions/comments. The moderator should also have moved to a vote sooner. After the 2 hour mark nothing new or illuminating was said and some people at the mic were clearly just there for their moment in the spotlight.	7/29/2025 10:43 PM
246	It wss way too long and hard for families with young kids to attend. Need babysitter or with you. Length of meeting and repetition of facts	7/29/2025 9:59 PM
247	The debate was long and repetitive. The meeting was too long and the vote was rushed bc debate was so long.	7/29/2025 9:38 PM
248	Online voting would be better, but other than that nothing. There needs to be a plan for Finn.	7/29/2025 9:29 PM
249	I was in the gym so that my son could attend. My husband and I sat in the front row and we were not distracted by the children. I'm glad that there was this option for parents and was very annoyed by the adults who chose to sit in the gym yet complained about the noise. I found the debates to be heated and found that in general people were un-informed but made up their own reasoning. In combination with the social media blasts, those that opposed the project gained traction using fear and "us vs them" as a tactic. The approach needs to address this and get those such people to share their ideas and come up with a viable solution, so they can share that propoganda going forward. When people think it's their idea, they are more inclined to share and proselytize.	7/29/2025 9:27 PM
250	if voters could have submitted questions/concerns ahead of time, and had full thought out answers provided ahead of time - probably on a web site for public viewing - so they had more time to digest the answers before voting	7/29/2025 9:25 PM
251	I did not like the voting process. I felt as if it could have been more organized.	7/29/2025 9:06 PM
252	No suggestion from me, but more than one neighbor indicated a preference for secret ballot (i.e., the clickers)	7/29/2025 8:39 PM

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253	The fast vote at the end and inability to see the other location was very frustrating.	7/29/2025 8:22 PM
254	went well	7/29/2025 8:06 PM
255	It's important to have a 30 minute window for when the vote will take place. Holding people who know how they are voting to a multi-hour meeting (when their children are present/no childcare is provided) is unnecessary in 2025.	7/29/2025 8:02 PM
256	While I believe it's incumbent on votes to educate ourselves before coming to Town Meeting, many people entered the meeting with questions. The format of Town Meeting makes it very difficult for people with the knowledge to answer those questions - such as committee members and town officials - to actually answer those questions. Town Meeting is barely a debate, it's one statement after the next with no requirement for supporting facts or sources, and I think that format makes it exceptionally hard for people to form a fact-based opinion.	7/29/2025 7:59 PM
257	It was very unfriendly to people with kids. I was 38 weeks pregnant at the time with 2 little kids and it was so hard to be there for that. There were also snide remarks for people with kids, it was very discouraging to see the lack of support for families in a town where we just moved recently to raise our kids. I worry about southboroughs future as a town for families.	7/29/2025 7:46 PM
258	I don't know	7/29/2025 7:35 PM
259	Find out a way to engage more of the town. Too small a percentage of the town votes.	7/29/2025 7:33 PM
260	Very unwelcoming for families with young kids and very hostile environment in general	7/29/2025 7:26 PM
261	Moderator's job is hard but people kept going to microphone and saying they had new info - but they didn't. I know he doesn't want to cut off debate too early but it was too long.	7/29/2025 7:24 PM
262	Length of the meeting and no childcare are huge problems. You lost voters with children	7/29/2025 7:07 PM
263	Decrease the amount of debate	7/29/2025 6:23 PM
264	Anonymous vote for sure.	7/29/2025 6:23 PM
265	I think the debate should have been longer. The town moderator always cuts it short in my opinion.	7/29/2025 6:16 PM
266	It is infuriating to here incorrect information stated as fact in these meetings. The length of time this takes is a huge burden. Having no childcare available was disappointing	7/29/2025 6:08 PM
267	I appreciate the town bent over backwards to accomodate a lot of people to come, parents especially. There was truly truly a large effort put in to make sure a large number of people could attend. i dont know how to make it better but it was REALLY hard to hear anything in the "noisy" room.	7/29/2025 6:04 PM
268	More transparency and honesty from those on the committee	7/29/2025 5:55 PM
269	STM itself wasn't the primary issue; it was disappointing that many participants appeared to be uninformed about important aspects of the project; STM itself can't fix this, as STM can't be a complete "education process"	7/29/2025 5:54 PM
270	I felt very disheartened by the behavior of those in opposition of the proposal. There was cheering for people who didn't understand the materials that had been provided for months. There was people walking up to the mic to tell stories about their wives during a stand up comedy act. I felt disheartened that so many people seemed to care about money over what's best for the community. I'd rather not have the open mic, put on a show meeting in the future, it should be about questions and answers and not an opportunity for coordinated social media driven rambling.	7/29/2025 5:10 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

271	The length of the speakers have to be more limited	7/29/2025 5:09 PM
272	Good town meeting - but some speakers repetitive	7/29/2025 5:03 PM
273	Too long, waste of time. Not only do you want more of my money but you want more of my time. It's a ridiculous farce	7/29/2025 5:02 PM
274	Clickers should have been used. Head count and visual calling of votes on articles very subjective. The Neary committee did not present options. Vote should not have been just for Neary with no other options presented. Some members of committee were rude/short to questions. I understand and appreciate the hours and hard work they put into the proposal but to present an option where the South side of town would have no school and the effect that would have to those residents was unacceptable.	7/29/2025 4:54 PM
275	The committee proposing the change didn't spend enough time explaining it. I think they thought they had already explained everything other forums(?) most of the microphone time was taken by opponents or townspeople supporting it but for vague and emotional reasons. I didn't hear the arguments and details that I had heard in the online meetings	7/29/2025 4:49 PM
276	Stop letting the same people say the same things over and over again	7/29/2025 4:11 PM
277	I think the meeting was too long. Particularly since I have a baby and had to be at the meeting with him. Any way to allow voting to occur in a different format would be welcome. Perhaps the meeting being used for debate but then the vote itself being a ballot with availability of absentee voting, etc	7/29/2025 4:10 PM
278	A designated time in which a vote will be held. Attendance would improve for those who feel they have enough information and don't have the ability to attend for long periods of time	7/29/2025 4:08 PM
279	Meeting was too long and residents were allowed to repeat options/views which were already stated by other residents. Really redundant and unnecessarily long.	7/29/2025 3:47 PM
280	Too much misinformation was allowed to be spread in the meeting. Too much repetition.	7/29/2025 3:43 PM
281	Not well controlled by the moderator	7/29/2025 3:22 PM
282	Limit time of some of the speakers.	7/29/2025 3:16 PM
283	The length of the meeting was Long for those with families, especially with young children. I felt like overall the crowd was not very respectful towards those with small children, and this should not be tolerated as this vote is literally all about the children. There needs to be a reminder to all to show respect/zero tolerance for rude behavior at future meetings. I know voter also heckled a yes, photo at the meeting, which is entirely unacceptable and should not be tolerated. I felt this behavior was very much tolerated which speaks volumes about this town. Those issues should be rectified for future meetings.	7/29/2025 3:12 PM
284	I was told I had to sit in the gym as there was no room in auditorium when I arrived. I couldn't hear much of the discussion. Eventually they pulls the wall divider across and then I could hear. Maybe start that way. I understand can never make everyone happy about day and time for meeting and allowing children. But it was impossible to hear before wall across	7/29/2025 2:38 PM
285	?	7/29/2025 2:37 PM
286	I can't recall any specific issues with the format.	7/29/2025 2:24 PM
287	I still don't understand why we don't have the option to vote online instead of in person. I had friends who were going to vote Yes but had to leave before the vote was cast.	7/29/2025 2:04 PM
288	Too many residents getting up and saying the same thing over and over. As someone with children it was	7/29/2025 1:31 PM

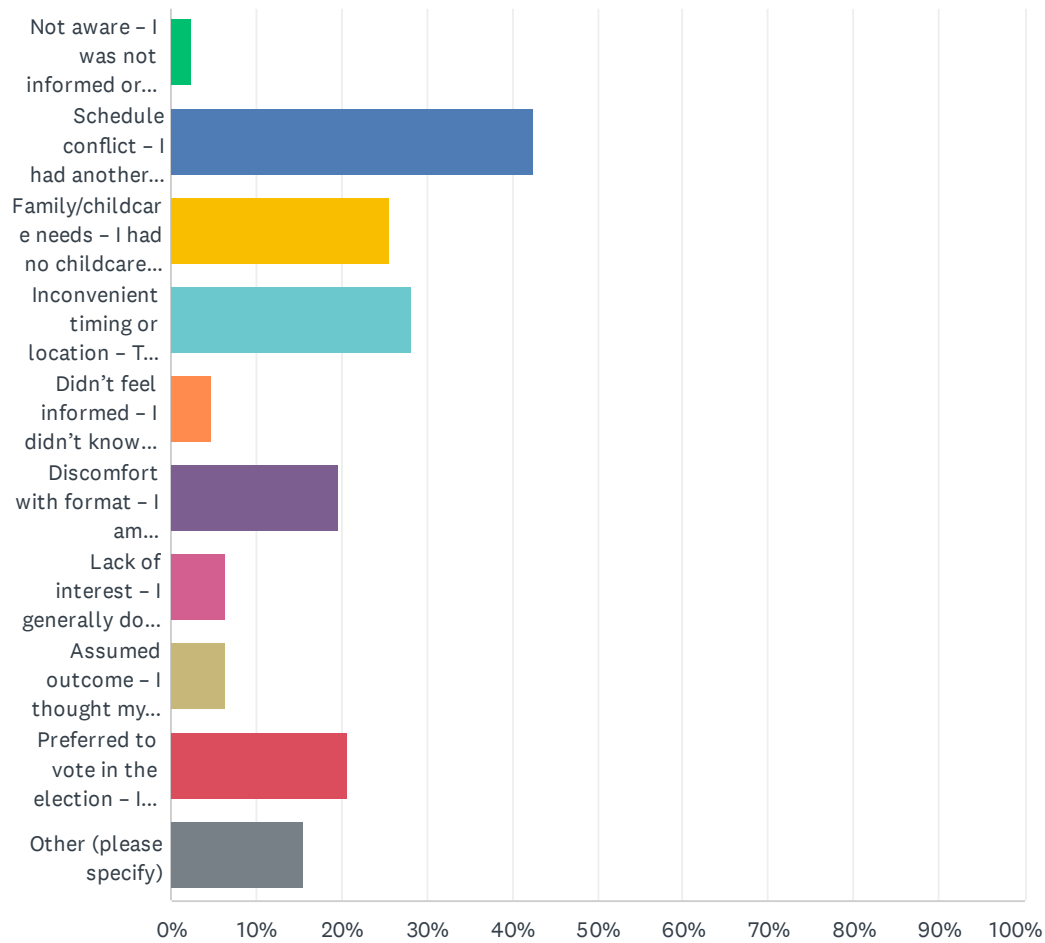
Neary School Project Feedback

great to have the room open for kids but the meeting got redundant and the kids were getting to restless causing many people to leave early before the vote- regardless of their stance

289	Very hostile environment. Moderator clearly biased (refused to count the vote at first, insane!). Tech issues, people allowed to speak way too long preventing us from hearing all voices relevant. Meeting way too long needs to be streamlined.	7/29/2025 1:09 PM
290	nothing	7/29/2025 1:04 PM
291	Repetitives	7/29/2025 1:02 PM
292	Less animosity towards families bringing their kids. A virtual attendance and voting option	7/29/2025 12:59 PM
293	I found that many people against the school cared only about their financial implications vs. what's best for our students and staff. Many people against the school vote were rude to young families there with kids. It was shocking to see how divided our community really was due to financial motives.	7/29/2025 12:58 PM
294	Length of meeting was a concern. A hard stop and vote time would have been nice.	7/29/2025 12:50 PM
295	Too long	7/29/2025 12:47 PM
296	Do not allow bullying by supporting residents.	7/29/2025 12:41 PM
297	Eliminate the town meeting requirement entirely. It is outdated and antiquated and doesn't value young families.	7/29/2025 12:41 PM
298	I was generally happy with the meeting format and ability to bring children	7/29/2025 12:40 PM
299	The amount of time it lasted. Public comment was way too long and repetitive. The vote and vote counting should be priority - not people grandstanding. Public comment needs to limited to 2 minutes or so and across the board. It is very inconsistent and frustrating that some are allowed to talk while others are cutoff. Everyone has 2-3 minutes and it is timed and then move on.	7/29/2025 12:34 PM
300	The meeting was too long, when the question is moved it that motion should be acted on before more debate.	7/29/2025 12:10 PM
301	Secret voting.	7/29/2025 11:01 AM
302	Presentations should be posted online for review and only general information presented at Town Meeting. Leaving more room for debate.	7/29/2025 9:15 AM

Q17 What were the primary reasons you did not attend the Special Town Meeting on May 10, 2025? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 301 Skipped: 488



Neary School Project Feedback

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not aware – I was not informed or didn't know about the meeting in time.	2.33%	7
Schedule conflict – I had another commitment, was out of town, or couldn't get time off to attend.	42.52%	128
Family/childcare needs – I had no childcare or was caring for family members during that time.	25.58%	77
Inconvenient timing or location – The day/time or venue of the meeting did not work for me.	28.24%	85
Didn't feel informed – I didn't know enough about the issue or felt unprepared to vote at the meeting.	4.65%	14
Discomfort with format – I am uncomfortable with Town Meeting format (e.g., speaking publicly, voting in a non-private setting, or sitting through a long meeting).	19.60%	59
Lack of interest – I generally do not attend Town Meetings or didn't feel strongly enough to attend.	6.31%	19
Assumed outcome – I thought my attendance/vote wouldn't make a difference (for example, I expected a certain outcome or preferred to see the result at the polls).	6.31%	19
Preferred to vote in the election – I chose to wait and vote at the ballot election rather than attend the meeting.	20.60%	62
Other (please specify)	15.61%	47
Total Respondents: 301		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Just moved to town and only became aware a few days before	8/19/2025 2:29 PM
2	Out of Town	8/18/2025 9:43 AM
3	i work in town don't live there	8/16/2025 1:30 PM
4	age	8/15/2025 10:06 AM
5	Out of state that day	8/14/2025 11:04 PM
6	Terrible timing- graduations, recitals, school ceremonies/programs.	8/14/2025 10:00 PM
7	WORK	8/14/2025 2:05 PM
8	My husband went and I stayed home with our kids	8/14/2025 2:01 PM
9	I'm not us citizen	8/14/2025 12:08 PM
10	my wife and I have greatly less energies	8/11/2025 10:03 AM
11	Illness	8/9/2025 10:24 AM
12	I watched video later. What I saw was an Inefficient deliberation, repetitious, an extremely unintelligent processing of information, not conducive to reasoned evaluation, should be elected Town Meeting members, and a ballot vote should be permissible to control outcome completely, with robust broadcast debates and written arguments from the most informed on each the issue. I will not attend an inefficient, hyperbolic 3-4 hour meeting, have done it before and never again.	8/9/2025 8:16 AM
13	I'm a Florida resident and was not here and thought I probably couldn't vote anyway.	8/8/2025 9:58 PM
14	I had already made a decision, in addition to the personal time conflict and felt the Special Election would be my best option to vote	8/8/2025 1:04 AM
15	Health issues having to prioritize things differently now.	8/7/2025 2:37 PM
16	Not well	8/7/2025 10:43 AM
17	not a citizen	8/7/2025 8:53 AM
18	Do not live in town	8/6/2025 7:13 PM

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19	I had to work	8/6/2025 5:13 PM
20	I find these meetings to be a waste of time and they go too long. I would have voted for the project too. A manual vote for the entire town should be held. Not in town meeting.	8/6/2025 2:50 PM
21	Not eligible to vote	8/5/2025 10:36 AM
22	not a resident	8/5/2025 10:31 AM
23	If it passed I would have voted against in the election (but that was not needed)	8/5/2025 10:00 AM
24	The timing of the meeting was very inconvenient for parents with school age children due to sports, activities and child care needs	8/5/2025 9:47 AM
25	Not eligible	8/5/2025 9:24 AM
26	It was at a date/time that conflicts with many town sports games, which impacts the very people you need to vote at these things - parents of school aged children.	8/5/2025 9:23 AM
27	I was not a registered voter at the time, just moved out of state.	8/5/2025 9:14 AM
28	I was working	8/5/2025 9:08 AM
29	We were both ill at the time	8/1/2025 9:49 AM
30	Family commitment out of town. Also sadly, a bit tired of the shit show we call town meeting.	8/1/2025 9:18 AM
31	I was out of state	8/1/2025 2:59 AM
32	I was 50/50 on the project.	7/31/2025 3:38 PM
33	Let's be real I am not bringing my 3 young children to sit in a gym for an unknown amount of time. I would not be able to listen or pay attention to the meeting while caring/containing 3 children. I think that it is unfair to ask people to just come and wait to be able to vote. If there was an option to just come and vote then I would have. This waiting unfairly favors those without young children.	7/31/2025 11:13 AM
34	Not eligible	7/30/2025 6:29 PM
35	Not feeling well	7/30/2025 5:21 PM
36	Not town resident	7/30/2025 4:22 PM
37	I was traveling.	7/30/2025 3:46 PM
38	Ineligible to vote	7/30/2025 3:23 PM
39	Not admitted due to voter registration timing.	7/30/2025 3:06 PM
40	I was away in another state visiting family	7/30/2025 11:42 AM
41	Husband Was not let in as he was not a registered voter but I was able to vote in the ballot.	7/30/2025 2:13 AM
42	It's too long! Kids need to go home and nap	7/29/2025 8:34 PM
43	The meetings take too long, allow online voting	7/29/2025 7:26 PM
44	Boards here compel residents to agree to their philosophy, such as this survey.	7/29/2025 5:50 PM
45	I work on the weekends.	7/29/2025 4:01 PM
46	Town meetings are too long.	7/29/2025 3:12 PM
47	Sick	7/29/2025 1:22 PM

Q18 What changes or support might have encouraged or enabled you to attend the Special Town Meeting? (Open-ended – please suggest anything that could have helped you attend. For example: a different meeting time/day or format, childcare availability, more advance notice or information, transportation assistance, etc., if relevant.)

Answered: 143 Skipped: 646

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	had a schedule conflict and the challenge to have long term childcare. however my spouse participated at the special town meeting	8/19/2025 8:35 PM
2	A time limit, as having town meetings length of time as open ended is hard to plan for with young children	8/18/2025 8:21 PM
3	More advanced notice	8/18/2025 1:44 PM
4	A different day .	8/17/2025 3:15 PM
5	if it helps schools	8/16/2025 1:30 PM
6	recording the meeting would be nice	8/15/2025 4:17 PM
7	The year is 2025. It is absolutely appalling that there is no online or mail in option. This measure significantly affects families with young children. As a new parent of an infant at the time, this lack of flexibility prevented me from being able to meaningfully participate.	8/15/2025 11:42 AM
8	I think this format is antiquated and unfavorable to parents who are directly affected by this decision.	8/15/2025 11:40 AM
9	Was out of town	8/15/2025 4:54 AM
10	I would have voted if the voting time was a long time window. The requirement of sitting at the town meeting for an unidentified amount of time in order to vote is not feasible. Offering a longer time frame to vote or an online option would guarantee a vote from me.	8/14/2025 10:00 PM
11	Close voting, ballot system, avoiding repetitive points and people speaking to hear sound of own voice	8/14/2025 6:24 PM
12	As a single parent working full time, attending live meetings is always a challenge.	8/14/2025 2:21 PM
13	Not have the meeting on a Saturday morning. Some people have work or sports for kids. A night meeting would have been better	8/14/2025 2:17 PM
14	I travel for work so it's hard for me to go make special meetings	8/14/2025 2:14 PM
15	N/A	8/14/2025 2:05 PM
16	Online meetings are easier to attend.	8/14/2025 1:52 PM
17	Multiple days for the meeting with different times. Like 3 meetings one morning , one afternoon on the next day and one evening the following day. I know this will be a lot of the committee members. The meetings should be timed and have a hard stop when the time is up.	8/14/2025 12:44 PM
18	None	8/14/2025 12:11 PM
19	private voting	8/12/2025 8:44 PM
20	Different meeting time/day	8/12/2025 10:48 AM
21	It is hard w work and kids to get there	8/12/2025 6:18 AM
22	Ability to attend and vote virtually	8/11/2025 2:33 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

23	More communication about town meetings and the agenda to be considered in advance of the meeting would be helpful.	8/11/2025 2:21 PM
24	Longer lead time in finding out about it	8/11/2025 10:25 AM
25	as we continue to age we become incredibly less active	8/11/2025 10:03 AM
26	Not held on Mother's Day weekend	8/10/2025 6:03 PM
27	I just did not want to listen to the negative comments from people.	8/9/2025 2:29 PM
28	Better run meeting.	8/9/2025 1:37 PM
29	1 hour limit, with 20 min each side to present, 20 minute rebuttal, no questions from audience people can prepare in advance and listen to the presentations and decide, voting process to take 15 minutes.	8/9/2025 8:16 AM
30	In general I don't like the town meeting formats, special and annual meeting. I think if the town can meet quarterly at a regular cadence it makes it easier for residents to plan and also no commit to a hours long (sometimes multi-day) meeting.	8/8/2025 9:12 PM
31	Our town meeting (special or regular) attendance is excellent over the 50 plus years we have lived here. Sorry you had to ask about one of the few we have missed.	8/8/2025 4:29 PM
32	childcare availability	8/8/2025 12:00 PM
33	Shorter time commitment. Start by eliminating the ceremonial upfronts. Better control. Published Rules of Order. Honest and fair opportunity for presentations by organizations. Previous town meetings of late have been deficient that we no longer WANT to attend.	8/8/2025 1:04 AM
34	A concern that it would pass as proposed.	8/7/2025 6:37 PM
35	Online	8/7/2025 12:12 PM
36	Make the meetings more productive rather than many people just wanting to hear themselves speak	8/7/2025 10:09 AM
37	More advanced notice	8/7/2025 9:48 AM
38	Having a virtual joining option would make it easier to attend	8/7/2025 8:13 AM
39	Online capability	8/7/2025 6:07 AM
40	The length was too much especially with children.	8/6/2025 8:01 PM
41	Change the system. We live in a new age. Have discussions held on TV or webinar. Then we vote as a town. Otherwise you will only get those that can attend.	8/6/2025 2:50 PM
42	Not sure it's possible in my case	8/6/2025 2:33 PM
43	Different day and time and not during the height of spring sports seasons.	8/6/2025 1:50 PM
44	Different day/time	8/6/2025 12:15 PM
45	I don't drive at night	8/6/2025 12:01 PM
46	I was not comfortable voting publicly so a private vote would have encouraged me to attend	8/6/2025 9:44 AM
47	I have a newborn, I need to be able to attend and vote remotely	8/5/2025 7:16 PM
48	An online option, shorter window of time for meeting	8/5/2025 7:00 PM
49	Online voting as I was out of town	8/5/2025 4:59 PM
50	Advanced notifications	8/5/2025 4:04 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

51	Should have not been after a long meeting. Need online options or drop in options over many hours	8/5/2025 12:50 PM
52	A time limit on meeting. I'm not willing to sit for 4-5 hours multiple nights. The system is archaic. Allow online voting or ballots.	8/5/2025 12:10 PM
53	virtual attendance option	8/5/2025 11:53 AM
54	Just moved to town in July	8/5/2025 11:26 AM
55	Honestly nothing. I have young kids and the meetings go on for so long	8/5/2025 10:24 AM
56	Clear time limits around when voting will occur	8/5/2025 10:22 AM
57	More awareness about the meeting, the time, date, purpose and how would my participation have helped. Knowing more about this might have helped.	8/5/2025 10:15 AM
58	Meeting should always be held in southboro	8/5/2025 10:04 AM
59	Not sure why the vote needs to be in-peron	8/5/2025 10:00 AM
60	All of the above I have no idea who can actually attend these thigs	8/5/2025 9:59 AM
61	In person voting is just hard- ballot voting is preferred and can expect more people to vote.	8/5/2025 9:51 AM
62	Different meeting time and format for voting	8/5/2025 9:47 AM
63	Advance notice	8/5/2025 9:26 AM
64	Advance notice or information	8/5/2025 9:25 AM
65	Voting should be open for all the town residents as everyone gets impacted	8/5/2025 9:24 AM
66	Allow Zoom option, provide childcare	8/5/2025 9:23 AM
67	Personal reasons	8/5/2025 9:18 AM
68	I would like a zoom option	8/5/2025 9:17 AM
69	I will next time as I am now a registered voter	8/5/2025 9:14 AM
70	I need a lot more advanced notice to make sure I am off from work. Also I do not like giving up a weekend day. It also needs to be shorter	8/5/2025 9:08 AM
71	Different day—I was working that day	8/4/2025 9:13 PM
72	Schedule conflict prevented my attendance, the idea of sitting through hours of back and forth, I view as a waste of time. I'd just like to preview the material, for and against and cast a vote. The idea that this can only be done at Town Meeting is insane, and you can't leave TM until the meeting is closed for fear it might get reopened.	8/4/2025 3:27 PM
73	Virtual-we are working parents. Per mass bylaws it appears other options are viable after a COVID time rule extension	8/3/2025 1:23 PM
74	Webinar	8/2/2025 4:44 PM
75	A different time or time of year. It was my daughter's dance recital that day. Also perhaps during the winter when there are less events going on would be better.	8/1/2025 6:58 PM
76	childcare availability	8/1/2025 10:01 AM
77	good health	8/1/2025 9:49 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

78	not much. tyranny of the vocal minority that knee jerk says no to anything that increases costs in town. News flash: taxes are going up and it's not because of the infrastructure. It's a result of all the people we have hired and continued to hire. Building costs are not going down. Get it done.	8/1/2025 9:18 AM
79	More advance notice	8/1/2025 7:28 AM
80	Not living in town at the time of the meeting	8/1/2025 5:16 AM
81	I was out of town for the vote, but had I been around, I do not have the means to spend all day at a town meeting with 2 young children. I work full time and also value our family time together on the weekends. I would prefer a ballot	7/31/2025 9:54 PM
82	I was traveling out of the country.	7/31/2025 7:02 PM
83	Mail in voting needed	7/31/2025 4:53 PM
84	If the project was overall more in line with what I personally would have wanted I would have gone to vote for it.	7/31/2025 3:38 PM
85	Childcare should be made available and there should be remote voting options. This is 2025, not 1925.	7/31/2025 1:17 PM
86	We were out of town at the time. General election with absentee voting would be great, but understand old antiquated laws in MA don't allow for this.	7/31/2025 11:44 AM
87	A drop in voting option.	7/31/2025 11:13 AM
88	childcare support	7/31/2025 7:23 AM
89	Option to vote right away rather than sit there with an uncertain time as to when the vote would occur	7/31/2025 6:28 AM
90	More advanced notice	7/31/2025 5:38 AM
91	The idea of a town meeting is great; however, they are not practice or appropriate in this century. Have an entire free evening or day assumes we are not working or have other obligations. We have great technology in this century and we should use it.	7/31/2025 5:11 AM
92	Private ballot is essential in such contested discussions. It felt very polarized.	7/30/2025 9:16 PM
93	Needs to be done in a open house format, not a witch hunt towards the people who invested their time to support it.	7/30/2025 8:35 PM
94	ability to vote like an election on a ballot	7/30/2025 7:56 PM
95	If I was eligible to vote, I would have made an effort to come.	7/30/2025 7:26 PM
96	Different format. An in-person town meeting with the voting format of hand raising is antiquated.	7/30/2025 6:47 PM
97	The format is ineffective- people have made their opinions already so letting each person talk adds little value. It's a sensitive topic and both sides are not mature to respect differing opinions. Voting should be done ballot form not by raise of hands on marginalizing topics such as these.	7/30/2025 6:44 PM
98	I had a family commitment I could not get out of	7/30/2025 5:23 PM
99	Holding it on a week night	7/30/2025 5:14 PM
100	Zoom option	7/30/2025 5:08 PM
101	Child care	7/30/2025 4:56 PM
102	Longer period to be able to vote and more flexibility (multiple days or times)	7/30/2025 4:48 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

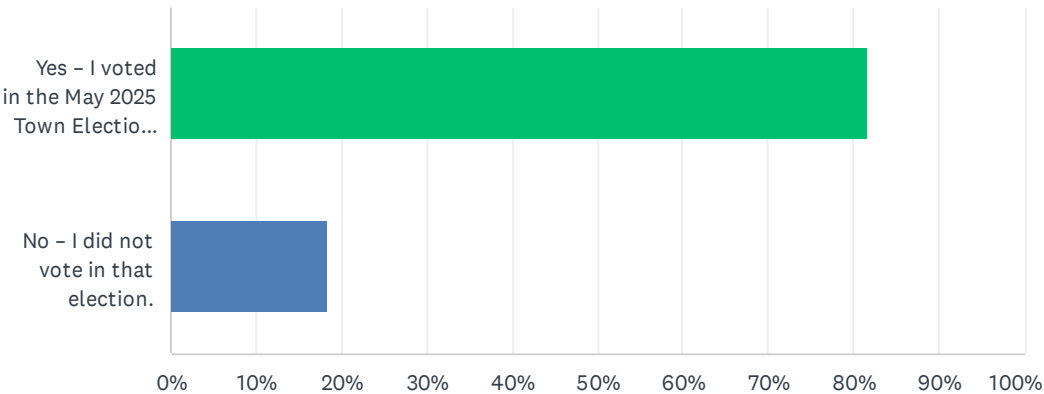
103	Format is very uncomfortable	7/30/2025 4:39 PM
104	See my answer above. Hate Town Meeting format.	7/30/2025 4:09 PM
105	Different day or time, would prefer a ballot vote	7/30/2025 4:07 PM
106	Shorter meeting duration and clicker/anonymized voting	7/30/2025 3:53 PM
107	I have been to one town meeting and it was a complete waste of my time.	7/30/2025 3:46 PM
108	Separate meetings with defined agenda for advocacy and votes	7/30/2025 3:45 PM
109	Online vote	7/30/2025 3:39 PM
110	Virtual viewing and remote or mail in voting	7/30/2025 3:39 PM
111	None	7/30/2025 3:29 PM
112	It was just bad timing.	7/30/2025 3:22 PM
113	If voting was an option with open windows for 2 days atleast	7/30/2025 3:17 PM
114	childcare availability	7/30/2025 3:14 PM
115	ability to vote online	7/30/2025 3:06 PM
116	No night town meetings	7/30/2025 12:22 PM
117	Attending these Town meetings is difficult due to the time commitment required and the slow-pace that they have. I understand that people should have the opportunity to voice their opinions, but would be better for something of this scale if it were be a ballot measure that ALL voters could then have opportunity to vote on. The Town meeting format makes it difficult.	7/30/2025 11:25 AM
118	Not a thing	7/30/2025 11:21 AM
119	Remote voting	7/30/2025 8:38 AM
120	Different time/day or mail in voting. A Saturday in May is always going to be difficul for people with school aged children.	7/30/2025 8:37 AM
121	I do not like that it was a raised hand vote. Especially since it was so contentious in town.	7/30/2025 7:29 AM
122	None	7/30/2025 7:21 AM
123	mail in ballot. I was picking my child up from college.	7/30/2025 6:12 AM
124	Set time for vote for issue	7/29/2025 10:11 PM
125	Vote via ballot	7/29/2025 8:34 PM
126	Online voting	7/29/2025 7:26 PM
127	try a different way of voting, you will find this proposal would have been defeated by a wider margin	7/29/2025 6:12 PM
128	Online voting	7/29/2025 5:25 PM
129	I was out of town for work. A virtual option would have been appreciated	7/29/2025 5:13 PM
130	different day	7/29/2025 4:01 PM
131	better meeting time	7/29/2025 3:17 PM
132	Length of time at the meeting	7/29/2025 3:12 PM
133	They are too long and I can't stand listening to so many	7/29/2025 3:05 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

	people complain	
134	None- I care for elderly relative with dementia.	7/29/2025 1:55 PM
135	Would hope this could be a ballot vote. The people that have the most vested interest in a new school are likely tied up with kids activities during the voting times	7/29/2025 1:50 PM
136	Specific time to come vote	7/29/2025 1:41 PM
137	Have on a weeknight	7/29/2025 1:36 PM
138	None other than healthy at time of meeting	7/29/2025 1:22 PM
139	I want to be able to just cast my vote	7/29/2025 1:05 PM
140	Please stop town meeting. It's useless and doesn't provide a good option for many people In town	7/29/2025 1:03 PM
141	New format with remote/online voting option	7/29/2025 12:49 PM
142	We were on a previously planned trip out of the country.	7/29/2025 11:01 AM
143	Manage time so that voting can be executed effectively without having to listen to all the debates.	7/29/2025 10:02 AM

Q19 Did you vote in the May 13, 2025 Annual Town Election on the Neary school debt exclusion question? (This was the town-wide ballot vote on funding for the Neary project.)

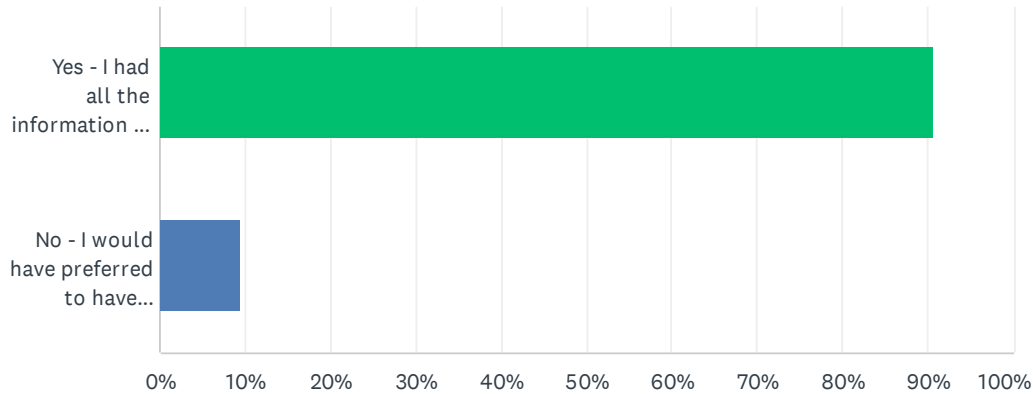
Answered: 711 Skipped: 78



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes – I voted in the May 2025 Town Election (ballot question on the Neary project).	81.58%	580
No – I did not vote in that election.	18.42%	131
TOTAL		711

Q20 Before voting in the Ballot election did you feel you had all the information you needed to make an informed vote on the ballot question?

Answered: 584 Skipped: 205



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes - I had all the information I needed	90.58%	529
No - I would have preferred to have additional information.	9.42%	55
TOTAL		584

Q21 What information do you wish you had received prior to the Ballot vote on the ballot question?

Answered: 33 Skipped: 756

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Environmental effects of the selected site	8/18/2025 9:46 PM
2	What other options were available, and what the tax impact would be. And is there a guarantee that the cost wouldn't go up beyond \$109 m.	8/18/2025 1:50 PM
3	I would have liked to see more options for the school design. I voted because it affects my kids positively but I didn't like the details of the plan fully. I think many parents had similar reaction to me to the plan, but voted no because of it.	8/18/2025 1:21 PM
4	The way the question was worded got me confused	8/15/2025 7:10 AM
5	Not really sure what it meant other than money was going to be applied to the project	8/14/2025 6:47 PM
6	Actual cost comparison of renovation versus new building. No one knew the real cost of the renovation and the cost for a new building seemed artificially inflated.	8/9/2025 1:39 PM
7	project was only neary focused and not focused on consequences for the town and town vision	8/9/2025 9:49 AM
8	What the plan was for the Finn school	8/8/2025 12:01 PM
9	It was hard to understand the differences between in person vote and the ballot?	8/5/2025 9:50 AM
10	I would have loved for a packet to be mailed to my house thoroughly explaining what we were voting on. They do this in California and it's very effective.	8/5/2025 9:33 AM
11	Same details listed prior	8/5/2025 9:26 AM
12	Clear conveying	8/5/2025 9:25 AM
13	None	8/3/2025 2:39 PM
14	Noted above	8/2/2025 9:59 PM
15	More elaboration on the cost and it's impact on the taxpayers	8/2/2025 4:45 PM
16	It was rushed. And anyone pumping any kind of a "debt exclusion" ballot needs to be pulled aside for a serious roadside sobriety check 😞	8/1/2025 11:01 AM
17	answered in last question	8/1/2025 7:28 AM
18	A simpler breakdown	7/31/2025 8:50 PM
19	More detail on funding from state or feds	7/31/2025 10:58 AM
20	A broader picture of the overall tax projections for the town, including the building project.	7/31/2025 8:42 AM
21	Again, I wish I had a better understanding of the tax implications but perhaps I just don't understand the tax system and that is on me.	7/31/2025 7:56 AM
22	Again, plan for Finn. I still voted yes at the meeting and on the ballot.	7/30/2025 5:59 PM
23	artificial turf on playground/field	7/30/2025 4:25 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

24	Previous answer	7/30/2025 4:03 PM
25	A mailed word document outline all the diligence and key information of the project. We rely too much on people attending did committee meetings or checking multiple parts of website. Should provide executive summary document of all pertinent information with links to website for more details where needed	7/30/2025 3:40 PM
26	Exactly what, why and how would Finn be used by the town....who needs the space. Environmentally, Neary is not a very stable...it is the old town dump...a school never should have been even built there ever b	7/30/2025 7:46 AM
27	Same as for the meeting vote. Risks to the town of cost overruns, etc...	7/30/2025 1:08 AM
28	Same as before the in person vote. I wish I did more due-dilligence to read more materials. Overall, i with the various options were laid out more clearly and showed why the other options would/wouldn't work.	7/29/2025 9:28 PM
29	not sure	7/29/2025 9:25 PM
30	Didn't realize until the week of that you had to vote in the ballot AND the town meeting. It was very unclear and I was fairly engaged in the process.	7/29/2025 7:08 PM
31	What other choices were proposed	7/29/2025 2:11 PM
32	Reimbursement rates for something other than a total new build four grade school	7/29/2025 1:23 PM
33	More clear information on the full project and scenarios if passed or if voted no	7/29/2025 1:04 PM

Q22 What, if anything, could have been done to improve the voting process or your experience voting on the Neary project ballot question?
 (Open-ended – for example, consider things like clarity of the ballot question language, availability of early/mail voting, publicity about the vote, or any aspect of the process that could be better.)

Answered: 227 Skipped: 562

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	start to inform earlier and be more proactive towards the no campaign and the misinformation by they provided on socialmedia and website. For example, they open their website one month before voting and used tactics seen on presidential elections.	8/19/2025 8:37 PM
2	N/A	8/19/2025 3:59 PM
3	Publicity about the vote	8/18/2025 9:49 PM
4	Longer process for presentations	8/18/2025 7:41 PM
5	Once again, prior to town meeting there should have been a much longer community discussion in advance.	8/18/2025 6:41 PM
6	i think everything was done very well - the information got out there	8/18/2025 1:53 PM
7	Publicity about the vote.	8/18/2025 1:52 PM
8	Having a very clear explanation of why a new school was needed when the existing schools have more than enough space to handle projected enrollment.	8/18/2025 9:46 AM
9	It was fine although it seemed moot after the Town Meeting vote.	8/17/2025 9:46 PM
10	Nothing	8/17/2025 5:19 PM
11	Nothing. It was a moot point by then.	8/16/2025 4:58 PM
12	No input	8/16/2025 10:52 AM
13	It was clear if you attended the meeting	8/15/2025 4:44 PM
14	Town meeting format is simply antiquated. Residents should be able to vote remotely.	8/15/2025 2:13 PM
15	Expedited voting. I don't know how to articulate this one but exclude the older generation of the community from voting. Folks who most likely won't be around when the future generations of Southborough children go to school had the most influence on this project not passing. The +65 year old community should be ashamed of themselves.	8/15/2025 2:04 PM
16	Language was confusing	8/15/2025 1:05 PM
17	A new style of town government.	8/15/2025 11:45 AM
18	I would prefer only the ballot vote (not the in-person component).	8/15/2025 11:41 AM
19	Ballot question was straightforward. Location is easy and convenient.	8/15/2025 9:12 AM
20	Clarity of ballot question	8/15/2025 7:11 AM
21	?	8/15/2025 6:50 AM
22	Early/mail-in vote. online vote.	8/14/2025 10:01 PM
23	Nothing	8/14/2025 7:59 PM
24	We have enough space. We should spend taxpayers money on more teachers not more buildings.	8/14/2025 7:58 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

25	The election was well done - no suggestions. I would have liked it to be only a question at election and not at town meeting!	8/14/2025 7:34 PM
26	Nothing	8/14/2025 7:03 PM
27	Needs to be clear proposal with tax and educational impact with alternatives in writing(official) format. Thus allowing ample time for discussion and assessment of support.	8/14/2025 6:49 PM
28	No suggestions	8/14/2025 6:24 PM
29	Na	8/14/2025 6:24 PM
30	Not have had the in person vote as so many could not attend. Or make it so people could also vote ahead of time/ online	8/14/2025 2:18 PM
31	Nothing	8/14/2025 2:07 PM
32	I thought this went really well, exactly as thorough and well managed as the primary and general elections. Great job	8/14/2025 2:04 PM
33	Most parents in town did not seem to realize the vote was happening. Those who did realize it was happening didn't seem to understand that voting in the election vote mattered even if the project was not approved in the in-person vote. That was a loss. I don't believe the final counts for either vote accurately reflects the large volume of families who would want the project to happen.	8/14/2025 1:18 PM
34	consider utilizing existing resources to full extent	8/14/2025 12:21 PM
35	Clarity of the ballot question language.	8/14/2025 12:14 PM
36	Ballot language was very confusing.	8/14/2025 6:32 AM
37	I don't think that if it was voted down at the ballot that we should have to go to a town meeting for the same subject	8/13/2025 8:54 AM
38	All good	8/12/2025 11:36 AM
39	Nothing	8/12/2025 10:48 AM
40	Every major vote in the Town, particularly one with fiscal impacts should have an explanatory sheet similar to the Secretary of State's 'a vote for does this v. a vote against does this' written by advocates for each side and vetted by the Town lawyer for factual correctness.	8/12/2025 10:39 AM
41	I understood the election question and the importance of it. I think there were many people, especially seniors, who did not understand they had to also vote at the election even though they voted at the town meeting. Absentee ballots need to be available and able to be voted up until the day before the election. People sometimes have to suddenly go out of town for a funeral or work or whatever and just cannot plan ahead in those instances.	8/12/2025 7:10 AM
42	The corrupt unselect board forced both a waste of time special town meeting, in the hope of getting the measure passed. But, that wasn't enough for them, as they also required a ballot vote on the measure! It has been defeated TWICE. Move on!! Cancel another waste of taxpayer money by holding ANOTHER fake special town meeting!!!	8/11/2025 5:01 PM
43	Ballot language confused a lot of voters	8/11/2025 3:40 PM
44	.	8/11/2025 2:05 PM
45	I believe many people did not know that a vote needed to be done 2x. At town meeting AND on ballot.	8/11/2025 10:17 AM
46	Sound system for people speaking	8/11/2025 6:02 AM
47	No	8/10/2025 6:04 PM
48	Stop spending millions . Think about all the tax payers, not taxpayer who have children in school.	8/10/2025 5:22 PM
49	The ballot question was fine and I prefer in person voting. The process was fine.	8/9/2025 3:24 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

50	Availability of mail in ballot.	8/9/2025 2:30 PM
51	Real clear facts and numbers, not speculation.	8/9/2025 1:40 PM
52	get pros and cons on the project in advance from town's people and try to raise more awareness	8/9/2025 9:59 AM
53	Nothing for ballot vote	8/9/2025 8:17 AM
54	At that point, we had all we needed.	8/8/2025 4:31 PM
55	More detail on effect of the ballot question	8/8/2025 12:11 PM
56	availability of early/mail voting	8/8/2025 12:01 PM
57	Excuse me for being offended by this question, but you seem to imply I voted without all that I needed. I was sufficiently informed and the Town always runs a smooth in-person process as well as a clear absentee one. The most well done department in town, in my opinion.	8/8/2025 1:09 AM
58	We knew it was not a solution to a fabricated problem.	8/7/2025 6:40 PM
59	That was well done.	8/7/2025 1:55 PM
60	Nothing comes to mind	8/7/2025 12:12 PM
61	We should never go to a ballot with only 1 option on the ballot, once the committee finds the one or 2 or 3 best options, these are the choices. We shouldnt kick the can down the road forever because people dont have ability to pay attention to anything until its time to vote no. The delay is only going to increase the cost its insanity.	8/7/2025 12:11 PM
62	Nothing	8/7/2025 7:22 AM
63	I attended a presentation of the plan a year ago where the impact on the town budget was presented. The tax increase was stated to be 50% over 5 years, assuming nothing new came up. Which it always does. At the time I made a public comment that the tax increase would never make it through town meeting. The committee voted to go forward with design that night and spend the state funds. The project did not make it through town meeting. The town needs more revenue.	8/6/2025 4:14 PM
64	I found it sufficiently clear	8/6/2025 2:34 PM
65	N/A	8/6/2025 1:53 PM
66	Nothing	8/6/2025 1:07 PM
67	Clear definition on the difference between the Town Meeting vote and the ballot measure vote.	8/6/2025 10:59 AM
68	Nothing	8/6/2025 7:41 AM
69	Clarity of ballot	8/6/2025 4:51 AM
70	none, it was fine	8/5/2025 11:15 PM
71	I believe the special town meeting explained the vote and what the options were quite well.	8/5/2025 9:11 PM
72	Clarity on the difference between the town hall meeting vote and the ballot vote	8/5/2025 7:01 PM
73	None	8/5/2025 2:20 PM
74	The language could have been simpler and easy to understand.	8/5/2025 12:27 PM
75	Other options should have been offered	8/5/2025 12:17 PM
76	Mail in ballots, early voting.	8/5/2025 12:11 PM
77	There were a lot of people in town who didn't understand that participation both at town meeting AND at the ballots was necessary. This could be better communicated in the future.	8/5/2025 12:03 PM
78	Why did it need to be in person? How come this town refuses to bring additional investment from business into it to help offset our towns taxes which are very	8/5/2025 10:57 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

	high compared to our neighbors	
79	Mail in voting	8/5/2025 10:31 AM
80	Get the word out more about voting yes. Many neighbors had incorrect information that was based on rumor not truth.	8/5/2025 9:50 AM
81	Improve clarity of question on ballot, overly complicated	8/5/2025 9:48 AM
82	Nothing	8/5/2025 9:36 AM
83	I think sending information out in advance about the ballot measures would help people feel more informed. The question on the ballot was clear!	8/5/2025 9:34 AM
84	I wish signs had info on voting on the ballot too	8/5/2025 9:34 AM
85	no improvements	8/5/2025 9:28 AM
86	N/A	8/5/2025 9:27 AM
87	Publicity awareness ,social media posts	8/5/2025 9:26 AM
88	these questions are flawed ... and leaning towards "what would have made you vote yes"	8/5/2025 9:18 AM
89	Should be well communicated right from the start. Some of us were not aware of this project in the beginning. Also taking multiple votes and breaking down the proj might help. More accurate and simple messaging.	8/5/2025 9:14 AM
90	I did not think the ballot question language was clear at all. After all the time to listen to everyone speak, the vote felt very rushed and not properly explained. It was difficult to hear everything in the overflow room. This had more to do with the sound quality than the noise in the room. Early/mail voting is a great idea. Any way to vote on this with an election over a town meeting would be much better.	8/4/2025 10:15 PM
91	Mail voting	8/4/2025 9:14 PM
92	I think that by the time it got to the ballot, people thought it had already lost or was going to lose anyway	8/4/2025 8:21 PM
93	none	8/4/2025 1:08 PM
94	The question was ok	8/3/2025 4:45 PM
95	Need to have hybrid options. It is 2025-this is the only sound method to ensure the broadest representation in modern day	8/3/2025 1:24 PM
96	It was clear	8/3/2025 10:31 AM
97	It was clear. No other recommendations.	8/2/2025 11:42 PM
98	Clarity of ballot question language	8/2/2025 9:59 PM
99	Wouldn't change anything-the people spoke!	8/2/2025 9:20 AM
100	(Nothing.)	8/1/2025 9:41 PM
101	I had no issues.	8/1/2025 3:44 PM
102	already asked and answered	8/1/2025 11:02 AM
103	nothing	8/1/2025 9:50 AM
104	The ballot question was clear.	8/1/2025 9:18 AM
105	nothing.	8/1/2025 9:18 AM
106	improve the diversity of people on committees to represent many points of view and to objectively ask for town feedback during the process of coming up with a proposal	8/1/2025 7:30 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

107	Voting was easy	8/1/2025 4:28 AM
108	Early mail voting for both votes and clarity on why two votes were needed. Allow speakers at separate session, leave voting to just voting. Have debates, public comment in separate session.	8/1/2025 3:00 AM
109	Align the vote with a Federal/State election to improve turnout	7/31/2025 9:39 PM
110	Town meeting is antiquated - voting publicly violates the privacy of every individual	7/31/2025 9:26 PM
111	Clarity and language of the queries	7/31/2025 8:51 PM
112	Nothing - did not want a new expensive school for a declining school age population- the fire / police building was over kill for a town of 10,000	7/31/2025 8:49 PM
113	The committee did a good job of trying to educate the townspeople and getting them out to vote unfortunately their one option had little support and they were fighting a losing battle from the beginning.	7/31/2025 6:27 PM
114	Again, we have said no multiple times. The answer is no and you are not respecting the voters of this town. We do not want this project. There is a Plan B and we should execute on the Plan B. We should not try this project in an economic climate where we have no idea what the total cost will be because of tariffs, and the fact that the federal government will be cutting all funding.	7/31/2025 5:46 PM
115	Tell people they have two minutes to make their point and stop them from dribbling on.	7/31/2025 5:32 PM
116	I wanted to be sure that funds were NOT approved for a project that was rejected	7/31/2025 4:57 PM
117	So confusing about why it was even happening because online chatter was very heightened and lots of misinformation. Felt like people were being asked to revote for the thing they voted down (even though that was not. As I understand it, exactly what the ballot question actually did)	7/31/2025 3:54 PM
118	more voting options, like different plans not just build a new school	7/31/2025 3:27 PM
119	Town interim vote on project idea before it was fully designed.	7/31/2025 3:27 PM
120	It was really unclear to a lot of folks why this vote was necessary after the STM.	7/31/2025 3:07 PM
121	It seemed ridiculous to vote to fund something that had been voted down.	7/31/2025 2:48 PM
122	mail	7/31/2025 1:48 PM
123	Why have two votes, special meeting and ballot? It makes it confusing as to which, if any, was more important.	7/31/2025 1:33 PM
124	Ballot question language could have been more direct. But overall voting in the town elections has always been easy and accessible, and I wish that the results of the vote at the in-person town meeting had not precluded the project from moving forward - it seems to me likely that potential 'yes' voters who saw this result might not have made the effort to turn out and vote if they felt the ballot question had already been defeated.	7/31/2025 12:10 PM
125	Changing the language of the article at Town Meeting and printing it with no sum of money being requested	7/31/2025 12:07 PM
126	Nothing additional needed.	7/31/2025 11:18 AM
127	Nothing.	7/31/2025 11:09 AM
128	nothing, it was fine	7/31/2025 11:05 AM
129	The language was slightly confusing	7/31/2025 11:04 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

130	Less personal stories from voters	7/31/2025 10:58 AM
131	Clarity about overall tax implications for tax payers	7/31/2025 8:43 AM
132	Most people knew that 2 NO votes were required to defeat the project. What they were unsure about was clarity of the ballot question, but they knew they had to vote NO.	7/31/2025 8:27 AM
133	Mail voting would've made a difference for me. I was aware of the online voting after the May 10 vote deciding if Neary could even be on the ballot.	7/31/2025 8:00 AM
134	I had no problem with the un-anonymous-ness of the vote, but the vote was counted by a perceived percentage of raised hands in the main room, and not in the second room. There should be an actual count	7/31/2025 8:00 AM
135	the voting process was fine--the proposal was flawed	7/31/2025 7:28 AM
136	N/A	7/31/2025 7:11 AM
137	Clarity on what happens in a no vote.	7/31/2025 6:42 AM
138	Faster town meeting or a commitment to voting by a certain time to allow residents with kids to arrive within a specified window of time. The moderator could have said they would entertain a motion to move the question at X time if debate is still going and that would be the time parents with kids would be encouraged to come.	7/30/2025 9:57 PM
139	NA	7/30/2025 9:16 PM
140	Publicity about the vote with clear language posted around town.	7/30/2025 9:14 PM
141	I had no issue	7/30/2025 8:39 PM
142	Nothing	7/30/2025 8:22 PM
143	I knew details, but heard a lot in town confused about need for 2 votes.	7/30/2025 8:14 PM
144	Nothing.	7/30/2025 4:43 PM
145	No count in the meeting, send the paper based ballots	7/30/2025 4:41 PM
146	It was unclear why you would / should vote Yes if the Town Meeting voted No. And frankly I think a waste of time to ask people to vote when it was such a clear direction from the Town Meeting that the project wouldn't pass.	7/30/2025 4:28 PM
147	None. Voting process was fine	7/30/2025 4:26 PM
148	I think we should reflect teachers opinion more - maybe bring some teachers to talk about the situations that they face	7/30/2025 4:07 PM
149	You're immediately excluding a HUGE part of the population in town by presenting a project that will be millions...and millions...and millions due to people just feeling defeated. No one is against improving education, no one. What people are against is overloading young families and elderly with insane taxes and then pushing this new project on them. It could all be handled so differently. We need to fix the root of the problem which is that there is 0 money coming into this town before we start putting projects like this on the table.	7/30/2025 4:07 PM
150	Clarity of the language	7/30/2025 4:04 PM
151	More options that included just replacing the Neary building and not adding more grades, closing schools and moving everyone around. Keep it simple and keep the cost affordable period.	7/30/2025 3:53 PM
152	See prior answers , plus ability to mail in votes	7/30/2025 3:41 PM
153	Online	7/30/2025 3:40 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

154	Nothing. The goal of the committee was not in line with the priorities and values of the voters.	7/30/2025 3:37 PM
155	Nothing. This was very well run and made it easy for me to cast my vote.	7/30/2025 3:29 PM
156	i don't know. people think you're coming for their wallets, they get really defensive (and believe me, i don't want you coming for mine and have my concerns about how taxes are trending in Sboro, especially for what we get)	7/30/2025 3:25 PM
157	I thought the publicity was good and everything but there should have been a secondary cheaper renovation option instead of only one super expensive option that wouldn't raise tax dollars so much.	7/30/2025 3:23 PM
158	My process was very easy.	7/30/2025 3:22 PM
159	Explaining the difference between the 2 votes.	7/30/2025 3:16 PM
160	Publicity about the meaning of the vote, why town meeting and vote were necessary	7/30/2025 3:09 PM
161	There should be a mail in voting system so all residents have an opportunity to vote. Making people sit through a 5 hour meeting to vote is unreasonable.	7/30/2025 3:08 PM
162	clarity of the ballot question language	7/30/2025 3:08 PM
163	online voting option	7/30/2025 3:07 PM
164	n/a	7/30/2025 3:06 PM
165	NA	7/30/2025 2:40 PM
166	Website w summary of meetings.	7/30/2025 2:02 PM
167	More clarity needed on planned future-year budgets/projects to assess the impact of adding new expenses/debts.	7/30/2025 12:27 PM
168	No vote was not respected by the other side	7/30/2025 12:23 PM
169	The ballot question language was confusing, even for someone who was knowledgeable about the issue. Early voting & voting by mail could have been improved. I'd like to see ranked choice voting to be explored for the next phase of this project.	7/30/2025 12:11 PM
170	The "split" vote on the Neary project was difficult. I am not sure most people understood that there were 2 separate and distinct things to vote for and that they were contingent on each other. This entire process and project should be voted on ALL together. Some form of mailer that completely outlines the entirety of the project, the tax potential implication, benefits of the state funding, etc. should be sent to every household. Too many differing things out there that didn't really give the entire complete picture and provided conflicting information that allowed people their own interpretation of facts.	7/30/2025 11:29 AM
171	Nothing	7/30/2025 11:22 AM
172	Voting was fine. The project plan was the problem	7/30/2025 10:18 AM
173	Southboro has always run a great election.	7/30/2025 10:13 AM
174	Nothing	7/30/2025 8:38 AM
175	Allowing the voting to be a full day.	7/30/2025 8:34 AM
176	More publicity about the conditions of the existing building.	7/30/2025 8:09 AM
177	for officials to tell the truth	7/30/2025 8:00 AM
178	Nothing. I was well informed at the time of the ballot and ready to move forward based on the election result. Unfortunately, several on the Select Board did not feel the need to show respect for that decision.	7/30/2025 7:55 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

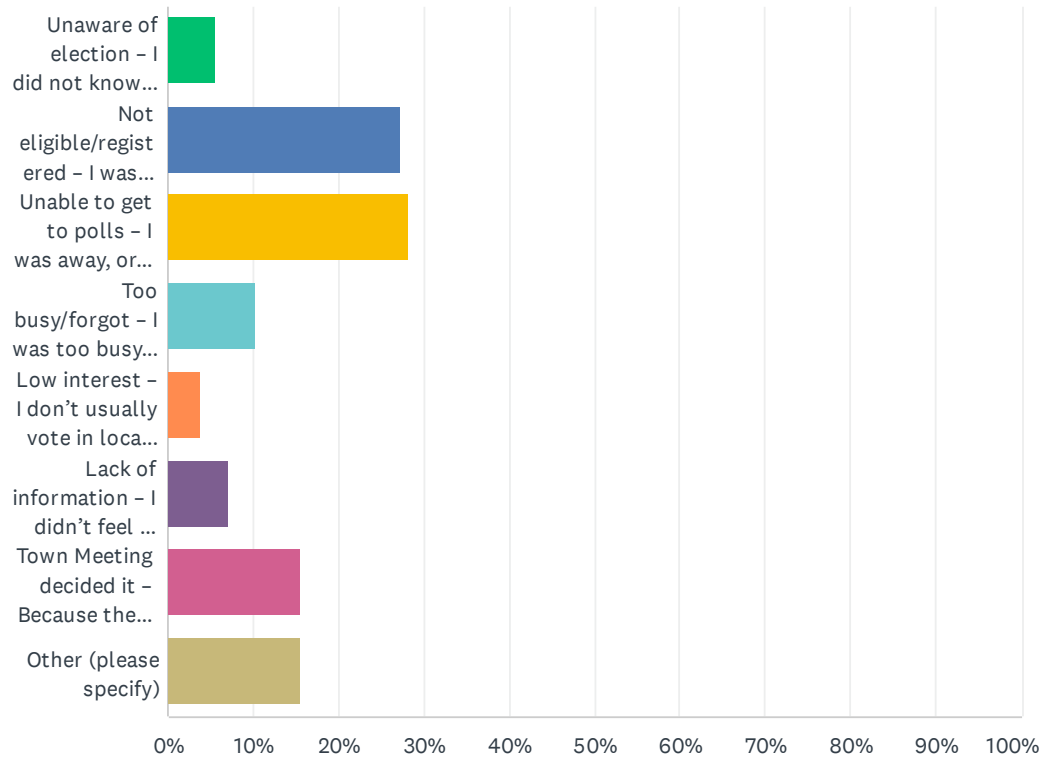
179	The voting experience was flawless.	7/30/2025 7:42 AM
180	The question was simple, yes gor for it or no drop it.	7/30/2025 7:22 AM
181	Clarity of ballet question language.	7/30/2025 7:02 AM
182	nothing of note	7/30/2025 6:12 AM
183	More clarity on the difference between the in person vote and the ballot vote.	7/30/2025 6:01 AM
184	Proponents should have effectively put out "it still matters" information, and why.	7/30/2025 3:17 AM
185	Nothing. I wish to hell the town meeting vote had been by ballot instead.	7/30/2025 1:08 AM
186	Ballot language was confusing. Questions voted on in mtg were worded differently than in warrant	7/29/2025 11:23 PM
187	It was fine.	7/29/2025 10:45 PM
188	The wording in ballot was very confusing	7/29/2025 9:59 PM
189	Nothing. It was fine. Obviously on-line voting would be better.	7/29/2025 9:29 PM
190	Language on the ballot was confusing.	7/29/2025 9:06 PM
191	The ballot question could have been simplified.	7/29/2025 8:04 PM
192	No suggestions	7/29/2025 7:36 PM
193	Clarity of ballot question language	7/29/2025 7:27 PM
194	Town Clerk does a great job on elections - no complaints.	7/29/2025 7:25 PM
195	More knowledge and communication of the process and more communication of how to vote early	7/29/2025 7:08 PM
196	it was a no vote move on start working on other issues in this town stop wasting our tax money no means no	7/29/2025 6:14 PM
197	the voting process was fine to me.	7/29/2025 6:05 PM
198	More clarity	7/29/2025 5:55 PM
199	same issue as for STM; my perception is that many voters were relatively uninformed about important aspects of the project--and the voting process itself can't fix this	7/29/2025 5:55 PM
200	More vetting of people's intentions should have been done beforehand because nobody wants to waste all this time and effort to go back to the drawing board. More cnvasing the town and support collection.	7/29/2025 5:14 PM
201	No problem with the process	7/29/2025 5:10 PM
202	prior communication to all voters, not just social media	7/29/2025 5:05 PM
203	Voting was fine	7/29/2025 5:03 PM
204	I felt that much of the information was less than truthful and thorough. The committee presented only points that supported their proposal. Voters should have been presented more than one proposal.	7/29/2025 4:56 PM
205	Nothing	7/29/2025 4:49 PM
206	The wording of the ballot article was confusing	7/29/2025 4:17 PM
207	Make Town Meeting with a date and duration that encourages the participation of parents.	7/29/2025 4:12 PM
208	Whatever additional availability for early/mail voting or expanded hours would be welcome. But this worked fine as it was.	7/29/2025 4:12 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

209	vote by mail	7/29/2025 4:02 PM
210	Nothing. Voting in person is incredibly easy.	7/29/2025 3:47 PM
211	n/a	7/29/2025 3:18 PM
212	Not enough, was done to communicate the importance of voting on this day in addition to the vote Saturday. Sometime could've been spent Saturday discussing this process and the importance of voting at both.	7/29/2025 3:13 PM
213	Was confusing that if a Yes vote was cast after project voted down it would still go through	7/29/2025 2:39 PM
214	Nothing	7/29/2025 2:38 PM
215	n/a	7/29/2025 2:04 PM
216	Na	7/29/2025 1:41 PM
217	It was fine but I think the education around needing to vote in both was not very clear	7/29/2025 1:32 PM
218	I voted and had no problem with the process.	7/29/2025 1:24 PM
219	Ballot voting instead of a town meeting	7/29/2025 1:16 PM
220	Early mail voting. We have having a minority of the town make long lasting decisions. Work and life do not always allow me and my family to attend these votes. I want more voices to be heard in town.	7/29/2025 1:10 PM
221	nothing	7/29/2025 1:05 PM
222	The clarity, many people were confused on what a yes or no vote ment	7/29/2025 1:04 PM
223	Having an alternative option instead of pass the new school or do nothing	7/29/2025 12:59 PM
224	Clarity should have been improved, adding a summary at the end, such as "a yes vote will fund the new school building" and "a no vote will not fund the new school"	7/29/2025 12:51 PM
225	The committee of did not have a handle on town wide consensus, but plowed ahead with their own agenda.	7/29/2025 12:42 PM
226	Keeping it simple is always best. No need for early or mail in voting. It is too expensive and timely for a very low response.	7/29/2025 12:36 PM
227	Voting didnt seem to be the issue, rather people felt that their concerns were not incorporated in the proposal	7/29/2025 11:54 AM

Q23 What were the main reasons you did not vote in the May 2025 Town Election on the Neary project question? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 128 Skipped: 661



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Unaware of election – I did not know there was a town election or a school project question on the ballot.		5.47%	7
Not eligible/registered – I was not registered to vote in town at that time or otherwise not eligible.		27.34%	35
Unable to get to polls – I was away, or unable to go to the polling station on Election Day (e.g., due to work, travel, illness).		28.13%	36
Too busy/forgot – I was too busy on Election Day, or it slipped my mind.		10.16%	13
Low interest – I don't usually vote in local elections / didn't care strongly about this issue.		3.91%	5
Lack of information – I didn't feel I had enough information to confidently vote on the question.		7.03%	9
Town Meeting decided it – Because the project had failed at Town Meeting, I felt the ballot vote was moot or my vote wasn't needed.		15.63%	20
Other (please specify)		15.63%	20
Total Respondents: 128			

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Just moved to town in May	8/19/2025 2:30 PM
2	Was not aware of absentee option.	8/17/2025 3:18 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

3	i dont live there	8/16/2025 1:31 PM
4	Out of town	8/15/2025 4:55 AM
5	voting is not difficult, my wife and I do not make the efforts of earlier years	8/11/2025 10:07 AM
6	not a citizen	8/7/2025 8:53 AM
7	Out of the country	8/6/2025 2:51 PM
8	Just moved to town in July	8/5/2025 11:27 AM
9	Not eligible to vote	8/5/2025 10:36 AM
10	not a resident	8/5/2025 10:32 AM
11	I moved, my child is still in Southborough	8/5/2025 9:19 AM
12	Not a registered voter	8/5/2025 9:15 AM
13	out of town	8/1/2025 9:37 AM
14	Not living in town at the time	8/1/2025 5:17 AM
15	Had other obligations	7/31/2025 1:40 PM
16	Work and children's activities	7/31/2025 11:16 AM
17	Not town resident	7/30/2025 4:22 PM
18	I voted	7/30/2025 3:47 PM
19	I am registered as a mail in voter but for some reason this election was not eligible for mail in voting without additional hurdles. If my ballot had been mailed to me I would have voted.	7/30/2025 1:41 PM
20	I did vote	7/29/2025 6:24 PM

Q24 What, if anything, might have motivated or enabled you to vote in the Town Election on the Neary project? (Open-ended – please suggest what could have helped you participate. For example: better awareness or publicity, easier access to absentee/mail voting, knowing the importance of the vote, transportation to polls, etc.)

Answered: 39 Skipped: 750

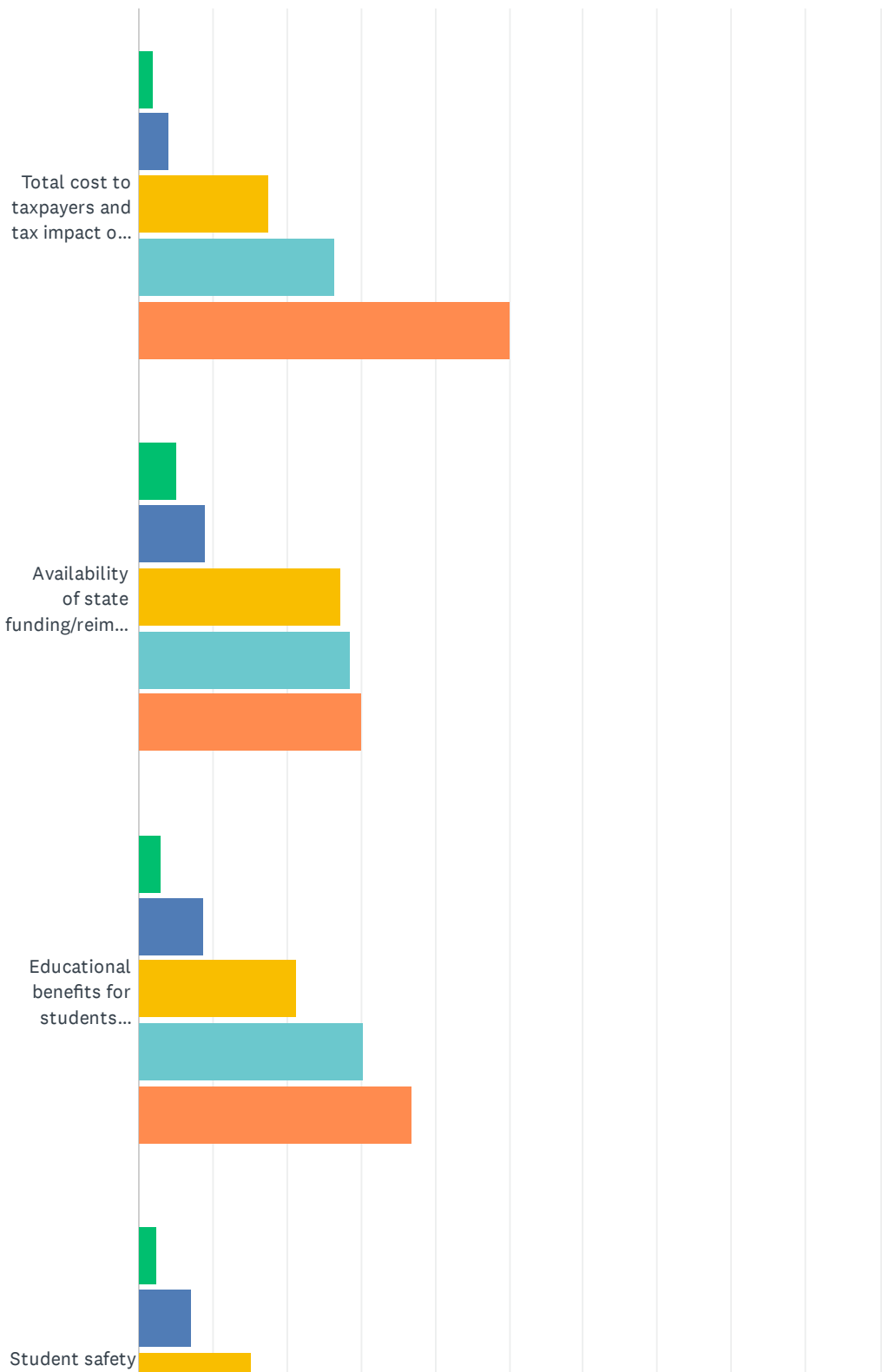
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Better awareness of absentee process. I thought you had be at meeting.	8/17/2025 3:18 PM
2	Na	8/17/2025 12:45 PM
3	can't	8/16/2025 1:31 PM
4	Easier absentee voting	8/15/2025 4:55 AM
5	I don't feel a compelling case has been made for replacement.	8/14/2025 3:28 PM
6	better awareness of the project altogether, better understanding of the pros and cons from a third-party objective resource	8/14/2025 12:14 PM
7	No	8/14/2025 12:12 PM
8	I felt too conflicted to make a confident vote. There were too many emotions and strong opinions on both sides to get an accurate depiction. I am concerned for the issues at the school currently but didn't want to add a huge school and all the traffic, costs, environmental concerns etc without being certain it was the best option.	8/12/2025 6:20 AM
9	Communication. I only receive information about statewide or national elections.	8/11/2025 2:22 PM
10	better understanding of importance of voting	8/11/2025 10:07 AM
11	Better awareness	8/7/2025 9:49 AM
12	Clearer visibility to the indirect benefits	8/6/2025 3:59 PM
13	If I perceived a town benefit	8/6/2025 2:17 PM
14	Absentee ballot or online ballot	8/6/2025 12:16 PM
15	Absentee mail voting	8/6/2025 12:02 PM
16	Absentee/mail voting	8/5/2025 11:46 PM
17	Being eligible	8/5/2025 4:27 PM
18	More awareness or more access to the information about the voting process, time, date. I think there has to be more spread of information so it reaches everyone in the town.	8/5/2025 10:16 AM
19	Easier access. Virtual voting maybe	8/5/2025 9:27 AM
20	It was confusing how this town vote related to the Special Meeting vote.	8/5/2025 9:24 AM
21	Voting rights	8/5/2025 9:19 AM
22	would love on line voting option	8/5/2025 9:19 AM
23	Time length is something that I can for see being an issue.	8/5/2025 9:15 AM
24	easier access to absentee/mail voting	8/1/2025 10:02 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

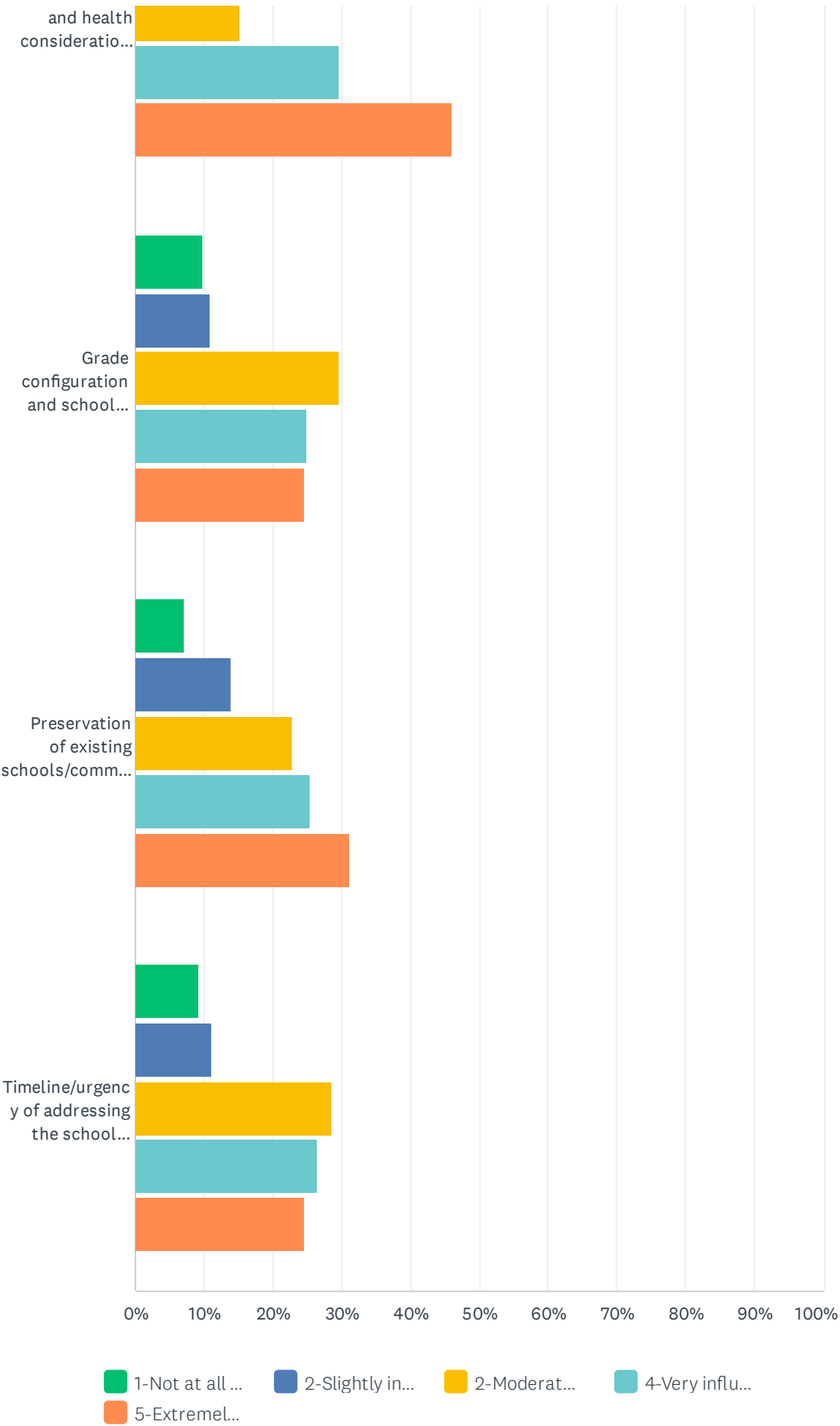
25	Mail in voting needed	7/31/2025 4:55 PM
26	Mail in ballot/vote or interent vote that I don't have to request ahead of time because who remembers to do that.	7/31/2025 11:16 AM
27	If the vote was closer, I would have voted in the election	7/30/2025 9:40 PM
28	Easier access to absentee voting. Had last minute shift in plans didn't meet the deadline to register.	7/30/2025 8:37 PM
29	Not a citizen yet so ineligible to vote.	7/30/2025 7:28 PM
30	NA	7/30/2025 4:57 PM
31	I did vote	7/30/2025 3:47 PM
32	Unclear query	7/30/2025 3:45 PM
33	Nothing	7/30/2025 3:30 PM
34	knowing the importance of the vote	7/30/2025 3:15 PM
35	why where there two votes? I am not clear on that and what a split decision would have even meant. Mail-in ballots might have worked out better.	7/30/2025 3:14 PM
36	Easier access to mail in voting.	7/30/2025 1:41 PM
37	Planning ahead to vote early	7/30/2025 9:44 AM
38	Not voting during town meeting. Should be ballot vote.	7/29/2025 6:24 PM
39	A day other than my child's first communion.	7/29/2025 2:24 PM

Q25 When considering future plans for a K–8 school building project in Southborough, to what extent do each of the following factors influence your decision making process on prospective options?

Answered: 664 Skipped: 125



Neary School Project Feedback

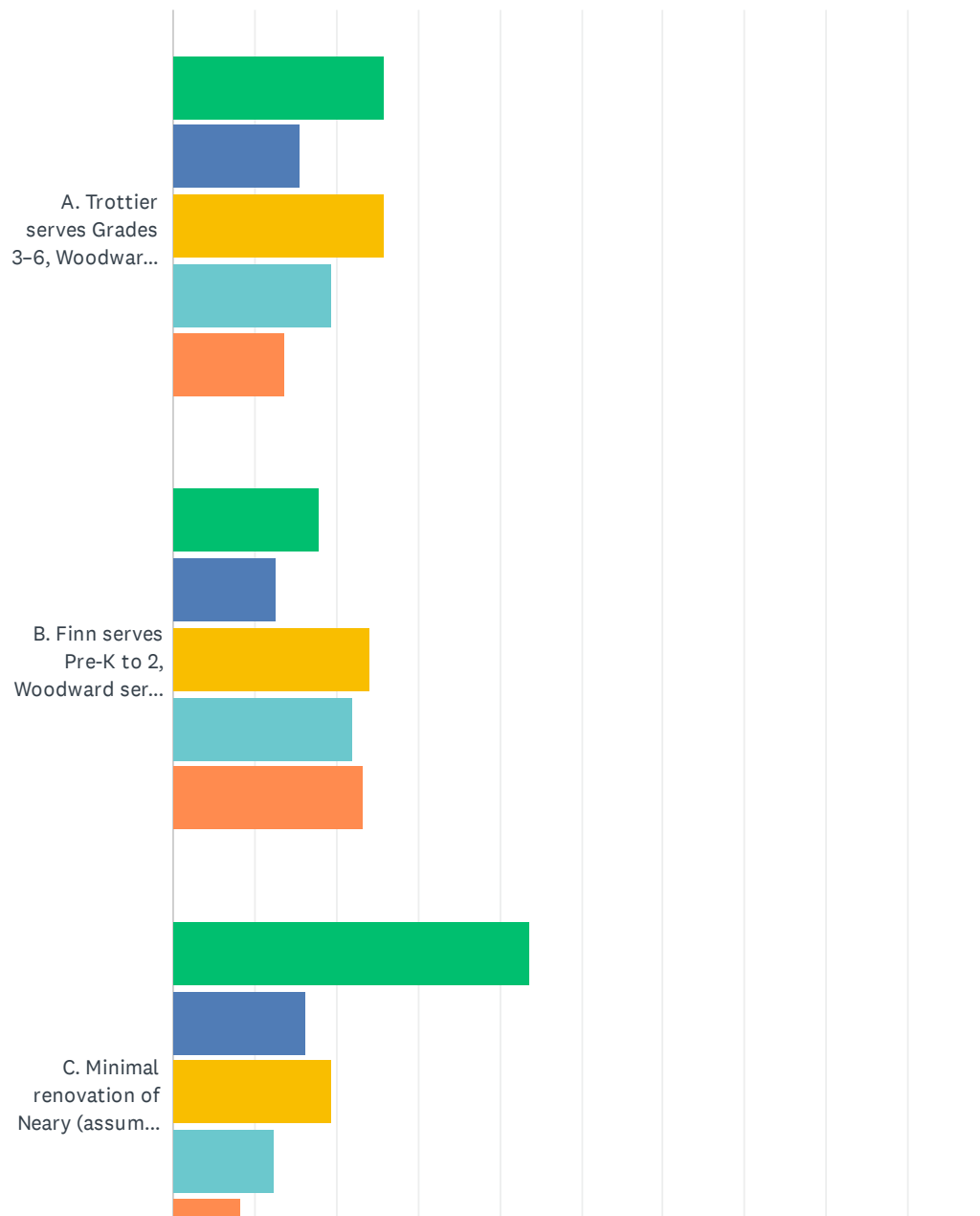


Neary School Project Feedback

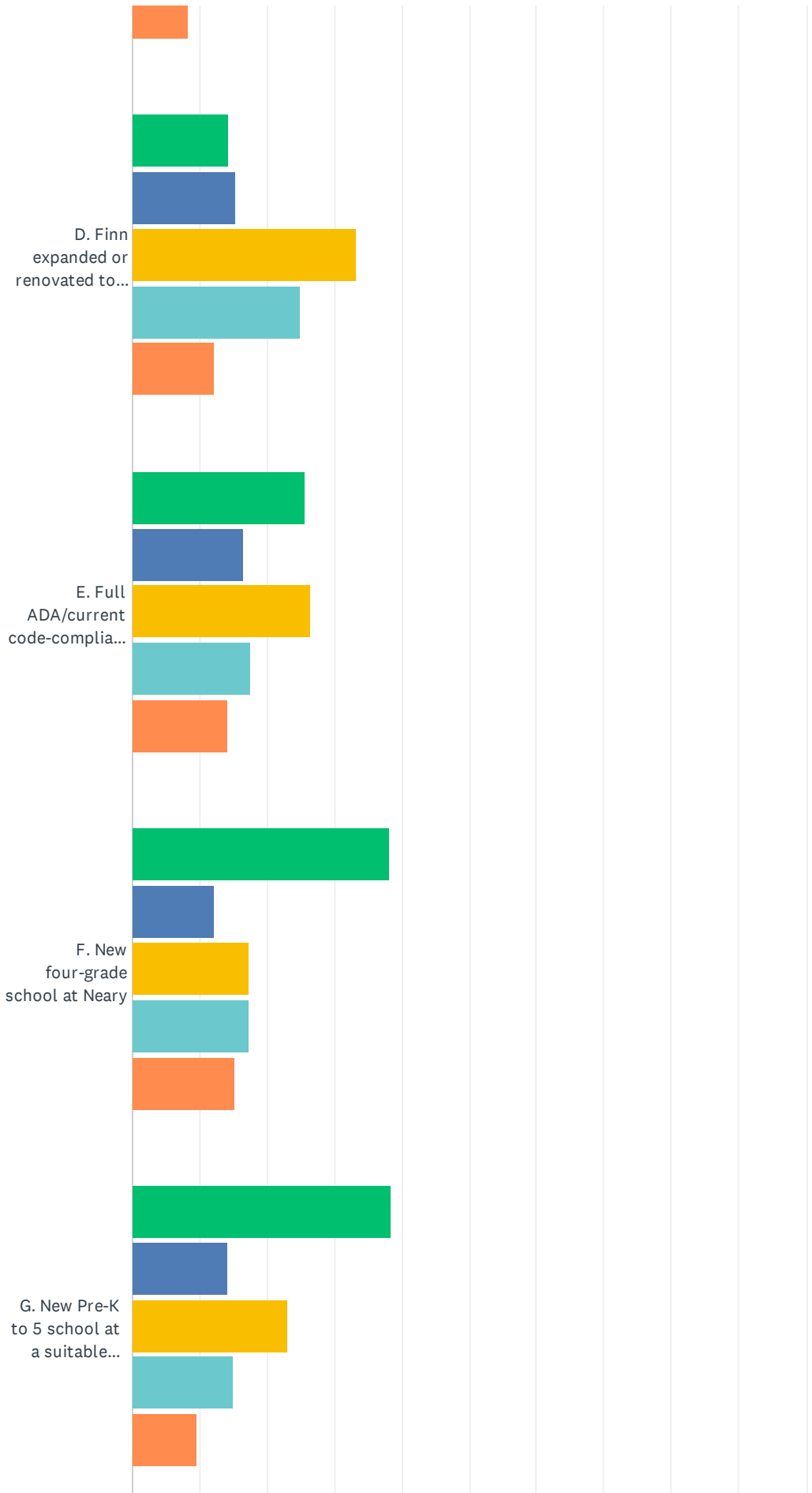
	1-NOT AT ALL INFLUENTIAL	2-SLIGHTLY INFLUENTIAL	2-MODERATELY INFLUENTIAL	4-VERY INFLUENTIAL	5-EXTREMELY INFLUENTIAL	TOTAL	WEIGHT AVERAGE
Total cost to taxpayers and tax impact of the project (affordability for the town)	1.97% 13	4.09% 27	17.42% 115	26.36% 174	50.15% 331	660	4
Availability of state funding/reimbursements (e.g., MSBA financial support)	5.13% 34	8.90% 59	27.30% 181	28.51% 189	30.17% 200	663	3
Educational benefits for students (modern learning environment, program improvements, impact on educational quality)	2.88% 19	8.65% 57	21.24% 140	30.35% 200	36.87% 243	659	3
Student safety and health considerations (building safety/code compliance, environmental site safety, ADA compliance, etc.)	2.26% 15	6.94% 46	15.23% 101	29.56% 196	46.00% 305	663	4
Grade configuration and school assignment (which grades in which schools – for example, whether to have a consolidated school vs. neighborhood schools, and impacts on school community structure)	9.71% 64	10.93% 72	29.74% 196	25.04% 165	24.58% 162	659	3
Preservation of existing schools/community assets (for example, whether to keep Finn School open and repurpose existing buildings versus closing or replacing them)	7.12% 47	13.79% 91	22.73% 150	25.30% 167	31.06% 205	660	3
Timeline/urgency of addressing the school infrastructure needs (how quickly a solution is needed, considering building deterioration or MSBA deadlines)	9.24% 61	11.06% 73	28.64% 189	26.52% 175	24.55% 162	660	3

Q26 The Town's new School Building Committee is evaluating seven potential options for the K–8 school building project (these range from renovating existing schools to building a new school, including the original proposal). Please indicate your level of interest in the town exploring each of the following seven options currently under consideration. For each option, use a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 = "Not at all Interested in the Town Exploring" and 5 = "Strongly Interested in the Town Exploring". You can use 3 for a neutral stance. (If you are unfamiliar with an option or need more information, you can skip or choose neutral.)

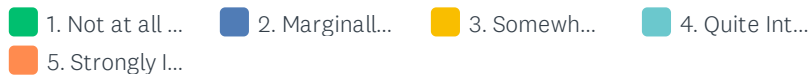
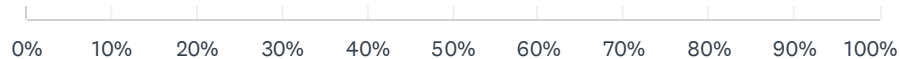
Answered: 654 Skipped: 135



Neary School Project Feedback



Neary School Project Feedback



	1. NOT AT ALL INTERESTED	2. MARGINALLY INTERESTED	3. SOMEWHAT INTERESTED	4. QUITE INTERESTED	5. STRONGLY INTERESTED	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
A. Trottier serves Grades 3–6, Woodward serves Grades 7–8	25.88% 162	15.50% 97	25.72% 161	19.33% 121	13.58% 85	626	2.79
B. Finn serves Pre-K to 2, Woodward serves 3–4, Trottier serves 5–8	17.97% 115	12.66% 81	24.06% 154	22.03% 141	23.28% 149	640	3.20
C. Minimal renovation of Neary (assumed “deferred maintenance” only)	43.61% 280	16.20% 104	19.47% 125	12.31% 79	8.41% 54	642	2.26
D. Finn expanded or renovated to serve four grades (Pre-K to 3)	14.31% 91	15.41% 98	33.33% 212	24.84% 158	12.11% 77	636	3.05
E. Full ADA/current code-compliant renovation of Neary	25.51% 163	16.43% 105	26.45% 169	17.53% 112	14.08% 90	639	2.78
F. New four-grade school at Neary	38.21% 243	12.11% 77	17.30% 110	17.30% 110	15.09% 96	636	2.59
G. New Pre-K to 5 school at a suitable location (including possible use of the Finn site)	38.32% 246	14.17% 91	23.05% 148	14.95% 96	9.50% 61	642	2.43

Q27 Which option stands out to you as having potential to be the best option for the town? Please explain why.

Answered: 474 Skipped: 315

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	F is the best because it is a long term solution, others are just band-aids and the problem will grow once Finn needs to be sunset.	8/19/2025 8:48 PM
2	New 4 year school. It's an investment in the future and education and fixes an aging facility that doesn't reflect the community's commitment to education.	8/19/2025 4:06 PM
3	The proposed option is best	8/18/2025 7:46 PM
4	It is the quickest, and most bang for the buck.	8/18/2025 7:16 PM
5	keep it the way it is	8/18/2025 2:30 PM
6	I really need to look into it more. I have 2 grandkids about to enter the system. I need to do more research.	8/18/2025 2:12 PM
7	B. It'd eliminate the Neary controversy. Finn and Woodward are great buildings.	8/18/2025 1:26 PM
8	E seems to solve the problem while being more affordable than building a completely new school.	8/17/2025 9:57 PM
9	Neary renovation	8/17/2025 8:45 PM
10	B-with the understanding that trotter gets updated.	8/17/2025 3:26 PM
11	To put four grades in trotter since it supposedly has more space	8/17/2025 12:54 PM
12	It is obvious Neary has been neglected and is no longer viable. I believe expanding one or more of our existing schools is the most cost effective and viable option. I believe we can achieve the educational goals while being fiscally responsible.	8/16/2025 5:16 PM
13	Option B	8/16/2025 3:33 PM
14	A. It fully utilizes Trotter and the older students will be downtown like it used to be for decades.	8/16/2025 2:17 PM
15	not sure	8/16/2025 1:33 PM
16	Good schools help with home values	8/16/2025 10:58 AM
17	Trotter 3-6 Woodward 7-8. Some parents didn't want kids 5-8 in the same school	8/16/2025 7:01 AM
18	Option G - just makes sense...get rid of the other schools and just have two in town	8/16/2025 6:49 AM
19	We should use the schools that we have to the best benefit for the town and the students. There is no reason to off-line a perfectly good school such as Finn. If a new four grade school is built we will be oversized in our school space. This is a ridiculous use of money.	8/15/2025 10:13 PM
20	Expanding Finn, although I don't believe this was an option before and there was something about Finn's lot that would make this difficult.	8/15/2025 10:13 PM
21	A. It seems like a lower cost option.	8/15/2025 8:31 PM
22	G, good group of grades together, not too many transitions	8/15/2025 6:59 PM
23	Utilizing property we already own	8/15/2025 5:31 PM
24	In option A -where is Pre-K-2?	8/15/2025 4:54 PM
25	Really will come down to cost and what the plan looks like. I'd just like to see more than one option ideally - before it came down to a binary decision. But I don't necessarily think the town	8/15/2025 4:29 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

	needs 4 schools.	
26	Working with what we have	8/15/2025 2:21 PM
27	A, B and D. Makes sense to expand the schools capacity if new buildings aren't going to be built	8/15/2025 2:11 PM
28	New school at new location	8/15/2025 1:08 PM
29	I really don't like the idea of having 5th graders in the middle school given all the evidence at the meeting. Ps. My child has already gone through the middle school but I don't like the implications for children in the town.	8/15/2025 12:55 PM
30	New pre-k to 5 school.	8/15/2025 12:05 PM
31	I like the original proposal for Neary to be a 4 grade school.	8/15/2025 11:45 AM
32	Reconfiguring grades and utilizing existing schools.	8/15/2025 9:12 AM
33	One of the schemes to accommodate students in Finn, Woodward, and Trottier.	8/15/2025 8:44 AM
34	It hasn't been talked about much, but I like option G. Minimizing the transitions, making the most of the Finn site. Many of the options don't seem designed with student learning in mind, and that's important to me.	8/15/2025 7:42 AM
35	New 2 grade school at Neary	8/15/2025 7:11 AM
36	Neary 4 grade option. Too much work needed to renovate Finn to hold more grades	8/15/2025 7:00 AM
37	B and D	8/15/2025 5:02 AM
38	Option D - That would save us a lot of money	8/14/2025 11:13 PM
39	Reconfigure existing schools	8/14/2025 9:52 PM
40	A and B seem the best as they use current town assets in a responsible way while giving all students an upgrade. We could use the extra money to update science labs, libraries, theater and art spaces etc.	8/14/2025 9:24 PM
41	Finn being used as 3 or 4 entry grades. The location is acceptable with plenty of outdoor room. Expanding to a 2nd story could be cost prohibitive here however so we'd need a cost associated with this option compared to the others	8/14/2025 9:17 PM
42	I like the model the town has now so prefer full renovation of Neary.	8/14/2025 9:11 PM
43	PreK- 5 school- so much better for kids and teachers for building a community.	8/14/2025 9:04 PM
44	Complete Reno of Neary or new school for 3-4 grades	8/14/2025 8:46 PM
45	Option B - reducing from 4 to 3 school buildings for K-8 makes sense, and this would be the least disruptive approach, though some changes would need to be made to accomodate 4 grades at Trottier.	8/14/2025 8:23 PM
46	Can't answer at this point without understanding implications of each	8/14/2025 8:08 PM
47	B- obviously makes most sense	8/14/2025 8:06 PM
48	B	8/14/2025 7:58 PM
49	Using Trottier, Finn, and Woodward	8/14/2025 7:07 PM
50	Using existing buildings and adding as needed seems more that sufficient.	8/14/2025 6:59 PM
51	New 4 grade at neary	8/14/2025 6:40 PM
52	Either of the reconfigurations.	8/14/2025 6:35 PM
53	B. Uses existing infrastructure without incurring huge debt and associated tax increases, while decommissioning Neary. Enrollment projections do not support building a new school and then closing another to offset costs. That is ridiculous.	8/14/2025 6:33 PM
54	Definitely option 1 with the addition of Finn. If Finn stays PreK-2, trottier is 3-6, then a Jr high is moved to Woodward that would accommodate all the grades in an age appropriate and cost	8/14/2025 6:30 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

efficient way. Some renovations would need to be done to elevate Woodward to Jr High, but should still be manageable.

55	Options A and D above are my preference as they consolidate more grades together, allowing siblings to attend the same school for longer. This helps with kids feeling a sense of belonging and support and with family logistics.	8/14/2025 3:53 PM
56	The best option is the greatest value for the lowest cost. This question is not answerable.	8/14/2025 3:34 PM
57	The original neary project seemed to offer the most benefits	8/14/2025 2:26 PM
58	What ever is going to be the safest for the kids. Along with less changes to there schedule at a young age.	8/14/2025 2:25 PM
59	Finn expanded pre-K to 3 maybe Woodward is 4-5 and Trottier stays same. Eliminate Neary all together	8/14/2025 2:24 PM
60	Close Neary School, Move 4th grade to Woodward and 5th to Trottier and renovate as needed	8/14/2025 2:20 PM
61	Option G may be the best option for the town as I think it would have all the benefits of the original plan while also addressing concerns from folks on the south side of town around losing Finn.	8/14/2025 2:17 PM
62	Unsure, would depend on details	8/14/2025 2:17 PM
63	Full renovation of Neary. For urgency and timing.	8/14/2025 2:13 PM
64	Option A	8/14/2025 2:06 PM
65	I'm not convinced that the Neary building can be renovated in a cost effective manner. I would rather the other existing buildings be used to serve the students if various grades. In my opinion, both Finn and Woodward schools is able to accommodate one or more grades with minimal expansion.	8/14/2025 1:58 PM
66	Finn serves Pre-K to 2, Woodward serves 3–4, Trottier serves 5–8	8/14/2025 1:34 PM
67	B, makes use of existing buildings	8/14/2025 1:04 PM
68	Use existing buildings to best fit the grades so option B looks best.	8/14/2025 12:59 PM
69	F- but I understand why there is pushback from the community members who don't use the school system so I think exploring a Trottier /woodward use for 3-6 and 7&8 is very appealing and would want to learn more about that option.	8/14/2025 12:55 PM
70	B if it could meet the requirements,it would be minimum change.	8/14/2025 12:46 PM
71	E	8/14/2025 12:27 PM
72	B	8/14/2025 12:25 PM
73	Option F - New Four Grade school at Neary - this option seems to address all of the requirements needed for the town with minimal impact to other buildings which would remain in use.	8/14/2025 12:24 PM
74	New Neary seems like the most effective, efficient, and logical option given other constraints	8/14/2025 12:23 PM
75	I really don't have a strong preference, all I care about is that My tax dollars remain stable and do not skyrocket and that my children get a quality education given South browse reputation and the high tax dollars we pay in large for that education	8/14/2025 12:20 PM
76	None	8/14/2025 12:18 PM
77	B. Woodward is suitable for little kids	8/14/2025 12:13 PM
78	Trottier 5-8	8/14/2025 12:10 PM
79	Option B	8/13/2025 7:40 PM
80	Keeping all schools & following through with the maintenance!	8/13/2025 8:59 AM
81	renovating neary for things that MUST be done vs nice to haves	8/12/2025 9:09 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

82	E- most cost effective and keeps schools smaller. My first choice would be for neighborhood schools on north and south sides of rt 9 building stronger communities with less transitions. A family can be in the same school for several years. Keep Trotter separate	8/12/2025 11:47 AM
83	This is a context free question without knowing anything about the costs associated with each option. More of a which flavor of icecream do you want? Really a thoughtless attempt (again) to steer the solution before the facts are known. How about starting with a detailed 10 year demographic prediction of the school age population with error bars? How about the list of deferred maintenance across all the school buildings? What about moving 8th grade to Algonquin which has a surplus of space as well? Very narrow minded 'solutions'.	8/12/2025 10:54 AM
84	Full ADA/Code Compliant renovation of Neary. I'm not comfortable with a 4 grade middle school option	8/12/2025 10:51 AM
85	B. Cost	8/12/2025 7:17 AM
86	I like the idea of keeping the younger children together. I also think that's important from a bussing perspective. I loved Finn the way that it was, but also think that it can make sense to keep the younger children together and the older separate. The things that older kids do and say is often overheard and witnessed (lunch, recess, hallways and busses.) I'm seeing it already w my 9 year old w his friend's siblings. I think we should try to repurpose vs build new if we can as long as it keeps costs down. I think that needs to REALLY needs to be assessed and quoted accurately for best pricing vs building a very expensive brand new school. Education isn't about state of the art- that said, it's unacceptable to think we're allowed Neary to get to the place where it is now. The fact that there is no cafeteria and water/heath issues is ridiculous and these types of things need to be remediated for students safety. I do also think it's important to consider A/C and heating concerns at all schools for both the students and teachers. Taking into consideration the cost is important for tax payouts and balancing it with having functional schools in a district w very high taxes is critical for retaining our our home values.	8/12/2025 6:33 AM
87	Option C, for obvious reasons! Utilize existing resources in the face of declining school enrollments! Stop trying to waste taxpayer money with half baked, grandiose ideas!	8/11/2025 5:15 PM
88	The original option is still the best because it is so thought through and the funding is super helpful and we can act quickly. We need a sense of urgency	8/11/2025 3:45 PM
89	we are on limited income, no option appears te be BEST.	8/11/2025 10:26 AM
90	A new school at the Neary site or fixing up the current school. I am confused by options listed above that include expansion of Finn as this was stated (many times) to not be an option due to how Finn was built and the land which it sits. Middle school needs to serve children of a certain age and children should be allowed to stay in elementary school for as long as developmentally best.	8/11/2025 10:24 AM
91	The New four-grade school is the best, long-term investment for the town with the best educational options for our students	8/11/2025 9:14 AM
92	Not enough info to make choice	8/10/2025 8:19 PM
93	B. Because Trotter is under used	8/10/2025 6:28 PM
94	B keep fewer grades together.	8/10/2025 5:22 PM
95	B or A	8/10/2025 10:39 AM
96	I am interested in whichever option has the lowest cost.	8/9/2025 3:38 PM
97	A. Woodward is better designed for a middle school.	8/9/2025 3:00 PM
98	New Neary	8/9/2025 2:50 PM
99	G	8/9/2025 1:48 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

100	neary to bring to code	Finn/Woodward/Trottier or keep as is but renovate	8/9/2025 10:14 AM
101	coat effect way of getting rid Neary, and providing quality education, without disturbing Trottier	Need more information. Whatever is	8/9/2025 8:28 AM
102	school can be renovated to achieve capacity and long term function, consolidate some of our elementary school footprint.	If an existing	8/9/2025 6:20 AM
103	The options FAIL to tell me what happens at the other buildings from a school perspective. How will they be utilized in the future scheme(s)? If not for schools, then for what? Better answer than "town offices".		8/8/2025 4:53 PM
104	I think option A is the best - having 4 grades together can be scary with 5th graders - 8th graders, but keeping it 3rd - 6th is a good idea for age/maturity reasons.		8/8/2025 12:12 PM
105	Upgrade Nearly IF its needed, been working fine		8/8/2025 9:33 AM
106	B. Most reasonable of all considerations.		8/8/2025 9:29 AM
107	Seems most cost effective approach		8/7/2025 7:03 PM
108	Finn expanded to serve 4 grades		8/7/2025 2:06 PM
109	E and F - Either a complete overhaul of existing neary or the new 4 grade school because i trust the opinions of the experts on the school board and the overwhelming majority stipulate that broad age ranges in the same schools are not an ideal learning environment for the kids. I dont see a benefit to having kids so young being in school with kids much older.		8/7/2025 12:22 PM
110	G		8/7/2025 12:15 PM
111	Utilizing the existing facilities instead of building a new school		8/7/2025 10:22 AM
112	F, most reasonable use of money and best educational outcome		8/7/2025 10:10 AM
113	A new school		8/7/2025 9:33 AM
114	D might be the best option that balances value, speed and quality of education		8/7/2025 8:35 AM
115	A. This variation has worked in the past and will work in the future as well.		8/7/2025 7:31 AM
116	C		8/7/2025 6:13 AM
117	Option B		8/6/2025 8:06 PM
118	Option D: we can keep using the facility we have now and renovate it for the best of use.		8/6/2025 7:54 PM
119	Minimal renovation of Neary		8/6/2025 7:18 PM
120	Option B. Makes best use of existing good buildings.		8/6/2025 5:51 PM
121	B		8/6/2025 5:17 PM
122	Do minimal repairs to neary to last a few years. Identify and acquire a suitable site for a new 4 grade school. In a couple of years build an expandable 2 grade school. When Finn or woodward are at end of life expand the new school to 4 grades with an auditorium		8/6/2025 4:38 PM
123	New school k-5 at finn		8/6/2025 4:08 PM
124	B - least disruption to students and teachers and lowest cost to tax payers.		8/6/2025 3:32 PM
125	Option B - seems most efficient use of space		8/6/2025 3:30 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

126	I support the arrangement of grade levels based on recommendations by the teachers. However I do think there can be creative thinking. Can specific grades be more isolated if in the same school? I went to school in a 1-8th school. The grades were separated by building and floors. Outside time was scheduled differently. Even start and end times. Be creative.	8/6/2025 3:04 PM
127	Effective and efficient use of existing infrastructure to meet needs and keep costs down	8/6/2025 2:48 PM
128	Renovate Neary. Period.	8/6/2025 2:46 PM
129	B	8/6/2025 2:34 PM
130	Prove the need	8/6/2025 2:22 PM
131	Too early to tell.	8/6/2025 2:07 PM
132	Nothing enough info to make this decision	8/6/2025 1:16 PM
133	New Pre-k to 5 school at Finn	8/6/2025 12:53 PM
134	B, Trottier should be a Middle school with 3 or 4 grades. there would still be 3 schools	8/6/2025 12:27 PM
135	E	8/6/2025 12:22 PM
136	D	8/6/2025 12:09 PM
137	Options F & G are the best for the future sustainability for the town's schools. Would like more info on potential new location options for a new elementary school. In particular, interested in the area off of Rt. 9 where Dell/EMC offices used to be and the potential cost to acquire land.	8/6/2025 11:09 AM
138	From my standpoint The question is what will the future demographics look like. Southborough has become a relatively mature community. Any proposal for schools need to address what the future demographics will look like in the likelihood that the school population will diminish or change over the next several years. Nothing I have seen addresses the possibility of a change in the population make up, so I see a changing need for school infrastructure that needs to be taking into account before committing to any specific program or plan.	8/6/2025 10:25 AM
139	New Neary	8/6/2025 7:45 AM
140	Option B	8/6/2025 6:51 AM
141	B option	8/6/2025 5:00 AM
142	Don't have the cost analysis to make the decision.	8/6/2025 12:03 AM
143	Option D - maintains Finn & Woodward as elementary schools, while addressing the concerns about needing to decommission Neary (assuming grades 4&5 would be at Woodward? a bit unclear). Option E - if feasible - would be great too if Neary can just be updated to stay grades 4-5.	8/5/2025 11:36 PM
144	New pre-k to 5. Fewer transitions, assuming the building will be ADA compliant and inclusive of all students, staff, and teachers. Good school districts is what makes the town worth it for people to move into town and invest in their future and their children.	8/5/2025 8:37 PM
145	A	8/5/2025 7:47 PM
146	New 4 grade school allows for optimal child ages grouping and brings the most long term value to the town for the investment	8/5/2025 6:17 PM
147	Option B. Move 5th grade to the middle school.	8/5/2025 5:07 PM
148	Option A since it uses existing schools	8/5/2025 4:34 PM
149	Finn pre k-3. Best for young kids to not be moving around so often	8/5/2025 4:30 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

150	Don't have enough information to make an informed decision	8/5/2025 2:23 PM
151	Putting 5th grade at Trottier makes the most sense from a cost perspective. I am an educator (having taught middle school for over 10 years) and I do not see this as problematic. Logistical concerns could be overcome with creativity. I also think it's worth considering adding more grades to Finn and having grades 4-5 use Woodward.	8/5/2025 1:57 PM
152	A then B	8/5/2025 12:56 PM
153	New four grade school at Neary will provide an infrastructure that can be compared with the likes of school system in Lexington and Newton.	8/5/2025 12:34 PM
154	Finn Woodward and Trottier	8/5/2025 12:33 PM
155	option B seems most feasible in the short term and with limited financial impact	8/5/2025 12:23 PM
156	The original plan	8/5/2025 12:20 PM
157	A or B. Reuse the buildings we have. We can't decide we have new needs and just tear down a school (Finn) grades can be moved.	8/5/2025 12:14 PM
158	F -- there has already been YEARS of analysis done by experts that state this is the best option. I am not an expert, so I listen to those who are.	8/5/2025 12:00 PM
159	open to most options that allow change at Neary, the only thing I really wouldn't consider would be keeping as is.	8/5/2025 11:57 AM
160	new 4 grade school at Neary	8/5/2025 11:35 AM
161	B	8/5/2025 11:13 AM
162	Build our kids the new schools they deserve. No short cuts or concatenated grades.	8/5/2025 11:07 AM
163	leveraging existing buildings (Finn expanded)	8/5/2025 11:03 AM
164	hard to say which would be the best option without additional details such as timeline, impacts on other buildings, location and cost	8/5/2025 10:37 AM
165	Exactly what was already proposed	8/5/2025 10:33 AM
166	Four grade school at Neary, because of the long term benefits	8/5/2025 10:28 AM
167	E and F	8/5/2025 10:28 AM
168	Renovating Neary. It just makes the most sense	8/5/2025 10:28 AM
169	I prefer consolidating as many grades as possible	8/5/2025 10:20 AM
170	Having 3 schools, not 4. Renovation of whatever easiest and least \$\$\$ Grade configuration in each school not that important	8/5/2025 10:13 AM
171	I like options E, F, and G. I need more information about how we can effectively repurpose schools for different grades—I have concerns and assume it's expensive. I prefer the options that significantly improve Neary or build a new school. I have some concerns about Finn being the site for a larger school. It's right near the highway (which can have air risks), it's far from the other schools so tougher if you have multiple kids to drop off. Also, the Neary site is so big and has the huge fields...such a nice benefit. Also close to Trottier. Provide more info about mitigating environmental concerns.	8/5/2025 10:09 AM
172	Budget restrictions Use what we have.	8/5/2025 10:08 AM
173	Pre-K to 3. I want an option that has less transitions for younger kids	8/5/2025 9:56 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

174	Would need cost figures and details of the options to have an opinion.	8/5/2025 9:52 AM
175	New neary	8/5/2025 9:51 AM
176	Option B. It seems that Neary maintenance is not really a workable option, so I'd be in support of Option B. I think there is educational value in having 5th with the 6th-8th grades.	8/5/2025 9:51 AM
177	New 4 grade at neary or expanded Finn	8/5/2025 9:42 AM
178	I think Woodward needs to be preserved as is. It's the highest rated school in town and I think we'd be doing a real disservice to the community and students by changing it.	8/5/2025 9:41 AM
179	Option B. Use existing buildings	8/5/2025 9:40 AM
180	Renovate neary as needed	8/5/2025 9:40 AM
181	Woodward for higher grades - better facilities for sports and other activities. More open area with better visibility, ideal for older kids	8/5/2025 9:37 AM
182	Options B & F	8/5/2025 9:35 AM
183	All of these seem undesirable.	8/5/2025 9:32 AM
184	Woodward has design conducive to older grades, trotter could meld the current Neary/Woodward grades while construction takes place	8/5/2025 9:30 AM
185	I guess if building a new school at neary is the best financial option then being able to reconfigure the other three schools. But to close down finn seems like a mismanagement of resources.	8/5/2025 9:30 AM
186	The option to utilize/update Finn is ideal given the play space and many wonderful aspects of the school. I also feel strongly that grade 5 should be kept separate from grade 8 given substantial differences in development that pose a safety risk and introduce topics that are not appropriate for younger children.	8/5/2025 9:24 AM
187	#1. Enrollment is down and Woodward & Trotter are great buildings.	8/5/2025 9:20 AM
188	A larger pre-5 school or one split, not the current three split.	8/5/2025 9:20 AM
189	The original plan	8/5/2025 9:16 AM
190	I would need to learn more to pick a favorite.	8/4/2025 10:26 PM
191	A or B	8/4/2025 9:31 PM
192	C less of a tax impact on residents	8/4/2025 9:22 PM
193	Finn serves Pre-K to 2, Woodward serves 3-4, Trotter serves 5-8. Utilizes existing schools without a massive infrastructure investment. Takes Neary offline. Only slight tweaks to the current model.	8/4/2025 3:48 PM
194	Move grade 4 to woodward and grade 5 to trotter.	8/4/2025 1:15 PM
195	Having 4 schools has worked well - so maximize C, without triggering E. There's time to catch up deferred maintenance.	8/4/2025 10:55 AM
196	I think E or F are the best. Fully renovate Neary to keep the grade bands as is or build a new 4 grade school at Neary	8/4/2025 9:46 AM
197	I think the best option was the one presented - 4	8/4/2025 9:41 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

	grades at Neary	
198	Option b. It makes the most sense. Everything we need is already in place.	8/4/2025 8:53 AM
199	Option B seems best as it will leverage existing buildings. You can renovate Neary to min compliant codes and repurpose for other town usage.	8/3/2025 7:38 PM
200	Reconfiguring grades, expanding existing schools	8/3/2025 4:51 PM
201	Some of these mimic models in northborough though wonder since we don't have multiple neighborhood schools the cost difference of these expansions vs new building	8/3/2025 1:28 PM
202	The most safe and cost effective. Using resources we have	8/3/2025 10:48 AM
203	Renovate Neary for compliance and consolidate other grades into Finn WW and Trottier	8/3/2025 10:40 AM
204	making Trottier 5-8 diminishes the middle school model that has proven to work so well	8/3/2025 10:04 AM
205	Of the options above, E. But the best option would be to rebuild Neary as a school for grades 4-5 as it has been for decades. The location is suitable for 2 grades. Woodward and Finn are good schools and do not need to be replaced/changed.	8/3/2025 6:23 AM
206	5-8 at Trottier	8/3/2025 6:15 AM
207	B	8/3/2025 6:09 AM
208	B	8/3/2025 5:40 AM
209	I like D the best. It seems people were concerned in losing a school in the south side of town. Assuming Finn could be expanded to host 2 more grades, that could keep Finn to be more appealing to new families. Also, it seems Finn might be the next one to need renovations after Neary, so if we "forget" Neary and use Finn as the potential 4 grade school, that could be a good solution. I also think keeping the 5 year olds with 8 year olds may be fine, but I would love to know more from an educational perspective if that is correct.	8/2/2025 11:56 PM
210	A because Neary site has environmental issues and isn't up to code, and more practical grouping of grade levels.	8/2/2025 10:07 PM
211	Honestly, I don't know. I keep changing my answers on the options above. I just want what's best for the kids and teachers, and doesn't force people to move out of town because their taxes double.	8/2/2025 2:26 PM
212	Since Woodward and Trottier are the newest buildings it seems they should be considered in any reconfiguration of grades. Years ago Woodward was the school for 7th and 8th grade so it does work.	8/2/2025 9:32 AM
213	A	8/2/2025 8:14 AM
214	B -- seems overall least disruptive and most cost effective; I was not persuaded that it is impossible to materially segregate 5/6 and 7/8 grades.	8/1/2025 10:14 PM
215	new school at neary	8/1/2025 7:40 PM
216	New school at Neary- there has been a lot of thought that has gone into this project.	8/1/2025 7:06 PM
217	Trottier grades 3-6 Woodward 7-8. Why? It's the best of the bad options.	8/1/2025 3:49 PM
218	B. Keeps existing schools	8/1/2025 1:52 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

219	I favor Finn Pre K-2, Trotter 3-6 and Woodward 7-8 as I think we can work with 3 schools and this would offer the safest and most effective use of current resources.	8/1/2025 12:41 PM
220	Can't tell without more, better distilled data	8/1/2025 11:22 AM
221	Use the building we have. Bring them up to code, fix them, and use them! We have to stop throwing away things because they look old, there is history in this town, why are some so willing to throw it away?	8/1/2025 10:08 AM
222	B. Finn serves Pre-K to 2, Woodward serves 3-4, Trotter serves 5-8	8/1/2025 10:06 AM
223	B Most sensible	8/1/2025 9:56 AM
224	Build now. consolidate at Neary location. Finn and Neary are ancient and have served the town well. Invest well in a replacement and we have a 50+ year asset that will meet the needs of our community.	8/1/2025 9:32 AM
225	First of all option B does stand out to me to be the best option but you need to present the grade configuration correctly, is four grades at Finn. PreK, K, 1, and 2 = 4 grades!	8/1/2025 9:26 AM
226	New four-grade school at Neary	8/1/2025 8:55 AM
227	Option B, the buildings are so well suited for the classrooms, outdoor spaces and neighborhood locations	8/1/2025 7:45 AM
228	B. Finn is able to accommodate young learners, though adding another grade would be tight.G	8/1/2025 7:30 AM
229	B - Appropriate Grade Configuration, allows town to fund maintenance of existing school facilities.	8/1/2025 4:48 AM
230	I want Neary closed. It doesn't make sense to keep spending money on a school when we have capacity. It also doesn't make sense to pay forever for monitoring a school built on an old dump when that capacity is not needed.	8/1/2025 4:42 AM
231	New neary	8/1/2025 3:02 AM
232	Option B seems the easiest and I like the grade configurations. Plus those schools were developed with those age/grade levels in mind when the designs were developed	7/31/2025 10:09 PM
233	Updating and consolidating using the buildings we have - even if it means finding a new location for preschool and central office	7/31/2025 9:33 PM
234	Don't need new schools - update existing schools	7/31/2025 8:53 PM
235	Expanding Finn. The school already serves up to grade 1, so the infrastructure is there for the youngest grades. Northborough Preschool students can return to their home schools, adding more classroom space at Finn. I would be interested in learning whether a 2nd story could be added to Finn to increase space.	7/31/2025 8:21 PM
236	Options b. No new builds, good utilization of existing school space, lower long term debt impact, grade groupings transition smoothly, can stabilize programs, have time to assess Neary or finn for future work when economy stabilize, a balance between practicality, educational quality, cost.	7/31/2025 7:42 PM
237	Option B The schools are currently set-up to serve these students	7/31/2025 7:07 PM
238	B, then D	7/31/2025 6:43 PM
239	New school	7/31/2025 6:24 PM
240	The federal government is screwing around with the economy with tarrifs and other economic chaos. This makes estimating the	7/31/2025 5:51 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

cost of a project impossible. In addition, the federal government is punishing this the state of Massachusetts by withholding funding. That means there will be limited state and federal grants for this project. Now is not the time to start any large scale project. Any project that has started has to be incredibly small sca.

241	Maybe try to buy 10 years by doing moderate repairs to Neary. In 10 years it may make sense to close Finn	7/31/2025 5:45 PM
242	Reconfiguring grades with fun. Woodward and trottier	7/31/2025 5:01 PM
243	No idea —whatever uses facilities we have.	7/31/2025 3:59 PM
244	I think the best option isn't listed which would be a 2 grade addition to Woodward.	7/31/2025 3:40 PM
245	B. Trottier works as a middle school. Adding a grade is fine.	7/31/2025 3:37 PM
246	A and C	7/31/2025 3:30 PM
247	Finn K-2, Woodward 3-4, Trottier 5-8. This make the most sense educationally and uses our schools appropriately.	7/31/2025 2:53 PM
248	B. Declining school population will accommodate those students	7/31/2025 2:40 PM
249	B. One less building to maintain, while minimizing construction/renovation costs	7/31/2025 2:33 PM
250	Using our existing school facilities including Finn and doing deferred maintenance ASAP.	7/31/2025 2:03 PM
251	minimal renovations to Neary until there is a more stable environment nationally	7/31/2025 1:56 PM
252	Al Hamilton's views on adjusting the schools. Making all schools safe for kids.	7/31/2025 1:46 PM
253	Neary Reno. Best for students	7/31/2025 1:46 PM
254	Option B because of the costs am not in favor of closing Finn address the necessary issues at Neary "ADA" and safety	7/31/2025 12:46 PM
255	A	7/31/2025 12:28 PM
256	Option E seems like the best option, if it's possible, though I'm not familiar enough with state grants to know if grant money would be applicable to a renovation. Given the cost concerns expressed by 'no' voters, if it seems like this would be the best way to keep costs to a minimum while still having a safe and compliant school. If new construction is required to receive state funds, then that would be the best option (which is why I voted 'yes' on the original plan).	7/31/2025 12:26 PM
257	D	7/31/2025 12:15 PM
258	G - Consolidation would be great, but probably not possible	7/31/2025 11:46 AM
259	#B	7/31/2025 11:40 AM
260	Option A. Grades 3-6 in Trottier, 7-8 in Woodward seems like the best option if the town wants to keep grade 5 away from 6-8. I would also be fine with Trottier serving grades 5-8 as many communities do this very successfully. Most MA DOE certifications are 5-8 or 5-12. I don't understand why these 2 options were not explored/voted on in the first place.	7/31/2025 11:29 AM
261	The best option for the town is one that puts students and teachers first in terms of educational well being (social/emotional and academic needs - with an eye towards happy, thriving, well-rounded students). I do not want to see education conform to existing space. I want to see	7/31/2025 11:28 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

purpose-built or renovated spaces driven by educational vision. The new Neary build would have accomplished that goal. Any other build/renovation under consideration should, too.

262	already available resources.	B. Lowest cost. Uses	7/31/2025 11:27 AM
263	Options A or B as we would be using the resources we already have		7/31/2025 11:22 AM
264	B. Neary is not needed in this configuration		7/31/2025 11:17 AM
265	New four-grade school at Neary		7/31/2025 11:13 AM
266	or new Finn at PreK-5. New schools with updated technology safety and ada compliance.	New neary	7/31/2025 11:09 AM
267	Full Reno of Neary		7/31/2025 11:02 AM
268	school setting is the best option.	I think any option that keeps Pre-K to 5 in an elementary	7/31/2025 10:42 AM
269	B- makes use of what we already have		7/31/2025 9:46 AM
270	Neary site. I think less transition and technology benefits and building benefits for multiple grades is very important.	Building a new 4 grade school at	7/31/2025 9:23 AM
271	The option to look into the cost of renovating Finn to include Pre-K through 3rd because it would utilize a current school in a great location and there would be fewer transitions for the youngest students in our town.		7/31/2025 8:58 AM
272	taxpayers/	Whatever is the most fiscally responsible to ALL	7/31/2025 8:36 AM
273	I like option B. My kids are at trotter and ARHS now, and while I didn't love the number of transitions they encountered as younger students, I like how we are a town-wide rather than neighborhood-based schools. I don't think doing the bare minimum at Neary will cut it-and the state doesn't either. I like keeping the older students at trotter because of the track and the gym facilities there. My kids are casual athletes but really enjoyed the fields and spaces at trotter. It's a great middle school environment.		7/31/2025 8:29 AM
274	Brand-new school.		7/31/2025 8:27 AM
275	schools we have while keeping up with maintenance--roofs, etc.	b--utilize the	7/31/2025 7:35 AM
276	B		7/31/2025 7:27 AM
277	as a whole	Option B-seems to be the least impactful to the community	7/31/2025 7:19 AM
278	A-we already have the buildings necessary		7/31/2025 6:32 AM
279	B		7/31/2025 6:29 AM
280	B		7/31/2025 6:10 AM
281	A new Neary for grades 4 and 5		7/31/2025 5:55 AM
282	state funding support and minimal cost to residents.	F is best assuming some	7/31/2025 5:46 AM
283	A or B. Use the space we have already.		7/31/2025 5:17 AM
284	Using Woodward K&1 - excellent school. New school grade 2-5. Don't overcrowd TMS.		7/31/2025 5:04 AM
285	seems to be the cheapest and longest term available option	Finn grade expansion-	7/30/2025 10:03 PM
286	Option D (if its		7/30/2025 10:01 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

	possible). Keeps 4th/5th together at Woodward and eliminates Neary.	
287	NA- I'm less interested in this aspect and defer to content experts.	7/30/2025 9:19 PM
288	Minimal renovation = less tax money	7/30/2025 9:19 PM
289	I honestly have no idea. I'd want to see the cost / tax implications, potential grant support for each, and specific information about how these configurations will effectively serve the changing population of students. I don't have any of the information I need at this point to determine which of these options should be explored. Whichever option is going to give my kids and the entire community the schools they deserve in Southborough to continue building this town is the option that I want. I thought Finn couldn't be expanded because of wetlands or protected land or something??	7/30/2025 8:48 PM
290	New Neary- both Neary and Finn are beyond their useful life.	7/30/2025 8:46 PM
291	I need more info, open to all options .	7/30/2025 8:35 PM
292	G. New modern facilities.	7/30/2025 8:09 PM
293	leveling Neary - and making it safe and new for the students and teachers	7/30/2025 7:59 PM
294	B	7/30/2025 7:56 PM
295	Improving Neary	7/30/2025 7:56 PM
296	Option 1 seems like it's the most reasonable with the least amount of financial burden on southborough residents	7/30/2025 7:53 PM
297	G	7/30/2025 7:34 PM
298	Finn pre-k-3, Woodward 4/5, trotter no change	7/30/2025 7:13 PM
299	Configure existing buildings	7/30/2025 7:00 PM
300	Finn- pre-k-3, trotter 3-6 & Woodward 7-8	7/30/2025 6:57 PM
301	Full renovation of Neary	7/30/2025 6:55 PM
302	Option B (Finn Serving Pre-k through grade 2, Woodward serving grades 3-4 and Trotter serving grades 5-8) seems best for the town. It would use structures that already exist, we just configuring which grades are at which school.	7/30/2025 6:54 PM
303	Option B as it utilizes what we have and expands school configuration.	7/30/2025 6:49 PM
304	Pre-K-5	7/30/2025 6:32 PM
305	B. We spent a lot of money for this beautiful school and it should remain as such.	7/30/2025 6:19 PM
306	Options E. F or G will school with all modern facilities and safety standards fkr children. It will be good for the town as it will attract potential buyerz	7/30/2025 5:45 PM
307	A. Uses existing buildings, reduced environmental impact, appropriate grouping of grades	7/30/2025 5:26 PM
308	G	7/30/2025 5:25 PM
309	Renovating nearby and keeping Finn a school	7/30/2025 5:18 PM
310	New 4 school neary	7/30/2025 5:11 PM
311	Trotter housing grades 5-8 to utilize current buildings	7/30/2025 5:10 PM
312	A new Neary for 4 and 5th grade	7/30/2025 5:03 PM
313	do nothing, minimal improvements. our schools are	7/30/2025 4:56 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

	better than 99% of the schools in this state	
314	Expand Woodward one grade and trottier two grades.	7/30/2025 4:51 PM
315	Update Finn to serve K through three, then grades four and five go to Woodward, and six through eight. Stay at Trotter. In the world do I want a four grade school or third graders are with sixth graders or where fifth graders are with eighth graders. Finn is a great school and place for a school— it doesn't make sense to give up that space for other town use. It would be better to renovate it per the plan suggested.	7/30/2025 4:51 PM
316	Regroup the grade and get non Southborough business out of Southborough buildings , we have enough room for the students	7/30/2025 4:45 PM
317	A combination of B, D or E. We either need a suitable renovation for Neary, or it should be repurposed as Town Offices (or the senior center at the meeting) - and we move grades to other schools and renovate the other buildings	7/30/2025 4:34 PM
318	New 4 grade school at Neary. We can take advantage of state reimbursement and have a long-term solution	7/30/2025 4:31 PM
319	Trotter 3-6 Woodward 7-8	7/30/2025 4:30 PM
320	Option G. Less transitions. More community. More collaboration	7/30/2025 4:25 PM
321	Option G, it would get the most kids in an updated school and they would benefit for the longest	7/30/2025 4:14 PM
322	USE EXISTING STRUCTURES	7/30/2025 4:13 PM
323	Combine schools so that we don't have to move too much every two years	7/30/2025 4:12 PM
324	New school or option that keeps middle school grades together	7/30/2025 4:11 PM
325	I am quite interested in the option to expand Finn to pK-3rd grade. Although I would rather move pre-K out of Finn to a different location.	7/30/2025 4:06 PM
326	What we had was the best option and now we've squandered the grant money.	7/30/2025 4:01 PM
327	Trotter 5-8 grades are getting smaller and private schools all over serve all the grades in one building. They do just fine.	7/30/2025 3:58 PM
328	C. At this point I want my kids to go though the schools as we originally planned when we moved here. If the town wants to kick the can down the road, we will deal with the problems later.	7/30/2025 3:55 PM
329	a	7/30/2025 3:50 PM
330	Expand two of the other schools to house the grades from nearby. Shut neary down as a school or put town administration in that building. See if the folks supporting using the site would actually want to work there.	7/30/2025 3:50 PM
331	Any option that gets kids out of Neary and provided our kids with good space for educational purposes.	7/30/2025 3:49 PM
332	AN	7/30/2025 3:49 PM
333	Unclear	7/30/2025 3:49 PM
334	B	7/30/2025 3:46 PM
335	B as it makes use of 3 of the 4 current school buildings that are the best maintained	7/30/2025 3:45 PM
336	deferred maintenance of the current building	7/30/2025 3:43 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

337	New neary	7/30/2025 3:42 PM
338	Options a and B	7/30/2025 3:37 PM
339	Minimal renovation because it will not cost as much and the grades and buildings stay the same	7/30/2025 3:37 PM
340	probably G. half measures are just going to create constant bleeding over decades. this creates a single building for maintenance and important anchor for the town. i don't think southborough "neighborhoods" are vital or dense enough to warrant maintaining schools everywhere.	7/30/2025 3:35 PM
341	renovate Neary	7/30/2025 3:31 PM
342	Full renovation of Neary helps build for the future, optimizes existing buildings, and maintains the 2-3 grade structure of existing schools	7/30/2025 3:30 PM
343	Option C. I think it makes the most sense financially for the town and taxpayers.	7/30/2025 3:30 PM
344	Expanding Finn and closing Neary (and possibly relocating a sports field from Finn to the demolished Neary site) seems like a good solution.	7/30/2025 3:30 PM
345	The existing plan OR making Finn k-3 and Woodward 4-5.	7/30/2025 3:29 PM
346	Option E (closely followed by option B). Option E allows for all of the existing buildings to remain in use, but Neary is renovated to be useful going forward. The only downside to Option B is that Neary's future becomes very unclear.	7/30/2025 3:29 PM
347	Use the schools we have to house the students.	7/30/2025 3:26 PM
348	Not possible without knowing costs.	7/30/2025 3:26 PM
349	Building a new school to accommodate current teaching needs and utilize state funds is the best option	7/30/2025 3:25 PM
350	four grade school	7/30/2025 3:24 PM
351	Option E: Full ADA/current-code compliant renovation of Neary. It avoids the debate over school sites, there might be opportunities for saving over a new building	7/30/2025 3:24 PM
352	D	7/30/2025 3:22 PM
353	The new school options	7/30/2025 3:19 PM
354	Option B. Seems like best use of existing capacity. I'm not as concerned about fifth grade being with eighth grade, I think there are always to look for positives of having that group together for a longer period of time heading into high school Because a simulate all went to Algonquin eighth graders will be seniors when fifth graders. Enter high school.	7/30/2025 3:18 PM
355	New four-grade school at Neary: because a new school which can accomadate 4 grades will be of greater value vs kids changing school every 2 years.	7/30/2025 3:14 PM
356	I think rebuilding Neary as a 2 grade school would be good, but i see the benefits of the original plan. I would be on board with whatever brings about a solution to pur problem	7/30/2025 3:13 PM
357	Some consolidation of grades. current system is too spread.	7/30/2025 3:13 PM
358	A or B	7/30/2025 3:12 PM
359	Expand Finn	7/30/2025 3:08 PM
360	New four grade school at Neary as it not	7/30/2025 2:46 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

only plans for the current state but the future state as well.

361	D. I live near Finn and I would say the fewer transitions the kids need to go through the better. And I don't like the idea of five through eight at Neary. Tamara just seems like a cost saving measure, when the highest priority should be the educational benefit that the children are getting.	7/30/2025 2:25 PM
362	Any option that utilizes Finn school makes sense. We shouldn't throw away a good asset.	7/30/2025 1:46 PM
363	Option B appears likely to require the least cost and fewest modification to existing structures and, with proper planning, could be entirely implemented during one summer break.	7/30/2025 12:52 PM
364	Use what already exists	7/30/2025 12:27 PM
365	I think the proposal this past May is the best option but was not adequately presented to the voting public	7/30/2025 12:27 PM
366	eliminate Neary and combine into three other existing schools. Neary should be considered for other municipal/district needs (district office, senior center, recreation center) due to its proximity to parking, recreation fields and central location in town.	7/30/2025 12:27 PM
367	Options F, G, or a New 4th/5th Grade Neary are the best options for our town given the limitations of the buildings and structures.	7/30/2025 12:20 PM
368	F or G. Neary needs to be replaced! If the solution is building a new school that could handle ALL of the elementary grades, that would be fine as well. The Finn site would address the environmental concerns, but would option G come at a significantly higher cost, that would just make any proposal DOA	7/30/2025 11:43 AM
369	use the real estate that we have already	7/30/2025 11:35 AM
370	D - I like that grade configuration best and putting grades 4-5 in the center of town for walking/biking.	7/30/2025 10:35 AM
371	Eliminate Neary and use existing schools in either grade configuration option above for Woodward and Trottier	7/30/2025 10:29 AM
372	None of those options are best for the town	7/30/2025 10:17 AM
373	Option D seems like it could work if there is space. It keeps the staff at woodward (grades 2 &3) together so there is no issue there. 4/5 can go to woodward and the the neary site can become more rec space. It seems like this might not effect the students and have them move around as much.	7/30/2025 8:53 AM
374	Use the schools we already have	7/30/2025 8:43 AM
375	Prek-5 or full ADA renovation to Neary. Keep young children together. Keep 5th separate from 8th. Allow teachers to focus on each developmentally like group. Buildings need to be safe and ADA compliant.	7/30/2025 8:43 AM
376	Option B seems like the one that best uses the existing schools as originally intended	7/30/2025 8:24 AM
377	The one that provides safety for students and fewer transitions for students	7/30/2025 8:15 AM
378	I see the benefits of having a school that services more grades, particularly at the younger ages. It makes for less transitions. With an eye to special needs, it hopefully means the school will be more interested in actually servicing children with special needs rather than trying to ignore it in the first year the child is in the school and then just trying to get through the second year and pass the child on to the next school. It also would make for better communication between teachers who have had students and can tell the teachers in the following grades what may have worked for them. But I also think this can be achieved with a better approach to addressing students' needs.	7/30/2025 8:08 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

379	utilizing existing properties	7/30/2025 8:04 AM
380	Please consider using Finn, Woodward and Trottier for all the grades. Especially is enrollment is declining...why do we need to expand	7/30/2025 7:57 AM
381	consolidation of any of the remaining schools to take Neary offline	7/30/2025 7:48 AM
382	Too early	7/30/2025 7:47 AM
383	Trottier serve 5-8 Seems the most damn logical smart people can figure that out. Just learned my hometown down to 2 schools. Elementary serves k-6 and HS serves 7-12	7/30/2025 7:45 AM
384	Build a new Neary. There is plenty of land to build.	7/30/2025 7:36 AM
385	Option G. I have never lived in a town where the elementary school did not service grades k-5. It seems unusual to me that we have so many elementary schools, especially when one is failing.	7/30/2025 7:33 AM
386	A and F combine school grades which I like, and bring them closer to town	7/30/2025 7:08 AM
387	New two grade school on the Neary site.	7/30/2025 6:31 AM
388	I don't know. I no longer have kids in the school system. I just want my house value preserved, taxes as low as possible and kids to be safe.	7/30/2025 6:16 AM
389	The original plan still seems like the best option to me	7/30/2025 6:08 AM
390	The MSBA-approved proposal is the only one that meets all objectives and best balances cost, education, and time. While other choices could have been viable, those ships sailed with no input from opponents. "no" is not a plan. The town spent \$1M + 5yrs of volunteer time to get here.	7/30/2025 3:37 AM
391	I like the idea of still keeping the younger kids separate from older kids. Expanding Finn up to grade 3 is good, I assume moving grade 4-5 to Woodward is the plan with this option. And keeping 6-8 at trottier.	7/30/2025 2:14 AM
392	A/B or F. Either we can fit the kids in the current layout and have all the space we need or we need a new building. Expensive renovations and reconfigurations of vietnam-era buildings is a giant waste of money.	7/30/2025 1:27 AM
393	Options ABD! Use the schools we have!	7/29/2025 11:32 PM
394	Option B. Trottier has plenty of space to house another grade. The faculty would require minimal to no renovation to be appropriate for fifth grade.	7/29/2025 10:54 PM
395	Finn prek-2, Woodward 3-4, trottier 5-8 best use of resources	7/29/2025 10:47 PM
396	New 4 grade school and then after that using existing buildings to expand	7/29/2025 10:03 PM
397	Option A. Simple, utilizing existing buildings and not rebuilding. And grade configurations work for all.	7/29/2025 9:45 PM
398	I like the idea of re-purposing schools, but have a few concerns...(1) don't love 5-8 in same school but also don't love 6th graders staying in elementary, though that's prob a better option...(2) Would that put the schools at or close to full capacity. If that's the case, what happens if the population of students increases?	7/29/2025 9:37 PM
399	F, but I prefer you just build a new 2 grade school at the neary site (grades 4-5 like now)	7/29/2025 9:36 PM
400	a or b, because it seems like we have plenty of classroom space - it keeps cost down - and it buys time to come up with a better	7/29/2025 9:31 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

	long term plan for the K-8 grades		
401	renovating Neary, or preK-5 school	Fully	7/29/2025 9:14 PM
402	Finn being expanded to pk-3. Developmentally these grades are closer than 5-8.		7/29/2025 8:52 PM
403	Either A or B seems good to me		7/29/2025 8:47 PM
404	Don't want 5th graders with 8th graders. 5th need recess. I like the 7-8 grade school		7/29/2025 8:42 PM
405	A new school		7/29/2025 8:28 PM
406	thoroughly renovating ada compliant neary and keeping the schools with the grades like they are and all schools open. Keeps students within the same ages close and the staff knowledgeable on each specific grade level. The school libraries, art rooms, etc can have the proper materials just for those grades		7/29/2025 8:14 PM
407	Option B use the existing buildings		7/29/2025 8:12 PM
408	New four-grade school at Neary seems to have the best potential because it has the support of the STA.		7/29/2025 8:11 PM
409	F. Option F fixes a dilapidated Neary and expands to a modern school infrastructure. This will reduced the overall amount of maintenance, bus scheduling, and staffing needed in town.		7/29/2025 8:08 PM
410	I still believe a four grade school at Neary is the best option, based on its educational benefits, consolidation of resources, and ability to meet the needs of all our kids.		7/29/2025 8:07 PM
411	G would be ideal. That way people can't bring up the Neary dump site issue. And people can't feel that it's a good long term investment.		7/29/2025 7:55 PM
412	It is hard to pick the best option. A, B, and D all use existing space which is my priority.		7/29/2025 7:42 PM
413	Don't know		7/29/2025 7:37 PM
414	Option B but it would be better if all preschool was moved back to Northboro. Then Finn could be K, 1, and 2. Preschool should be house at high school and it could function alongside the Tiny Tomahawks.		7/29/2025 7:36 PM
415	Any of them that gets rid of current unsafe Neary and consolidates grades		7/29/2025 7:31 PM
416	Option A. Least disruption and uses the buildings we have.		7/29/2025 7:31 PM
417	A		7/29/2025 7:13 PM
418	New building at Neary location for four grades		7/29/2025 7:05 PM
419	Trottier 5-8 plan. My kids were more than ready for middle school by 5th grade.		7/29/2025 6:33 PM
420	The best option was the one already put forth, since we will no longer have the MSBA grant available several options are equal in my eyes until I have more information		7/29/2025 6:28 PM
421	modify (expand) more ages to Finn and Woodard school		7/29/2025 6:27 PM
422	A or B. These options would make the best use of existing buildings.		7/29/2025 6:24 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

Renovations would be at a much lower cost to tax payers than a new building. It makes no sense at all to close Finn

423	option A seems like the best. this is the first ive heard option G as we were led to believe they couldnt expand Finn. Option G sounds like a great idea but i think it might not be financially the best idea as it also sounds expensive for taxpayers	7/29/2025 6:18 PM
424	Option F--best long-term decision (for both educational value and cost)	7/29/2025 6:06 PM
425	Minimum renovation of schools, as enrollment is soft, and attend to repairing roads and sidewalks	7/29/2025 5:59 PM
426	New schools are necessary - the town needs them now and for the long term.	7/29/2025 5:47 PM
427	B	7/29/2025 5:15 PM
428	Option B. Best use of existing schools. Allows Neary to be used for town use.	7/29/2025 5:15 PM
429	Not building a new school	7/29/2025 5:07 PM
430	Adding new grades to existing schools best option	7/29/2025 5:07 PM
431	E	7/29/2025 4:58 PM
432	New school. Either F or G. Worth the investment and a town adjacent to where I grew up just went through this. Got MSBA funding for a new school but balked at the cost and went a renovation route. Lost the funding, unforeseen costs removing hazardous materials, went way over time and budget getting that sorted and ended up losing several years to end up a renovated school rather than what likely would have ended up being less expensive brand new school.	7/29/2025 4:31 PM
433	Option E because it keeps the grades where they are (because the current buildings are designed for the grades they serve) but Neary needs to remove hazards, acquire modern fire safety and satisfactory food services, reconfigure spaces to accommodate special needs and better programming, and be ADA-compliant.	7/29/2025 4:29 PM
434	A. This would make the best use of current facilities while considering cost	7/29/2025 4:26 PM
435	B no new schools	7/29/2025 4:18 PM
436	Trottier 3 to 6	7/29/2025 4:11 PM
437	Either of the consolidation options as it is using our current resources to accommodate all children.	7/29/2025 3:53 PM
438	Finn expanded or renovated to serve four grades (Pre-K to 3)	7/29/2025 3:48 PM
439	Trottier 5-8	7/29/2025 3:29 PM
440	Take care of our current buildings! Integrate space we already have	7/29/2025 3:27 PM
441	C	7/29/2025 3:23 PM
442	A or B	7/29/2025 3:21 PM
443	I would consider the original proposal at the near site or at an alternative site.	7/29/2025 3:18 PM
444	Just fix neary. I don't get what is so bad about it. Spend money on teachers	7/29/2025 3:09 PM
445	The most affordable option that will lessen the increase in taxes for those trying to stay in town. As a first responder this school will price me out of the town.	7/29/2025 2:57 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

446	E. Fix Neary. Make it ADA compliant. Remove asbestos. Make it suitable for the grades it already has. Remove administrative offices and there is plenty of room for our declining population	7/29/2025 2:52 PM
447	Option B trying to use current buildings, determining the space available at Finn, Woodward, and Trottier to plan additions and reconfigurations. Any grade configuration is possible with the administration and faculty setting the tone of the school. Respect, courtesy, and acceptance.	7/29/2025 2:46 PM
448	I think eliminating Neary altogether (and turning that site into a community center down the road) makes the most sense. Using Finn as K-2 makes use of a great site and building and keeps a good distribution of schools across town.	7/29/2025 2:37 PM
449	The new Neary school is the best option. It benefits from location next to Trottier, and really needs to be torn down and started over. It is in deplorable shape. The educational benefits for special education students for the proposed layout of the new Neary was a dream come true.	7/29/2025 2:14 PM
450	A)I do like the idea of 7/8 as a separate building..	7/29/2025 2:04 PM
451	Original plan best fits our needs	7/29/2025 1:53 PM
452	Anything other than the new neary plan was	7/29/2025 1:47 PM
453	Full renovation of neary or expanding Finn as most people in town seem concerned about using existing schools.	7/29/2025 1:41 PM
454	D	7/29/2025 1:39 PM
455	Neary as a four grade school	7/29/2025 1:37 PM
456	Would need to see more information on how they are presented	7/29/2025 1:37 PM
457	Unsure - sorry. Need time to hear committee's reports.	7/29/2025 1:34 PM
458	Reconfiguring the schools. We have enough space without spending a huge amount that goes along with a new school.	7/29/2025 1:18 PM
459	Using finn, trotters and woodward	7/29/2025 1:12 PM
460	Option B - it allows us to continue to use existing assets and maintains a more equitable distribution of schools across the town. (The closure of Finn would remove the only school and 1 of only 2 playgrounds on the south side of town)	7/29/2025 1:10 PM
461	renovate what we have	7/29/2025 1:09 PM
462	I don't have enough information to make a selection on the best option	7/29/2025 1:08 PM
463	A new school without using the Neary site to avoid long-term environmental issues.	7/29/2025 1:06 PM
464	Pk to 5 school	7/29/2025 1:05 PM
465	4 grade school at Neary- pool resources, staffing to best accommodate students needs, fewer transitions, less building cost upkeep/ maintenance over the year.	7/29/2025 12:58 PM
466	Option A. We use the current schools we have and the grade configurations are acceptable to most everyone. It's not very important to me, but in order to pass TM, I do not believe grade 5 can be with 8. I believe a school is absolutely needed on the south side. I do not think we need to be another building to carry more grades. The proposed Neary was over the top and completely unnecessary for learning and accommodating every student.	7/29/2025 12:54 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

467	#1 it makes the most sense considering all the needs of the tiwn.	7/29/2025 12:48 PM
468	B and D, they let us make use of our current infrastructure while making some upgrades to support our kids	7/29/2025 12:45 PM
469	New Neary.	7/29/2025 12:44 PM
470	Trottier 5-8	7/29/2025 12:15 PM
471	Optimize existing building footprints to provide quality schooling and manage costs.	7/29/2025 12:04 PM
472	Expanding Finn to PreK-3, placing 4 and 5 at Woodward and leaving Trottier as is seems the best idea. This also is less disruptive to any of the grades if done with an architect who would add on to Finn while leaving the school as it exists now in place. Any other situation would have us renovating Woodward to be a middle school again (think science labs, for one) and there is no track or proper gym facilities for older students. Also, Trottier would have to be renovated to house younger students.	7/29/2025 11:34 AM
473	Option E. Because it is the only one that focuses on solving only the existing problem, updating neary. The rest is put of scope and can be addressed separately.	7/29/2025 11:06 AM
474	Making use of the buildings we currently have	7/29/2025 9:19 AM

Q28 Which option stands out as likely being the worst option for the town? Please explain why.

Answered: 482 Skipped: 307

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	C is the worst option because it is short term, expensive and does not fix the problem that the town is facing	8/19/2025 8:48 PM
2	Including 5th grade with middle school is the worst option. Simply not appropriate to have 5th graders coupled with middle school given development as well as the disruption to classrooms by things like bells for 6-8 that are not applicable to 5th graders.	8/19/2025 4:06 PM
3	Finn is the wrong location for a school	8/18/2025 7:46 PM
4	Any expansion of Finn is wrong and probably will be shown so. It is unconscionable to have not dealt with code issues at Neary....students are less safe in an unsprinklered building. Students are less safe in a building that needs new safety standards.	8/18/2025 7:16 PM
5	C. I have kids at Neary and the school is in dismal shape. Deferring maintenance seems like it's avoiding the inevitable. I don't think it's a coincidence that the school in our district with the most criticism of learning environment is Neary.	8/18/2025 1:26 PM
6	B. I think there should be at least two Pre-K-4 schools in Southborough. Especially for kids that age, bigger is not necessarily better.	8/17/2025 9:57 PM
7	A two school model.	8/17/2025 8:45 PM
8	C	8/17/2025 5:34 PM
9	A three-school situation involving Neary.	8/17/2025 5:22 PM
10	Doing nothing other than neary maintenance. Neary is run down and needs more than basic maintenance.	8/17/2025 3:26 PM
11	Large tax bill without businesses to hwlo with taxes and two private schools that dont pay taxes but have a bunch of land	8/17/2025 12:54 PM
12	The "new Neary". Option although very well thought out, is not a cost effective, and therefore, viable option. Again, please explore ALL of the options 1st and then go for the grants. The grant process severely limited the options available to us.	8/16/2025 5:16 PM
13	Option C	8/16/2025 3:33 PM
14	G, The town has strongly opposed to building new schools. PLEASE LISTEN TO THE TAXPAYERS!!!	8/16/2025 2:17 PM
15	not sure	8/16/2025 1:33 PM
16	Do nothing	8/16/2025 10:58 AM
17	New school. Too much \$\$\$ also the landfill problem	8/16/2025 7:01 AM
18	C,b,a - need k-5 under one roof and sell the other properties	8/16/2025 6:49 AM
19	Building a \$109 million new school that is not needed, off-line in a perfectly good school and building that new school next to a dump site	8/15/2025 10:13 PM
20	A and B. Trottier is not designed for younger kids, nor should 5th be at Trottier. It was disingenuous to say that other schools have 5th in middle school - the 5th grade is separated into their own space in those situations.	8/15/2025 10:13 PM
21	C. And G. They seem like they would be most expensive.	8/15/2025 8:31 PM
22	A & B-- not reasonable solutions for the problem	8/15/2025 6:59 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

23	Spending \$100M on a top of the line school	8/15/2025 5:31 PM
24	B- would like to keep the 5th graders out of middle school.	8/15/2025 4:54 PM
25	Minimal renovation of Neary - I think the facility is dated and improvements are needed at some point.	8/15/2025 4:29 PM
26	Building brand new	8/15/2025 2:21 PM
27	F and G	8/15/2025 2:11 PM
28	Renovating neary	8/15/2025 1:08 PM
29	Trottier 5-8. I don't think it's appropriate for 5th graders to be with 8th graders, unless certain protocols are met to separate the grades.	8/15/2025 12:05 PM
30	A 5 grade school.	8/15/2025 11:45 AM
31	New construction of any kind.	8/15/2025 9:12 AM
32	New Neary is cost prohibitive and profoundly wasteful.	8/15/2025 8:44 AM
33	Option B - just adding 5th into a school that isn't designed for that grade makes no sense to me.	8/15/2025 7:42 AM
34	Moving 5th grade to Trottier	8/15/2025 7:11 AM
35	E- too much work needed at Neary	8/15/2025 7:00 AM
36	New four-grade school at Neary	8/15/2025 5:27 AM
37	C	8/15/2025 5:02 AM
38	Option F - We can't afford this	8/14/2025 11:13 PM
39	Rebuild neary for 4 grades	8/14/2025 9:52 PM
40	G	8/14/2025 9:40 PM
41	rebuilding an entirely new school does not seem necessary or responsible in this current environment	8/14/2025 9:24 PM
42	Minimal renovations to Neary. Explanation isn't needed 🙄	8/14/2025 9:17 PM
43	Making a new school for pk-5 or 5-8th - I don't believe that grouping is safe or beneficial for students.	8/14/2025 9:11 PM
44	Anything that puts grade 5 at the middle school. I would prefer that grade 6 be moved to elementary. Let's let kids be as young as they can be for as long as they can be. Having taught fifth grade for many years in k-5, 5-8, and 4-5 settings, BY FAR the best, happiest, most well adjusted and invested community members were the ones from the K-5 school. It is actually what is best for kids.	8/14/2025 9:04 PM
45	Leaving Neary as is and allowing students and staff to be in that building	8/14/2025 8:46 PM
46	Option C - Neary would continue to deteriorate and the cost would only increase when we hit a point of no return with the building.	8/14/2025 8:23 PM
47	Both C & E. C is kicking the can and E is putting good money into a money pit	8/14/2025 8:08 PM
48	F/G - new building... not needed we have enough space!	8/14/2025 8:06 PM
49	E	8/14/2025 7:58 PM
50	Replacing Neary	8/14/2025 7:07 PM
51	Seems like over kill to build a brand new building when 3 of the four schools are suitable. Reconfigure or do light renos to Neary or an addition to one of the existing building.	8/14/2025 6:59 PM
52	Combining elementary and middle school grades	8/14/2025 6:40 PM
53	The construction of an entire new school is a no for me. Refurbishment or reconfiguration are the only paths forward in my opinion	8/14/2025 6:35 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

54	Building new Neary as originally proposed. If you believe it didn't pass due to misinformation or lack of turnout you are wrong. It didn't pass because the project is totally financially irresponsible, and by bringing it forward again you will polarize the town worse than it is now.	8/14/2025 6:33 PM
55	New four grade school at neary. It's been soundly rejected. We need to move on.	8/14/2025 6:30 PM
56	Cosmetic fix of Neary seems a terrible waste of money and just kicks the can down the road, when costs will be higher.	8/14/2025 3:53 PM
57	The best option is the greatest value for the lowest cost. This question is not answerable.	8/14/2025 3:34 PM
58	simply deferring and doing minimal renovations to neary is going to cost everyoen more in the long run	8/14/2025 2:26 PM
59	Just " fixing" Neary	8/14/2025 2:24 PM
60	Total new school will lose again and the cost is what will affect it	8/14/2025 2:20 PM
61	I'm not a fan of any of the plans that simply cram more students into the existing schools in order to get them out of Neary without addressing Neary's problems. Of these, option A is probably the worst.	8/14/2025 2:17 PM
62	Minimal renovation of neary, problems aren't really addressed with the option, there are no real improvements for the kids and our school system	8/14/2025 2:17 PM
63	Group more kids in same buildings	8/14/2025 2:13 PM
64	Option G	8/14/2025 2:06 PM
65	Building a whole new campus seems very wasteful given that we already have several buildings	8/14/2025 1:58 PM
66	Trottier serves Grades 3–6, Woodward serves Grades 7–8	8/14/2025 1:34 PM
67	E, F, G are the worst options. C is wasteful and can compromise safety.	8/14/2025 12:59 PM
68	C and e. Neary is not a suitable place for kids to be in. Even if renovated. It will open up a can of worms and you can't fix that building to make it a safe environment.	8/14/2025 12:55 PM
69	E cannot see a reason for a high cost project.	8/14/2025 12:46 PM
70	A, time line does not appear to work with current need and why waiste dollars on schools built for other age groups	8/14/2025 12:27 PM
71	F	8/14/2025 12:25 PM
72	Option G - A new pre-K - 5 school. This seems the most costly with uncertainty to impacts on other buildings currently in use.	8/14/2025 12:24 PM
73	Anything that combines elementary and middle school grades should not be considered.	8/14/2025 12:23 PM
74	N/A	8/14/2025 12:20 PM
75	None	8/14/2025 12:18 PM
76	G. Consider the Finn location, traffic.	8/14/2025 12:13 PM
77	anything new	8/14/2025 12:10 PM
78	Any option that involves building a brand new school will never pass. Taxes are already too high.	8/14/2025 6:42 AM
79	Option F	8/13/2025 7:40 PM
80	Building a new structure.	8/13/2025 8:59 AM
81	New school or any option that involves closing an existing school	8/12/2025 9:09 PM
82	G if that means 1 big school for all kids. A because it is designed for little kids and not appropriate for 7-8	8/12/2025 11:47 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

83	middle school	5-8 at Trottier - Not comfortable with 4 years in	8/12/2025 10:51 AM
84		F and G. Cost	8/12/2025 7:17 AM
85		I am concerned most about mixing young and older children and also the cost of the brand new school	8/12/2025 6:33 AM
86		F-NO NEW NEARY!!! Why are you NOT LISTENING?!?!?	8/11/2025 5:15 PM
87		the basic renovations to Neary that will delay the larger progress we need with all these other options	8/11/2025 3:45 PM
88		option C does not sound reasonable, sounds like avoiding the issue	8/11/2025 10:26 AM
89		Combine any grades with the middle school or moving middle school children to another school. We have Trottier, which was built to serve this population of children. Trying to squeeze kids in, just because there is square footage, does not seem like it is developmentally best for children. Our town should be focused on serving the next generation as best we can.	8/11/2025 10:24 AM
90		I am strongly opposed to moving 5th grade to Trottier. I am also morally opposed to any renovations that do not address the lack of ADA compliance or safety issues at Neary. It is reprehensible for us to know that this building lacks ADA compliance and other factors designed to keep students safe and just do enough to not trigger those repairs. I am also confused as to how a brand new, HUGE pre-k to 5 building would be less expensive than the original project.	8/11/2025 9:14 AM
91		Not enough info to tell	8/10/2025 8:19 PM
92		E. Too expensive and other school space available	8/10/2025 6:28 PM
93		C - not healthy; pushing the cart down the road; any building will only get more expensive	8/10/2025 5:22 PM
94		F + G - too expensive, do not need a school with all the extras that were included	8/10/2025 10:39 AM
95		The option which has the highest cost is the worst option.	8/9/2025 3:38 PM
96		F. I don't think it's necessary	8/9/2025 3:00 PM
97		Trying to renovate the Neary.Costs.	8/9/2025 2:50 PM
98		B or Ds	8/9/2025 1:48 PM
99		new neary with extra grades at the expense of closing finn	8/9/2025 10:14 AM
100		Keeping the asinine Neary, and all the more so when the median household income makes it asinine that we do not invest, allocating more of cost progressively to the billionaires and less to those 65 and older in limited income.	8/9/2025 8:28 AM
101		The town overwhelmingly turned down the current proposal.	8/9/2025 6:20 AM
102		Doing nothing to Neary and keep putting money into a sinking ship that doesn't address the problem.	8/8/2025 9:25 PM
103		Same as above. This is a school issue to begin with, BUT it should be a townwide planning issue as well.	8/8/2025 4:53 PM
104		I am concerned with renovating Finn. Finn needs a lot of work and I do like the idea of having it maintain K-2, I am concerned that the town would vote no on this option if it is still costly.	8/8/2025 12:12 PM
105		A four grade school	8/8/2025 9:33 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

	is worst, minimal efficiency maximum cost	
106	A. Woodward could be managed to accept additional grades.	8/8/2025 9:29 AM
107	Building new. Too expensive and not needed.	8/7/2025 7:27 PM
108	F. Proliferate unneeded space and expense burden.	8/7/2025 7:03 PM
109	Pre-K to 5 at Finn	8/7/2025 2:06 PM
110	Anything where we are jamming kids into existing schools, repurposing other old schools are prioritizing cost OVER functionality and whats best for the kids is an automatic no vote from me.	8/7/2025 12:22 PM
111	New Finn school	8/7/2025 10:22 AM
112	A. So much building modification needed.	8/7/2025 10:10 AM
113	K-8	8/7/2025 9:57 AM
114	Moving grades	8/7/2025 9:33 AM
115	Worst option is A or B. We should not close Neary and squeeze students in other schools without them having adequate capacity	8/7/2025 8:35 AM
116	F and G. There is absolutely no need to build a new school.	8/7/2025 7:31 AM
117	G	8/7/2025 6:13 AM
118	Option A and B: low grade mixed with high grade students are not good.	8/6/2025 7:54 PM
119	PreK-5 school. Mixing of age groups not optimal	8/6/2025 7:18 PM
120	Any option requiring extensive renovations or a new building	8/6/2025 5:51 PM
121	A	8/6/2025 5:17 PM
122	New four grade school for Neary. The town voted this measure down by 2/3 and forcing another vote on it feels undemocratic.	8/6/2025 5:02 PM
123	Closing Finn and building a 4 grade neary. Second worse would be trotters 5 - 7	8/6/2025 4:38 PM
124	5-8 at Woodward	8/6/2025 4:08 PM
125	G - tax burden	8/6/2025 3:32 PM
126	F - cost not worth it	8/6/2025 3:30 PM
127	Two schools	8/6/2025 3:04 PM
128	Putting up new buildings without any consideration for less costly alternatives which would be able to meet needs.	8/6/2025 2:48 PM
129	Every other option. Stop wasting tax payers money	8/6/2025 2:46 PM
130	G. New school not option in May and still so	8/6/2025 2:34 PM
131	Going ahead without justification	8/6/2025 2:22 PM
132	Renovation or lack of consolidation.	8/6/2025 2:07 PM
133	Closing Finn	8/6/2025 1:16 PM
134	minimal renovation of Neary	8/6/2025 12:53 PM
135	C. Doing nothing allows schools to continue to deteriorate	8/6/2025 12:27 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

136	F	8/6/2025 12:22 PM
137	E not interested in Neary	8/6/2025 12:09 PM
138	Options A, B, and C (especially A&B) are detrimental to the town's future. It would be a major step backwards. At no point did any rational, informed authority think that the solution to the town's school building issues would be to merely close a current school and expect the current schools (minus the closed school) to absorb the entire town's elementary school population. Such an "idea" was based in ill-informed, myopic opinions.	8/6/2025 11:09 AM
139	Grade 5 at Trottier	8/6/2025 7:45 AM
140	All above	8/6/2025 5:00 AM
141	Don't have cost analysis to make decisions	8/6/2025 12:03 AM
142	Option F - I really don't like any options that involve decommissioning Finn School, which is also a great school with no major issues that I am aware.	8/5/2025 11:36 PM
143	C. - We would end up spending more money overall and it's just pushing the problem to deal with later.	8/5/2025 9:11 PM
144	Minimal renovation at Neary. The building is not up-to-date with safety codes. Even with the renovation, the building can only last for certain amount of time with similar amount of cost. Why not invest in a new school where our children and the future generations to benefit from it.	8/5/2025 8:37 PM
145	G	8/5/2025 7:47 PM
146	Lumping many grades together	8/5/2025 7:20 PM
147	Deferred maintenance is an irresponsible can kick. Also not comfortable with 5th graders in school with 8th grades	8/5/2025 6:17 PM
148	Option C. We need to do something.	8/5/2025 5:07 PM
149	F or G since they sound like brand new construction	8/5/2025 4:34 PM
150	K-5 all in one school for while town	8/5/2025 4:30 PM
151	Minimal renovation of Neary. Not fully addressing the issue	8/5/2025 2:23 PM
152	Anything that involves building an entirely new school at great cost will make this town more unaffordable for seniors and low-income folks. There is a lot of talk in Southborough about housing diversity for people who aren't making a high salary every year and this would exacerbate that issue.	8/5/2025 1:57 PM
153	F	8/5/2025 12:56 PM
154	Any renovation of Neary at this point is a bandaid solution. This should have been dealt with years ago or we wouldn't be in this situation. Let's not put ourselves in that situation again as we typically do in this town.	8/5/2025 12:38 PM
155	Minimal renovation is not going to modernize the infrastructure and provide a better school system for our kids.	8/5/2025 12:34 PM
156	Rebuilding neary	8/5/2025 12:33 PM
157	minimal renovation of Neary - this seems like a short term fix	8/5/2025 12:23 PM
158	Moving 7-8 to Woodward. That is not built for that age group nor is Trottier built for 3-6.	8/5/2025 12:20 PM
159	A new school on neary site or Finn site.	8/5/2025 12:14 PM
160	B -- overcrowded schools, poor grade configuration, not supported by teachers	8/5/2025 12:00 PM
161	Most of these options seem to reinvent the wheel.	8/5/2025 11:35 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

Anything involving expanding Finn is likely not possible given the space/protected land/structural constraints

162	G	8/5/2025 11:13 AM
163	Bringing young kids in the same buses and buildings as older children. We didnt move to southborough to have a poor school experience for our children as did all other young parents. This town has nothing to offer aside from its school. We have no real buisensses, downtown heck we dont even have sidewalks in most of the town. We dont have town sewer and most of the towns on wells. Very poor planning around infrastructure.	8/5/2025 11:07 AM
164	full ada neary (seems most costly)	8/5/2025 11:03 AM
165	Option B or F	8/5/2025 10:46 AM
166	doing nothing or minimal work to Neary is the worst option	8/5/2025 10:37 AM
167	Only making needed investments - very short term focused and misaligned with the value prop of Southborough as a tow	8/5/2025 10:33 AM
168	Consolidating 5-8	8/5/2025 10:32 AM
169	C. because it just prolongs the underlying problem	8/5/2025 10:28 AM
170	Minimal renovations at Neary	8/5/2025 10:28 AM
171	D. Doing construction in the school while the students are attending that school.	8/5/2025 10:28 AM
172	A brand new school. We don't need to make this unnecessarily expensive.	8/5/2025 10:28 AM
173	Re Building and or renovating Neary	8/5/2025 10:13 AM
174	1) Minimal renovation to Neary — not addressing the core issues and not advancing our education offering for the kids. If we make a \$ investment, I want to see our kids benefit more than putting a bandaid on this. Another option I'm considered about is repurposing Trottier and Woodward because these schools were designed for the age groups they are in. 7/8 graders need more enrichment courses and different facilities. You would likely spend a lot of money to update all schools (Finn also needs updating). I'm also concerned about 5th with older kids. I went to a school that had 5-6 together and then 7-8 together.	8/5/2025 10:09 AM
175	Fancy high tech school with less focus on children's needs and more focus on looks	8/5/2025 10:08 AM
176	Renovations- if there are safety/health concerns to doing this	8/5/2025 9:56 AM
177	Would need cost figures and details of the options to have an opinion.	8/5/2025 9:52 AM
178	Deferred maintenance	8/5/2025 9:51 AM
179	Option F. It seems like a wasteful spend of money that goes beyond the school to make more space for town administration and a senior center, of which I wasn't aware were in need of more or better space. It just seems as though we are signing up for not only a school cost, but also renovation costs of additional buildings with an unclear usage of buildings they are exiting. Also, I will add that Option A moves 6th grade away from middle school which is a non-starter for me.	8/5/2025 9:51 AM
180	Minimal renovations	8/5/2025 9:50 AM
181	Putting 5th graders with 8th graders needlessly exposes 10-year-olds to teenage attitudes, influences, and social dynamics they're not ready for - a recipe for faster burnout and bigger problems later.	8/5/2025 9:44 AM
182	Any renovation of Neary	8/5/2025 9:42 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

183	Deferred maintenance only since it seems wasteful on a facility that is past due for replacement. And 5th grade being moved to middle school because I don't want 5th graders in a middle school environment unless there is a separate wing for them.	8/5/2025 9:42 AM
184	Expanding Finn. I don't think we should move students across town to an expanded school that is already old.	8/5/2025 9:41 AM
185	G. One thing I like about Southborough schools is the changing of buildings every few years. One giant school would make the change to middle school a much bigger change for kids than it currently is now.	8/5/2025 9:40 AM
186	Any full build of a new school. We have ample space with the assets we have and can make some modifications to optimize the situation.	8/5/2025 9:40 AM
187	Option C	8/5/2025 9:35 AM
188	A and G seem worst. A: Trottier was built for middle schoolers in mind. G: Way too many grades in one school; site would be overcrowded in terms of population as well as traffic/commuting/pickups/drop offs	8/5/2025 9:32 AM
189	One large k-8 school. I believe it is beneficial to the child to segregate age groups.	8/5/2025 9:30 AM
190	??? - I feel like taking a school for a senior center doesn't seem like a good use of finances	8/5/2025 9:30 AM
191	doing nothing.	8/5/2025 9:24 AM
192	anything new	8/5/2025 9:20 AM
193	Trottier being elementary, or Trottier being more than just 6-8. Woodward is not fit for a middle school too small , not enough space for middle school extracurricular	8/5/2025 9:20 AM
194	5-8th in 1 school. Strongly believe 5th graders should not be with 8th graders	8/5/2025 9:16 AM
195	Given the division of the town by route 9, I don't think a 6 grade school will work. Half the town will be upset if it's on the other side of route 9.	8/4/2025 10:26 PM
196	G	8/4/2025 9:31 PM
197	B middle school should stay 6-8	8/4/2025 9:22 PM
198	Trottier serves Grades 3–6, Woodward serves Grades 7–8. Would likely require large modifications due to different student ages.	8/4/2025 3:48 PM
199	building a new Neary for grades 4-5 only	8/4/2025 1:15 PM
200	F or G - wrong economic climate to try to build new \$100M+ schools.	8/4/2025 10:55 AM
201	Just doing minimal work on Neary seems irresponsible. Fix it entirely	8/4/2025 9:46 AM
202	Pre-K to 5	8/4/2025 9:41 AM
203	Option F. We don't need a new school. Way too expensive, especially in this political climate. Again I feel we already have what we need.	8/4/2025 8:53 AM
204	Any net new building options are worst given projections of tax increases even without this project. It's going to push many residents out of the town and makes us look like other high taxes towns with minimal benefits; especially when you can simply move to Northborough and can be in same high school setup.	8/3/2025 7:38 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

205	Completely new Neary	8/3/2025 4:51 PM
206	No neary improvement; cost goes exclusively to taxpayers minus grant money	8/3/2025 1:28 PM
207	Spending money too much money	8/3/2025 10:48 AM
208	Financially irresponsible to build brand new school when we have existing buildings in relatively good shape	8/3/2025 10:40 AM
209	new preK-5- I haven't seen much data or information as to how this would work in S'boro	8/3/2025 10:04 AM
210	F. New four grade school at Neary. Why was traffic never discussed? I cannot imagine the drop off and pick-up traffic for grades 2-5 and Trottier 6-8 basically all in one location. Parking for school events would be absurd.	8/3/2025 6:23 AM
211	Closing Finn building new Neary	8/3/2025 6:15 AM
212	G	8/3/2025 6:09 AM
213	F and G- combining kids who are too far a part developmentally	8/3/2025 5:40 AM
214	Option G. I think having kids as young as 4/5 to 10/11 is too much. I understand it is possible, and other districts have done it. However, one of the reasons we like Southborough is that the smaller school feel seems to attract families. Again, I would like to have a clear educational perspective why this would be the best fit for the town should the committee and experts believe this is the best plan.	8/2/2025 11:56 PM
215	C because Neary is outdated and unfit	8/2/2025 10:07 PM
216	Anything that decreases the quality of our kids' education, makes it hard to retain and attract the best educators, or increases taxes an unreasonable amount (I thought the proposed increase was fine).	8/2/2025 2:26 PM
217	Care should be taken to look at Finn before deciding to renovate it. Is the structure in need of too many repairs to make that option viable?	8/2/2025 9:32 AM
218	F	8/2/2025 8:14 AM
219	A -- Woodward cannot accommodate proper ancillary facilities for "middle school" grades (e.g., auditorium, library, laboratories, gymnasium, athletic fields, cafeteria, overall "heft").	8/1/2025 10:14 PM
220	adding more grades to existing schools	8/1/2025 7:40 PM
221	Option A- I don't like grades 3-6 together.	8/1/2025 7:06 PM
222	Trottier 5-8, 10 year old kids shouldn't be in shared spaces with 14 year olds with cell phones.	8/1/2025 3:49 PM
223	New school option G	8/1/2025 1:52 PM
224	Building a new school. The town needs to improve the management of its existing buildings and facilities by implementing both short-term and long-term maintenance plans, while also allowing for reasonable upgrades.	8/1/2025 12:41 PM
225	see above	8/1/2025 11:22 AM
226	Use what we have! No new pretty school complexes, whose vanity are we supporting here?	8/1/2025 10:08 AM
227	New Pre-K to 5 school at a suitable location (including possible use of the Finn site)	8/1/2025 10:06 AM
228	F an G . Should use the school space we have.	8/1/2025 9:56 AM
229	minimal repairs / maintenance of Neary. Why kick the can?	8/1/2025 9:32 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

Neary is well beyond it's useful life. Arguably poorly designed to meet needs at the time it was build - windows anyone?

230	F	8/1/2025 9:26 AM
231	Minimal renovation of Neary (assumed "deferred maintenance" only)	8/1/2025 8:55 AM
232	option E, remove the building and think creatively about the use of that land, it's amazing space for some kind of town use	8/1/2025 7:45 AM
233	G. I think this would be a big cost factor that many people from the town would balk at.	8/1/2025 7:30 AM
234	F and G - unnecessary, existing facilities meet our educational needs.	8/1/2025 4:48 AM
235	Option F is worst. We don't need the capacity. The committee should be exploring options using/updating existing schools. State funding should not be a factor for not considering other options. Our level of state funding is only 40%, so why is that driving the decisions.	8/1/2025 4:42 AM
236	No changes at all	8/1/2025 3:02 AM
237	Option G sounds costly & may require neighborhood schools which I do not want. Option C does not seem feasible as Neary needs too much work and a bandaid with minimal repairs is not a long term solution.	7/31/2025 10:09 PM
238	Pre-school-5 in one new building	7/31/2025 9:33 PM
239	New Neary	7/31/2025 8:53 PM
240	A new school, either the F or G options above. Building will be very expensive for the foreseeable future and enrollment will be declining, if trends continue. Neary is the only aging school, the others have been maintained well. I would choose to use what we have already.	7/31/2025 8:21 PM
241	Option f and g. F already rejected and g is similar	7/31/2025 7:42 PM
242	Option G. Doesn't make any sense and certainly not practical from a financial standpoint!	7/31/2025 7:07 PM
243	F	7/31/2025 6:43 PM
244	Finn PK-5 , too many grades. Not enough technology	7/31/2025 6:42 PM
245	Grades 5-8 together	7/31/2025 6:24 PM
246	Creating a new building complex at this time of great economic uncertainty is irresponsible. We have said no again and again. Hear us. No.	7/31/2025 5:51 PM
247	Putting middle school students in the Woodward, which was built for 8 year olds is a terrible idea	7/31/2025 5:45 PM
248	Building totally new school	7/31/2025 5:01 PM
249	G. Too costly	7/31/2025 4:49 PM
250	No idea	7/31/2025 3:59 PM
251	A and E are tied for worst. Shoe horning the grades into schools they weren't designed for doesn't make any sense. For the cost of the full reno of Neary, we should just build something new.	7/31/2025 3:40 PM
252	F. Voters have rejected the "new Neary" option. Believe them.	7/31/2025 3:37 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

253	F and G	7/31/2025 3:30 PM
254	Rebuilding Neary	7/31/2025 2:53 PM
255	F. \$\$\$	7/31/2025 2:40 PM
256	G. Dramatic shift from current elementary school model, and possibly a significant building to support 6 grades.	7/31/2025 2:33 PM
257	Doing nothing	7/31/2025 2:20 PM
258	F and G. Not a good use of taxpayer money.	7/31/2025 2:03 PM
259	what we voted on at STM 5/2025	7/31/2025 1:56 PM
260	Making a new Trottier school. Wasting money.	7/31/2025 1:46 PM
261	Option b - not good for 5th graders	7/31/2025 1:46 PM
262	Option F the site requires on going Landfill testing opens and private wells in the area of the Landfill	7/31/2025 12:46 PM
263	F	7/31/2025 12:28 PM
264	Option C seems worst, since it will only push costs down to a future date. The town would ultimately be paying for everything anyway while giving no benefit to the students.	7/31/2025 12:26 PM
265	Expanding Finn or keeping things the same	7/31/2025 11:46 AM
266	#f and #g	7/31/2025 11:40 AM
267	Renovating or building (raising taxes) when it is not necessary or required.	7/31/2025 11:29 AM
268	I believe neighborhood schools would divide this already small town in unnecessary and unfair (or perceived unfair) ways. There is such great camaraderie in our schools now within each grade. And the ability for teachers/support specialists to work together for an entire age group is phenomenal. We shouldn't mess with that. Similarly, I do not support a 5-8 school unless I can be convinced that the 5th graders will have their own space/wing separate from the older students and that access to art, music, languages, gym, and an appropriate lunch time slot (along with excellent and up-to-date spaces for all) would not be compromised in any way.	7/31/2025 11:28 AM
269	F. G. most expensive, most disruptive.	7/31/2025 11:27 AM
270	C or E - sinking any money into repairing Neary is ridiculous. That shipped sailed years ago.	7/31/2025 11:22 AM
271	F. Already defeated by town, too expensive	7/31/2025 11:17 AM
272	Minimal renovation of Neary - not worth the money now since we'll have to just keep doing it	7/31/2025 11:13 AM
273	Putting 5th graders with 8th graders.	7/31/2025 11:09 AM
274	Close Finn	7/31/2025 11:02 AM
275	I do not like option A. Both Woodward and Trottier would need significant renovation to make them suitable for the age ranges. This would end up costing almost as much as just building a new school.	7/31/2025 10:42 AM
276	G. New PreK to 5- too big and expensive	7/31/2025 9:46 AM
277	Trottier serving 3-6. Trottier gym supports middle school sports on site. It would be a shame to lose that opportunity for middle school	7/31/2025 9:23 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

	kids.	
278	The minimal renovation to Neary as it's clearly a building that needs significant upgrades to meet community needs. It seems like we would be flushing money down the drain by putting a bandaid on larger issues.	7/31/2025 8:58 AM
279	The NBC's option that was defeated at STM.	7/31/2025 8:36 AM
280	I don't like the deferred maintence only option (but also don't know if that language should be in the survey because it has a negative tone and could influence those answering the survey. It's not helpful to have skewed or inaccurate data...	7/31/2025 8:29 AM
281	Minimal renovation of Neary. Neary is outdated.	7/31/2025 8:27 AM
282	E	7/31/2025 8:13 AM
283	F and g--no need to build a new school/utilize what we now have	7/31/2025 7:35 AM
284	G	7/31/2025 7:27 AM
285	Option G-seems like a waste of use of the current schools we have	7/31/2025 7:19 AM
286	F and G-too costly	7/31/2025 6:32 AM
287	A	7/31/2025 6:29 AM
288	C	7/31/2025 6:10 AM
289	Closing Finn and/or adding 5th grade to trottier.	7/31/2025 5:55 AM
290	E. Renovation seems expensive and not as beneficial as a new school or reconfiguring grade distribution.	7/31/2025 5:46 AM
291	Building a new school from scratch. There are usable buildings in existence.	7/31/2025 5:17 AM
292	Deferred maintenance of Neary	7/31/2025 5:04 AM
293	New Neary- site has issues, costs are too much, school building too decadent and I'm not sure the educational vision presented works in this building or there's actual room for larger grades in the layout described should you need it. There's no extra classrooms or square footage in each "wing" to add an extra classroom and keep the grade configuration presented.	7/30/2025 10:03 PM
294	Option F. It already failed and was too expensive. It also eliminated the only school on the south side of town.	7/30/2025 10:01 PM
295	NA	7/30/2025 9:19 PM
296	N/A	7/30/2025 9:19 PM
297	Putting a band-aid on maintenance at current Neary. Spending this money just to have to then come up with a more long-term solution that will also cost more money doesn't seem to make any sense whatsoever.	7/30/2025 8:48 PM
298	Deferred maintenance or repurposing Finn or Neary build a new building with better air quality, comfort heating and cooling and sustainability for the future.	7/30/2025 8:46 PM
299	Need more time to consider.	7/30/2025 8:35 PM
300	B. Strongly against 5-th graders together with 8-th graders. Education experts strongly advise against it. Other towns don't do it. Why take this gamble with our 5-th graders?	7/30/2025 8:09 PM
301	not doing anything would be the worst option	7/30/2025 7:59 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

302	F - Don't want to build on a dump site	7/30/2025 7:56 PM
303	Any new development	7/30/2025 7:56 PM
304	Option G - most expensive and most burden on residents	7/30/2025 7:53 PM
305	C	7/30/2025 7:34 PM
306	Don't put fifth graders with eighth graders	7/30/2025 7:13 PM
307	New building	7/30/2025 7:00 PM
308	Mini Reno to Neary	7/30/2025 6:57 PM
309	New school to replace Neary	7/30/2025 6:55 PM
310	I do not think that a new 4 or 5 grade school would be a good decision for the town.	7/30/2025 6:54 PM
311	New four grade school - same challenges presented as initial option and loss of Finn isn't ideal	7/30/2025 6:49 PM
312	Minimal Renovations at Neary	7/30/2025 6:32 PM
313	New Neary. Don't need it. We have plenty of classrooms.	7/30/2025 6:19 PM
314	Option C as it is not solving the issue at hand	7/30/2025 5:45 PM
315	C	7/30/2025 5:25 PM
316	A brand new 100M dollar building. Absurd	7/30/2025 5:18 PM
317	Deferred maintenance at neary	7/30/2025 5:11 PM
318	Building a brand new school when we have existing buildings. We need to maintain and prepare for upgrades to the buildings we have	7/30/2025 5:10 PM
319	Having older kids with younger kids via a Trottier extension.	7/30/2025 5:03 PM
320	new building	7/30/2025 4:56 PM
321	Minimal renovation of Neary. The building is in disrepair. Our town needs to take better care of schools!	7/30/2025 4:51 PM
322	Rebuild a 4 grade school	7/30/2025 4:45 PM
323	A re-vote of a brand new building. The town mobilized quite effectively against it and I don't see that changing.	7/30/2025 4:34 PM
324	Minimal renovation of Neary. I think it will end up costing the town more in the long run and it will not solve the underlying issue	7/30/2025 4:31 PM
325	Using Neary even after renovations. Strongly oppose that	7/30/2025 4:30 PM
326	Option A. More transitions. 3rd graders going to school with 6th graders seems like a big age difference.	7/30/2025 4:25 PM
327	Option C, our kids and teachers deserve better	7/30/2025 4:14 PM
328	Building a new school	7/30/2025 4:13 PM
329	Doing minimal renovation only	7/30/2025 4:11 PM
330	I will never support a building plan that puts 5th grade in with middle school. It is not developmentally appropriate to have those ages together. Many schools in the area who recently had a 5-8 school are now separating them into 5-6 and 7-8 schools.	7/30/2025 4:06 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

331	Minimal renovations to Neary. It's not a long term solution.	7/30/2025 4:01 PM
332	New Neary pk-5 because we already have very nice schools where they are being served nicely	7/30/2025 3:58 PM
333	B. I don't want 5 grade kids with 8. I attended a middle school with this set up and it was not a great experience	7/30/2025 3:55 PM
334	c	7/30/2025 3:50 PM
335	Using the nearby site. There is a culvert drain opening on the north side by the driveway that drains the landfill. That brings contamination to the surface and is not included on the monitoring plan. Make that field a dog park and put another field there, and use it more for social town gatherings.	7/30/2025 3:50 PM
336	Neary should be sold and developed for housing needs	7/30/2025 3:49 PM
337	Too many options. This part of survey is poorly designed.	7/30/2025 3:49 PM
338	New 4 grade school at neary because of the likely cost	7/30/2025 3:45 PM
339	a new neary school	7/30/2025 3:43 PM
340	Doing nothing	7/30/2025 3:42 PM
341	F- we just voted against it.	7/30/2025 3:37 PM
342	Remaking neary. Would be very inconvenient for students during construction. Wasting the other schools which are in great condition. And the taxes	7/30/2025 3:37 PM
343	C. just gonna hemorrhage money that way. in the worlds of taylor swift: "bandaids don't fix bulletholes." the building is toast.	7/30/2025 3:35 PM
344	new Neary	7/30/2025 3:31 PM
345	Option A. Putting 3rd graders and 6th graders together doesn't seem like a great idea.	7/30/2025 3:30 PM
346	Option F because it's too expensive for taxpayers	7/30/2025 3:30 PM
347	Grade reconfigurations that do not align with best/common practices among MA K-8 schools. I was very disappointed that some people made misleading statements on the existence of 5-8 schools.	7/30/2025 3:30 PM
348	Minimal renovation of Neary. It is aging and needs to be replaced.	7/30/2025 3:29 PM
349	Option G sounds like it would be the most expensive option, and Option C is all but useless.	7/30/2025 3:29 PM
350	High cost building projects. They are not justifiable in a town with a stagnant or shrinking student population, and insufficient business tax base	7/30/2025 3:26 PM
351	Not possible without knowing costs	7/30/2025 3:26 PM
352	Having Finn K-2, Woodward 3-4 and Trottier 5-8 is the worst. Given the mental health crisis middle schoolers are facing and the pressures kids already feel to grow up too soon, the influence of social media and access to mobile phones are all specific reasons I feel this is not a good idea. Plus, 4th graders should have access to a playground and may need other support services that would require more space. Developmentally, it's a horrible idea.	7/30/2025 3:25 PM
353	deferred maintenance only	7/30/2025 3:24 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

354	B. without more information cramming all students from 4 schools into 3 schools (that already seem fully utilized) seems crazy. Is this talking about expanding Finn, Woodward and Trottier somehow?	7/30/2025 3:24 PM
355	G	7/30/2025 3:22 PM
356	Options B and D are concerning. Just feel like they may not really meet the needs of the students. But I could be convinced	7/30/2025 3:19 PM
357	C or E. Trying to put a Band-Aid on Neary.	7/30/2025 3:18 PM
358	Minimal renovation of Neary: a minimal renovation is not helping Neary ang making it any safer for the kids.	7/30/2025 3:14 PM
359	Renovating Neary seems like a giant waste of money. I would rather see something new built or have it be a total gut	7/30/2025 3:13 PM
360	Option C	7/30/2025 3:13 PM
361	F and G	7/30/2025 3:12 PM
362	I do not want a 5th grader with an 8th grader.	7/30/2025 3:08 PM
363	Neary is very old and even with the minimum updates, it still is very outdated.	7/30/2025 2:46 PM
364	A&B - to me these options seem just about putting the kids in wherever their space and not listening to the experts about the education educational benefit. Our educators that know our students the best said they did not agree with a five through heat configuration. People kept pointing to other towns where it worked, but that doesn't mean it works here and for our kids. The focus just seemed to be about what would cost the least amount of money, completely disregarding how it would impact the students. While I understand that we need to manage how much it cost, we can't ignore what our educators are saying about what works best for our students. That should drive decision on schools are allocated Not on Facebook warrior finding some other town in Massachusetts that has a five through eight and banging the drum over and over again.	7/30/2025 2:25 PM
365	Any option that does not use Finn. It makes no sense to get rid of a good asset.	7/30/2025 1:46 PM
366	Option F is likely the most expensive AND is not actually needed, given the capacity of other school buildings. Affordability MUST be a key criteria in this decision.	7/30/2025 12:52 PM
367	New school new location	7/30/2025 12:27 PM
368	I think it's a TERRIBLE idea to put 5th grade with the middle school grades. Fifth grade is solidly elementary age and should be with other elementary grades, not isolated or grouped with middle school.	7/30/2025 12:27 PM
369	staying with the new 4 grade school at Neary	7/30/2025 12:27 PM
370	Any option that requires consolidating is not wanted. The septic systems at Finn & Trottier are at the end of their life span and can not accommodate expansion. Furthermore, the use of 'temporary' modular classrooms do not reflect the environment and policy standards desired by the community. 5th grade at Trottier should not be considered given the layout of the building and its inability to keep student interaction between grades to a minimum.	7/30/2025 12:20 PM
371	A and B. Woodward is too small and doesn't even have a full sized gym that could accommodate Middle School sports events. While Trottier has more square footage, there isn't enough extra room to accommodate adding Grade 5. Also the dynamics of 5th graders with 8th graders is concerning. There is a massive difference in maturity level.	7/30/2025 11:43 AM
372	invest millions into the barnd new building	7/30/2025 11:35 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

373	PreK to 5. Too many kids for one school.	7/30/2025 10:35 AM
374	Building a new school because it is not necessary and excessive spending	7/30/2025 10:29 AM
375	B and C equally. Minimal renovations is not acceptable to that building. Squeeing in 3 grades into buildings for 2 without an addition makes no sense. Sure the square footage makes be there but is it functional square footage? Will cuts have to be made to programs because the space will not be there anymore?	7/30/2025 8:53 AM
376	New Neary School plan	7/30/2025 8:43 AM
377	Putting 5-8 together. 5th graders have different developmental needs and don't need to be mixed with 8th.	7/30/2025 8:43 AM
378	Option C seems like it spends a lot of money to kick the can down the road a bit	7/30/2025 8:24 AM
379	Woodward 7 and 8	7/30/2025 8:15 AM
380	Any new school when we already have a multitude of school buildings.	7/30/2025 8:08 AM
381	Building more schools	7/30/2025 8:04 AM
382	Do not rebuild on the Neary site....environmentally, I am not convinced this is a safe and responsible option for our students and town.	7/30/2025 7:57 AM
383	Building anything new. Not needed and cost is too high	7/30/2025 7:48 AM
384	This is a dumb question	7/30/2025 7:47 AM
385	Full neary rebuild. Probably better to do a new school	7/30/2025 7:45 AM
386	Doing nothing. Forcing kids and staff to continue to use Neary.	7/30/2025 7:36 AM
387	C E & F all seem to "patch" Neary which will not solve any long term problems and still cost a lot of money.	7/30/2025 7:33 AM
388	C. Doing the bare minimum is not why I moved to southborough to start a family	7/30/2025 7:08 AM
389	Renovating Neary. Been there (Algonquin), done that.	7/30/2025 6:31 AM
390	I don't know.	7/30/2025 6:16 AM
391	Combining middle and elementary schools seems like the worst option.	7/30/2025 6:08 AM
392	Any new buildings	7/30/2025 4:28 AM
393	C. Kicking the can down the road always costs more. In the current environment, cost rises will definitely accelerate at the same time as outside funding opportunities decline.	7/30/2025 3:37 AM
394	Deferred maintenance only to finn	7/30/2025 2:14 AM
395	E. Neary is really, really run down. Investing that much is the least bang for the most buck.	7/30/2025 1:27 AM
396	A new school at Neary site! Renovating existing Neary School.	7/29/2025 11:32 PM
397	G is the worst. You can't argue that fifth graders can't be with seventh and eighth graders and then turn around and propose another new massive building project (which the row has clearly shown they are opposed to) and suggest housing PK with grade 5 is developmentally ok.	7/29/2025 10:54 PM
398	All the rest	7/29/2025 10:47 PM
399	5-8.	7/29/2025 10:03 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

	Also, renovating minimally neary	
400	Option F. Not needed. Design is luxurious, private school feel and not needed. Don't want this to be the standard the rest of the town is held to - we don't need it nor can we afford it.	7/29/2025 9:45 PM
401	I don't want to see neighborhood schools. I really like the way Southborough has all students from the same grade together. I think that gives teachers the best chance to collaborate and create the best and most uniform curriculum. It also allows the students to have a variety of friends to meet throughout their years.	7/29/2025 9:37 PM
402	C	7/29/2025 9:36 PM
403	E - just a waste of money on an out of date building	7/29/2025 9:31 PM
404	Deferred maintenance on Neary, as it is only a quick fix. And also having a 5-8 school, as I do not think 5th graders should be with 8th graders, the age gap/maturity is just too big.	7/29/2025 9:14 PM
405	C- it's a temporary fix and will ultimately cost more in the long run	7/29/2025 8:52 PM
406	I do not understand option D. How does that solve any problem?	7/29/2025 8:47 PM
407	Just doing bare minimum on Brady	7/29/2025 8:42 PM
408	5-8 at trotter	7/29/2025 8:28 PM
409	to close a school because it is only solving the current issue and not for future increase in population. Things are only going to be more expensive to build as we move on	7/29/2025 8:14 PM
410	F not necessary & another ridiculous waste of money	7/29/2025 8:12 PM
411	'Minimal renovation of Neary' because that puts the town in a costly renovation loop.	7/29/2025 8:11 PM
412	A, B, C equally. A is a logistical nightmare, 3 schools will now need maintenance, renovation, or closure. B, because the administration (or experts) are against it. C, because it is wasted money.	7/29/2025 8:08 PM
413	Options A stands out as the worst for me. Our town purpose-build schools for specific grades and ages, and facilities are not interchangeable. I don't place much value into arguments that other towns may have similar grade configurations - those were thoughtful decisions often to create their own purpose-built buildings for those specific grades, not playing musical chairs to get children into buildings based on square footage rather than their actual education needs.	7/29/2025 8:07 PM
414	Minimal renovation of Neary is absolutely the worst option. Something needs to be done to that school. And it's not a good use of money. It's just kicking the can down the road. Southborough will not be seen as a favorable town anymore this happens. I would sincerely worry for southboroughs future.	7/29/2025 7:55 PM
415	F. I voted against this idea already.	7/29/2025 7:42 PM
416	Don't know	7/29/2025 7:37 PM
417	Completly renovating Neary. Take it off table as school al together. Tear it down or renovate for Town offices and Central Office for svhools	7/29/2025 7:36 PM
418	Just doing maintenance to Neary...TERRIBLE IDEA and unsafe for current children	7/29/2025 7:31 PM
419	Option G. New schools too expensive.	7/29/2025 7:31 PM
420	B	7/29/2025 7:13 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

421	Deferred maintenance only	7/29/2025 7:05 PM
422	New pre-k to 5 school.	7/29/2025 6:33 PM
423	Moving 5th grade to the middle school environment is the worst option to me given educational objectives in our district.	7/29/2025 6:28 PM
424	new school and or repair Neary	7/29/2025 6:27 PM
425	E makes no sense with declining enrollments. The Neary building should be retired as a school. F and G are ridiculous. Building a brand new expensive building when there is plenty of existing square footage in the three other schools is a blatant misuse of tax payers money.	7/29/2025 6:24 PM
426	id say minimal renovation is the worst idea. the kids deserve more than "just make sure it doesnt get closed." the 4 grade castle they planned seems like a close second worst idea	7/29/2025 6:18 PM
427	TIEL: Option C--unsafe building; Option E--can get new "full-function", "50+ year life" 4-grade school for very close to the same cost	7/29/2025 6:06 PM
428	Building any new school impacting taxes, and impacting the already burdened residents	7/29/2025 5:59 PM
429	Just putting band aids on the problem with just simple repairs and renovations. Think of the future.	7/29/2025 5:47 PM
430	Do nothing and/or deferred repairs. Will cost more in the long run.	7/29/2025 5:16 PM
431	G	7/29/2025 5:15 PM
432	F. Cost high, site concerns.	7/29/2025 5:15 PM
433	Building a new school	7/29/2025 5:07 PM
434	Cost to renovate and/or build New Neary at landfill site	7/29/2025 5:07 PM
435	closing finn	7/29/2025 4:59 PM
436	I don't understand A. The shuffling of grades there doesn't make sense to me.	7/29/2025 4:31 PM
437	I am vehemently opposed Option B because requires Grade 5 to change its teaching and learning model, which works well and switching to the Grade 6-8 model would not be an easy or simple change, much as some with would like to claim.	7/29/2025 4:29 PM
438	F. This was decisively turned down. No means no. You shouldn't get it do over just because you don't like the vote.	7/29/2025 4:26 PM
439	Deferred maintenance at Neary- that building needs major updates, we need to put that money towards a better long term solution	7/29/2025 4:19 PM
440	if I can only pick one I would pick A . 7th/8th grade need to stay at Trottier .	7/29/2025 4:18 PM
441	New Neary, cost	7/29/2025 4:11 PM
442	Grade 5 at Trottier	7/29/2025 3:57 PM
443	New construction- quite frankly it's the last thing a town with 4 schools already needs. Even with closing Neary and tearing it to the ground, the town has ample infrastructure to reconfigure grades or consider an addition to a school we already have.	7/29/2025 3:53 PM
444	Finn serves Pre-K to 2, Woodward serves 3–4, Trottier serves 5–8. Not good socially/developmentally for the students at Trottier.	7/29/2025 3:48 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

445	Renovating old Schools	7/29/2025 3:29 PM
446	Building a new school. Too expensive, especially for seniors	7/29/2025 3:27 PM
447	G	7/29/2025 3:23 PM
448	G	7/29/2025 3:21 PM
449	I am not in favor of 3-6 or 5-8 grade configurations. What's best for our wallets is not necessarily what's best for our children. This should be considered as the top priority.	7/29/2025 3:18 PM
450	Spending a ton of money with huge disruption when we already have an amazing school system	7/29/2025 3:09 PM
451	The four and five grade schools. Assuming the cost is on par with what the proposal that was voted down was the cost would be incredibly high.	7/29/2025 2:57 PM
452	We should not close any school that we have now. I like the multi school system that we have. The education one receives in Southborough is top notch. No need to change. Just bring schools up to code and health concerns	7/29/2025 2:52 PM
453	Building a new Neary.	7/29/2025 2:46 PM
454	The current Neary proposal. It seems very expensive and unnecessary to build a brand new building when we have one that works relatively well (Finn) in many regards.	7/29/2025 2:37 PM
455	Minimal Neary renovation basically pushes the problem down the road, undermines our town's amazing school system. It is a band-aid, not a solution.	7/29/2025 2:14 PM
456	f) New Neary	7/29/2025 2:04 PM
457	Do nothing, or simply renovation Neary.	7/29/2025 1:53 PM
458	New pre-k-5 due to the expense	7/29/2025 1:47 PM
459	Mixing 5th grade with middle school is a terrible idea. 5th grade is the year my son started getting bullied. This is the age kids unfortunately start getting phones. Mixing them in with middle school at this age would be detrimental for the town and the kids at those schools from my first hand experience, and should be avoided at all costs.	7/29/2025 1:41 PM
460	C	7/29/2025 1:39 PM
461	Any plan where trotter serves grades 5-8.	7/29/2025 1:37 PM
462	Absolutely not interested in sending my 5th grade girl to a school with 8th graders! Never ever	7/29/2025 1:37 PM
463	C- old building with too many potential health issues	7/29/2025 1:34 PM
464	Building a new a school. Huge tax implications for a declining student population	7/29/2025 1:18 PM
465	New school	7/29/2025 1:12 PM
466	OPTION F and anything that closes Finn. That would be a waste of town assets.	7/29/2025 1:10 PM
467	Any that combine 5th grade with middle schoolers	7/29/2025 1:09 PM
468	K thru 8 new school	7/29/2025 1:09 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

469	Not enough information	7/29/2025 1:08 PM
470	Woodward 7-8 and Trottier 3-6 WITHOUT renovating Woodward to provide adequate performing arts spaces.	7/29/2025 1:06 PM
471	Basic updates to Neary. Too many issues to use a bandaid approach	7/29/2025 1:05 PM
472	Putting young 5th graders in a middle school environment. I've taught 5th graders for over 10 years in a wonderful district and can't support putting 5th grade students in with 8th graders.	7/29/2025 12:58 PM
473	Option F. The school is over the top and not needed to provide all students a stellar education. It looks like it belongs at a college campus and is way too expensive. We do not need new and we do not need "top of the line." We need to think of every resident and be fiscally responsible.	7/29/2025 12:54 PM
474	Doing nothing	7/29/2025 12:48 PM
475	F. We do not need anew school.	7/29/2025 12:48 PM
476	Option C. Feels like kicking then can down the road.	7/29/2025 12:45 PM
477	Expanding Finn	7/29/2025 12:44 PM
478	New Neary, Why is this even here? We voted twice!	7/29/2025 12:15 PM
479	Rebuild of Neary as doesnt take advantage of prior investments in current schools and cost is prohibitive.	7/29/2025 12:04 PM
480	Decommissioning Finn is a ridiculous option since we have renovated/added on to that school in the not so distant past. To use it for a community center is an expensive and unclear option i.e. renovating it once again so it can be used by more than little people and unclear as to how much use it really would get. Building a new school on the Neary site with the old dump so close is not a viable solution, whether it is monitored or not. It is an accident waiting to happen and if indeed there should be leakage, another unnecessary expense not to mention the potential harm to our children. Our town needs to be less siloed in it's thinking and planning. Someone needs to be looking at the big picture and how it affects all aspects of the town and its use of its buildings. Each committee and board seems to only think about their needs and not what could affect other boards planning or thinking or what repercussions will be felt by the townspeople. BTW, putting anyone younger than 4th grade at a two story school is ill-advised as their little legs are not able to get down the stairs in an emergency in a safe manner. The stairs at Woodward do not seem wide enough to handle a mass evacuation of the number of students that would have to leave quickly in an emergency. This is something that has bothered me about Woodward since they renovated it from a middle school. Fourth and fifth graders would be better suited to be at Woodward than 2nd and 3rd graders. BTW, I do not have children in the school system anymore and our grandchildren are now at Woodward and Neary for one more year. So, a new Neary on that site will not happen for them and the Woodward emergency situation will be a non-issue after this school year. So, I have no personal reason for any of this thinking, rather thinking about future implications for all the children coming up.	7/29/2025 11:34 AM
481	Building new schools. We already have great schools, with some renovations and getting neary up to code we will be fine.	7/29/2025 11:06 AM
482	Minimal renovation to Neary, just kicking the can down the road	7/29/2025 9:19 AM

Q29 Are there any other solutions or options for addressing the town's K–8 school building needs that have not been presented but that you believe the Town should consider? (Open-ended – for example, you might suggest a different configuration, renovation approach, location, or any idea not covered by the options above.)

Answered: 160 Skipped: 629

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	as seen in the news Waltham is opening a brand new school. Instead of looking for other scenarios, I wild use more marketing explaining why it is an investment (like waltham is doing) to have new and better schools	8/19/2025 8:48 PM
2	No	8/18/2025 7:46 PM
3	If the town prefers one elementary school with a separate pre k - K center, it can be phase two at Neary, with an addition. Its set up just for that purpose.	8/18/2025 7:16 PM
4	Need more input from the super intendant with respect to the current educational curriculum in town with multiple facilities and how does a change to our facility landscape impact the curriculum.	8/17/2025 8:45 PM
5	No.	8/17/2025 5:22 PM
6	Explore expanding the existing schools 1st explore using the fields in front of Woodward. The old Neary site will supply plenty of field space to replace and field taken by expansion.	8/16/2025 5:16 PM
7	not sure	8/16/2025 1:33 PM
8	No	8/15/2025 10:13 PM
9	just get it done, stop wasting time.	8/15/2025 6:59 PM
10	None	8/15/2025 2:21 PM
11	Having an independant space needs study completed by a consultant to look at what we currently have vs. what we need. Relying on information from the school administration does not sit well with me. We are contantly hearing why a reconfiguration of grades won't work, vs. how it could actually work. If an independant space needs study was completed to provide viable options, the administration could then way in on the benefits/trade offs of that study.	8/15/2025 9:12 AM
12	?	8/15/2025 7:00 AM
13	Na	8/15/2025 5:02 AM
14	K-5 at Finn and Woodward- using modular classrooms if necessary.	8/14/2025 9:04 PM
15	Move 5th to Trottier	8/14/2025 8:06 PM
16	Algonquin adds 7+8 split cost with Northborough.	8/14/2025 6:59 PM
17	Additions to Finn.	8/14/2025 6:40 PM
18	I need more information for effective suggestions.	8/14/2025 3:34 PM
19	Im not sure	8/14/2025 2:17 PM
20	If it's possible that it would be cheaper to simply replace Neary with a new 2-grade school instead of a 4 or 6 grade school, that might be more attractive to multiple cohorts of "NO" voters. I think that would get some of the "We don't want to lose Finn" voters as well as some of the "It's too expensive" voters onboard	8/14/2025 2:17 PM
21	F, the Neary site does not feel suitable of.that type of build due to environmental factors.	8/14/2025 1:04 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

	Would rather see more athletic fields ther.	
22	Any option that makes best use of Finn, Woodward and Trottier is acceptable.	8/14/2025 12:59 PM
23	N/A	8/14/2025 12:24 PM
24	N/A	8/14/2025 12:20 PM
25	No	8/14/2025 12:18 PM
26	Neighborhood schools for peek - 5 north and south of Rt 9. Use existing buildings	8/12/2025 11:47 AM
27	Any solution requiring a new building is a non-starter.	8/12/2025 10:54 AM
28	I can't think of any right now	8/12/2025 10:51 AM
29	Do NOT populate ad hoc committees with people already biased in favor of the proposal you're trying to get passed! The voters of Southborough have already REJECTED this plan TWICE. PUT IT TO ITS WELL DESERVED DEATH!	8/11/2025 5:15 PM
30	no other option that I would offer	8/11/2025 10:26 AM
31	Time is of the essence. Whatever we do, we need to figure it out ASAP.	8/11/2025 9:14 AM
32	Reutilize the 4 schools we have	8/10/2025 6:28 PM
33	I think you have offered a comprehensive array of options. Please realize that it's extremely important to me to keep Southborough school taxes in check. I have lived in Southborough for 38 years, I'm retired and on a fixed income, and it seems very unfair that seniors risk unaffordable increases in school taxes, especially seniors like me who have never had a child enrolled in Southborough schools.	8/9/2025 3:38 PM
34	I strongly support a new Neary school.I wish there was another location for it.Southborough must continue to invest in our community.	8/9/2025 2:50 PM
35	Show evidence that new schools increase property values and pay for themselves over time	8/9/2025 1:48 PM
36	allocating more of cost by progressive tax to the billionaires and less to those 65 and older in limited income.	8/9/2025 8:28 AM
37	There appears to be a cadence of fix Neary, then Finn in a few years, then Woodward ... our town has 5 school buildings (including Algonquin) to fund. I feel like there could be efficiencies to realize by combining and reducing this number to 3 or 4 and not doing one of the major school projects.	8/8/2025 9:25 PM
38	Consider realistic town needs along with school needs	8/8/2025 4:53 PM
39	Finn: K-2 / Woodward: 3 - 5	8/8/2025 12:12 PM
40	Can a PreK to 5 save money - Reduce staffing requirement, so many administrators etc. Sell unused real estate to reduce costs.	8/8/2025 9:33 AM
41	Yes. You are not thinking outside the box. Consider if it were your home (house, property) in this economic uncertainty, what would you sacrifice to fix a hole in your roof? Where would you get the money on a fixed income to replace your furnace? Would you rely on the Federal government to not change the tax rules so that you would receive a planned refund to use toward a 3 year home renovation project?	8/8/2025 1:34 AM
42	7 options is more than enough.	8/7/2025 7:03 PM
43	My priorities are the best schools, shoehorning kids around for cost purposes is a no. I do think that creative renovations of Neary or a new school build in a slightly different location are interesting. I also think that repurposing a school that is no longer used could be a great BENEFIT to the town. If	8/7/2025 12:22 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

Finn is no longer a school for example but a great community center I see that as a net benefit not a negative.

44	Not sure	8/7/2025 12:15 PM
45	Renovation, location	8/7/2025 9:57 AM
46	A great option can be something between C and E - Lets renovate, but can we break into phases. Dont need everything all at once. Lets target superstructure and key safety areas first. Can push more cosmetic upgrades to later	8/7/2025 8:35 AM
47	Not that I know of at this time.	8/7/2025 7:31 AM
48	The needs to think long term. Woodward should not have been built on a site that wasnt expandable. The police and fire building was put on a site that would have been perfect for a 4 grade school. The biggest issue is revenue. The town doesn't have the funds to build any school. Just this week I heard st marks is buying another house on my street. Another reduction in the tax base	8/6/2025 4:38 PM
49	There should be a hybrid approach. Mixing two options one for immediate action then a full scale build at finn. Neary should be used as a town building with revenue generating services that offset renovation cost (taxes)	8/6/2025 4:08 PM
50	Consider having a tax waiver based on income for home owners. Or based on age. People on fixed income the taxes are an issue. Need to be sensitive to this.	8/6/2025 3:04 PM
51	Can't think of any at the moment	8/6/2025 2:48 PM
52	Renovate neary	8/6/2025 2:46 PM
53	No	8/6/2025 1:16 PM
54	How does pre-K at Finn figure into to tho?	8/6/2025 12:09 PM
55	Specific proposals for where newly acquired land could be used to build a new elementary school. There appeared to be a significant group of elderly residents who had a new-found interest in environmental impact of schools in town. Perhaps when reflected against the cost of the town purchasing private land for schools is weighed against the existing locations, the practical nature of the current proposals will look better. I also think valuable data points are to use information on what surrounding towns have paid for newer schools and the resulting tax impacts as well as property value impacts. Looking at Hopkinton, in particular, would be of value.	8/6/2025 11:09 AM
56	No	8/6/2025 7:45 AM
57	I believe our committee did an excellent job over the three years to evaluate best options for the town without major biases.	8/5/2025 6:17 PM
58	no	8/5/2025 1:57 PM
59	Take away the senior center if needed for extra space and classrooms. Weight how many people in the town utilize that building vs children being marginalized out of the grade and classroom space that was expected and should be delivered by state rules.	8/5/2025 11:07 AM
60	I would recommend having the town vote on the above instead of just a yes/no	8/5/2025 10:28 AM
61	Connecting with philanthropist; attending events organized by (philanthropy.ma.org).	8/5/2025 10:28 AM
62	No	8/5/2025 10:28 AM
63	Not on the plan, but on the planning. Let the community do ranked choice voting on the options. Could even include different build options/quotes	8/5/2025 9:52 AM
64	No	8/5/2025 9:51 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

65	N/A	8/5/2025 9:42 AM
66	If Finn needs to be considered for expansion, I'm not sure if it's possible to explore a land swap—taking the conservation land abutting the school out of conservation in exchange for designating land elsewhere in town as conservation land. The town of Milton recently did this to pursue a new school building project.	8/5/2025 9:42 AM
67	New neary school for 4 and 5	8/5/2025 9:40 AM
68	Wouldn't worry about buildings - build better technology and learning environment and use modern tools/AI and sophisticated teaching methods. Equip them for a better future - expose them to different fields/subject areas and build creativity.	8/5/2025 9:37 AM
69	One school PreK through 2; One school 3-5; One school 6-8	8/5/2025 9:32 AM
70	Expounding on the use of Q19's response	8/5/2025 9:30 AM
71	Would the town consider not using state funds and looking for a contract that might be more economically sound than trying to get state money and it costing more in the long run	8/4/2025 9:22 PM
72	I would love 3 town elementary school k-8, regional like Wellesley and Lexington. Otherwise reduce to 3 schools and close Neary outright. This would help bus routes, reducing that strain and cost. It would keep families/siblings together. It would keep IEP students with same educators for more years rather than 'turfing' them as the school changes every 2 years.	8/4/2025 1:15 PM
73	Create a more fiscally sound budget and strategic plan for the town such that there is revenue that helps offset any major needs such as these.	8/3/2025 1:28 PM
74	Yes! Rebuild Neary as a grade 4-5 school. Why is this not an option??? It is what is needed - address the actual need. The cost would be greatly reduced.	8/3/2025 6:23 AM
75	N/A	8/2/2025 10:07 PM
76	(No.)	8/1/2025 10:14 PM
77	None	8/1/2025 7:06 PM
78	N/A	8/1/2025 10:06 AM
79	no	8/1/2025 9:56 AM
80	Close Finn, consolidate at Neary with a solution that eliminates environmental concerns. Think of this as a 50 - 100 year asset that can be adapted to meet evolving needs over its life.	8/1/2025 9:32 AM
81	Not at this time, unless there is a suitable site not identified for a PreK to grade 5 consolidated school. which for the record would be a 6 grade school. PreK, K and grade 1 on the first floor	8/1/2025 9:26 AM
82	Move preschool to a different location (regional).	7/31/2025 9:33 PM
83	Assuming we have adequate space for the future student enrollment, Unfortunately there doesn't seem to be total agreement on those who are supposed to know, let's stop kicking the can down the road on infrastructure maintenance . Let's take the money we would spend on new construction and keep the existing buildings up to date. The town was handcuffed by the MSBC. I'm not sure the millions of dollars of "expertise" we received had much value and was a main factor in the failure of the Neary Committee.	7/31/2025 7:07 PM
84	No	7/31/2025 6:43 PM
85	Finn PK-2, Woodward 3-5, Trottier 6-8	7/31/2025 6:42 PM
86	Renovate the existing buildings via a series of small scale project.	7/31/2025 5:51 PM
87	No	7/31/2025 5:45 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

88	NA	7/31/2025 5:04 PM
89	Reconfiguring grades to reflect low enrollment is important: people need to be flexible. It's OKAY that middle schoolers mix with younger kids. Families frequently reflect this blending of age groups and everyone survives just fine. People are way too reactive about grade blending/sharing space	7/31/2025 3:59 PM
90	I think a two story wing coming off the front of Woodward into the current ball fields outfield is interesting. This turns Woodward into the four school option, which surely that wing could be built significantly cheaper than the failed option. It would also allow the entire Neary area to be transformed into a sports campus.	7/31/2025 3:40 PM
91	N/A	7/31/2025 2:33 PM
92	Nothing comes to mind. I wish the NBC had fully and fairly considered all options before going down the path they chose.	7/31/2025 2:03 PM
93	more transparency on options discussion and not in the middle of the summer	7/31/2025 1:56 PM
94	Can South Union School be used for any school purpose- Can Neary be used for office space only school and others	7/31/2025 12:46 PM
95	Finn: PreK to 2nd, Woodward 3-5, Trottier 6-8	7/31/2025 12:15 PM
96	None.	7/31/2025 11:29 AM
97	I think it would be worth considering Finn pre-K through 2nd. New school grades 3-5 and Trottier remaining as is.	7/31/2025 9:23 AM
98	I think there are a number of viable options	7/31/2025 8:29 AM
99	maintain what we have--take care of the property we have--on going maintenance	7/31/2025 7:35 AM
100	N/A	7/31/2025 7:19 AM
101	Can Neary be safely and successfully renovated and add on an annex/addition?	7/31/2025 5:04 AM
102	I would think the first option should be renovating Neary up to code. If that is the same or less cost than the other options, why bother with changing the current set up that has Southborough schools ranked as some of the highest in the state. As I stated previously, I think the 2 grade schools separate us from other towns in a good way. If renovation isn't feasible/costs too much, then expanding Finn or Woodward to accommodate the needed space seems like a logical alternative.	7/30/2025 10:01 PM
103	NA	7/30/2025 9:19 PM
104	N/A	7/30/2025 9:19 PM
105	Again, I have no expertise to weigh in on this and would defer to the school committee and officials who are SMEs and have done extensive research on these scenarios.	7/30/2025 8:48 PM
106	Explore a new build at Finn site. Put all the old people in the moldy Neary building they wanted the kids to go to each day.	7/30/2025 8:46 PM
107	Not sure	7/30/2025 8:35 PM
108	Strongly in favor of new facilities. Strongly against renovating old facilities because nowadays all renovations turn out to be extremely expensive anyways (think of tearing down each and every single wall for fire code, azbestos, accesibility etc.).	7/30/2025 8:09 PM
109	No	7/30/2025 5:45 PM
110	finn K-2 (no preschool needed), Woodward 3-4 and Trottier 5-8	7/30/2025 4:45 PM
111	Keep Finn- maybe renovate. Renovate neary. NO NEW SCHOOL- HELP KEEP YOUNG FAMILIES IN TOWN	7/30/2025 4:13 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

112	Move tennis courts from finn to a new town use site at the demolished nearby school. Use that new area for a two story addition and more parking.	7/30/2025 3:50 PM
113	Unclear	7/30/2025 3:49 PM
114	Na	7/30/2025 3:45 PM
115	No	7/30/2025 3:37 PM
116	nothing i don't see mentioned.	7/30/2025 3:35 PM
117	Finn K-2; Woodward 3 & 4; Trottier 5-8	7/30/2025 3:31 PM
118	I think a minimal renovation of the existing neary building would be fine. It seems like the quotes the town gets are so expensive. My husband owns an HVAC company and he says the building could be retrofitted for HVAC for less money.	7/30/2025 3:30 PM
119	Put 3 grades in Woodward. Being planned and designed for only 2 grades does not mean it can only ever be used for 2 grades. Woodward is as big as the 5 grade schools built all over our former district in Texas. Use all the classrooms in Southborough. New buildings are warranted when we're out of space.	7/30/2025 3:26 PM
120	I don't have the background on the town, but neighborhood K-5 schools could be an option?	7/30/2025 3:24 PM
121	Complete renovation not minimal of Neary	7/30/2025 3:22 PM
122	Raise taxes on Fay and St Marks. And provide septic/water treatment on Route 9. I realize these are not directly related but the tax issue is central to the concerns of the voters who don't want to pay for improvements	7/30/2025 3:19 PM
123	Building a joint 7/8 grade junior high with Northborough, which would open up Trottier to house fourth and fifth grade. this would allow Southborough Northborough kids to get to know each other ahead of entering the regional high school together.	7/30/2025 3:18 PM
124	2 Elementary Schools (Prek-4) and 2 Middle schools (5-8) split based on geography.	7/30/2025 3:13 PM
125	n/a	7/30/2025 3:08 PM
126	Consider using Finn and Woodward both as K-5 schools for different sections of town.	7/30/2025 1:46 PM
127	side note: Option D is five grades at Finn, not four. Presumably this would allow grades 4 and 5 at Woodward and 6-8 at Trottier, removing the concern about having 5th graders in the same building as 8th graders. This seems attractive, but I doubt it could be achieved without significant new construction at Finn. There's an existing (privately owned) wastewater treatment facility across Parkerville from Finn. Have you considered making use of that facility if the student/faculty population at Finn needs a larger septic/treatment capacity?	7/30/2025 12:52 PM
128	Not listed was a new Neary for 4th/5th only	7/30/2025 12:20 PM
129	no whatever the decision ends up being something needs to be done now. It will not get any cheaper so just rip the band aid off and do something!	7/30/2025 8:53 AM
130	Neighborhood schools. For instance, Finn as a K-3 school and Woodward covering the same grades, splitting the town on a North/South or East/West line. Then Woodward for 4/5.	7/30/2025 8:08 AM
131	Consider demolishing the Neary School....maybe use the space/land as open space for soccer fields or playground	7/30/2025 7:57 AM
132	consolidate existing schools	7/30/2025 7:48 AM
133	n/a	7/30/2025 7:47 AM
134	Build a new two	7/30/2025 6:31 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

	grade Neary at an environmentally safer location on the Neary/Trottier campus.	
135	No.	7/30/2025 6:16 AM
136	Yes. But it's too late.	7/30/2025 3:37 AM
137	The new two-grade school at Neary I thought was under-explored, and I got the sense that the idea was poo-poo'ed by people who wanted a 4-grade school. I found the cost estimates for it really suspicious.	7/30/2025 1:27 AM
138	We overbuilt years ago. Let's utilize what we have.	7/29/2025 9:45 PM
139	just build a new 2 grade school at the neary site (grades 4-5 like now)	7/29/2025 9:36 PM
140	phased construction - ver several separate projects - build classroom space first - then follow several years later with expanded learning spaces, if supported	7/29/2025 9:31 PM
141	Finn can have grades K-3, Woodward can also have K-3. And have the town split which elementary school kids go to depending on where they live.	7/29/2025 8:42 PM
142	Other site options	7/29/2025 8:28 PM
143	N/A	7/29/2025 8:11 PM
144	I don't know.	7/29/2025 7:42 PM
145	See last 2 responses	7/29/2025 7:36 PM
146	Can we combine with Northboro for a combined 7/8 middle school. Location TBD. Then 4-6 at Trottier, Finn and WW stay the same.	7/29/2025 6:28 PM
147	i feel like an upgrade/renovation of the current building doesnt seem to be listed. more than just making it ADA compliant	7/29/2025 6:18 PM
148	Finn, PreK-2, Woodward, 3-5, Trottier, 6-8	7/29/2025 5:15 PM
149	Shift your grades around with what you've got and move forward. The Northborough preschool is gone. There's plenty of room at Finn. There's plenty of room at every single school in this district. There is no reason for a new school	7/29/2025 5:07 PM
150	No. Please just make Neary work as a Grade 4-5 school.	7/29/2025 4:29 PM
151	Off-line nearly as a school, minimal renovations, and used for municipal space. Reconfigure the other three schools to make best use of current space. Consider separating out pre-K from the lower grades for less destruction perhaps pre-K needs its own building/sace	7/29/2025 4:26 PM
152	Don't build on former landfill. Kids are resilient and grades 5-8 is perfectly fine and is done elsewhere.	7/29/2025 3:29 PM
153	renovation	7/29/2025 3:23 PM
154	Aside from the ones listed above, perhaps: Finn (K-2), Woodward (3-5), Trottier (6-8)?	7/29/2025 2:37 PM
155	I think middle school should be 5-8	7/29/2025 1:47 PM
156	I have no ideas on that	7/29/2025 1:12 PM
157	none	7/29/2025 1:09 PM
158	Whatever happens, PLEASE do not forget the performing arts programs and the needs of those specialists, especially 6-8. The middle school band, chorus, and theater programs need practice and performance spaces in their own school. The middle school should not be moved to another building without renovating space to account for these programs.	7/29/2025 1:06 PM
159	Exploring rebuilding a 2 grade school at Neary	7/29/2025 1:05 PM

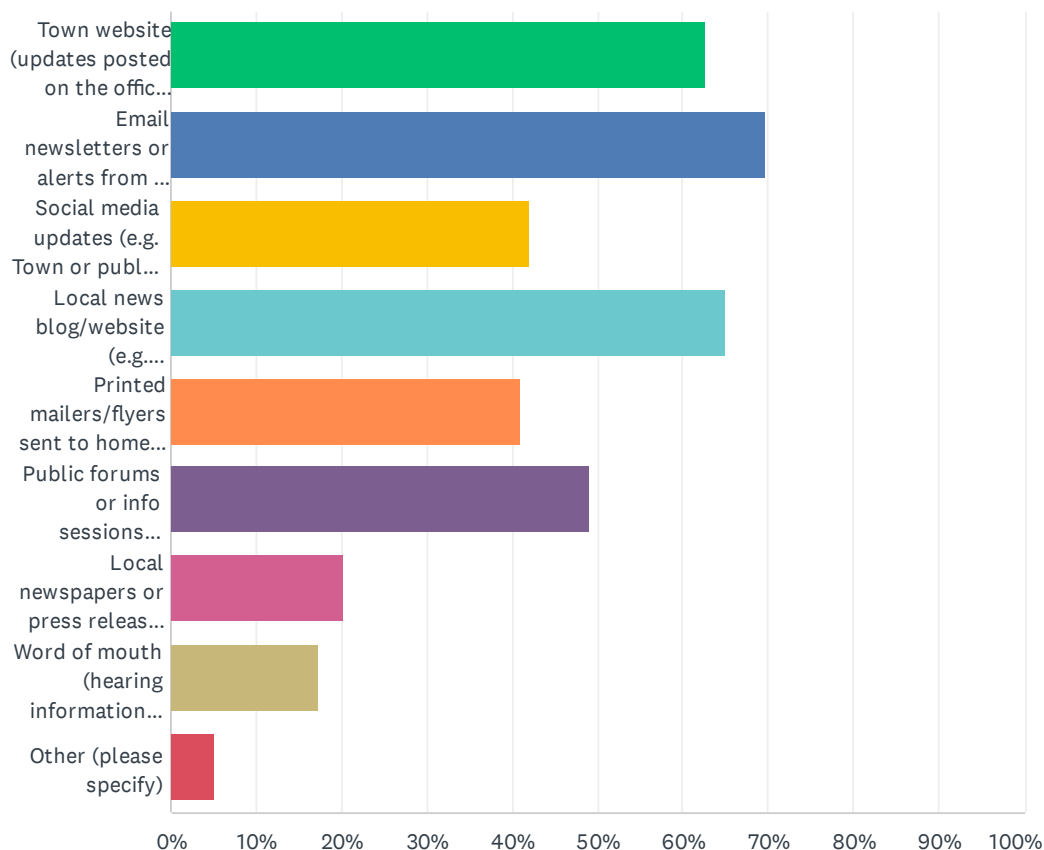
160

I believe I already covered this in the feedback in the prior two questions. (I do wish this survey had been able to let you type in your whole answer, one line under another instead of a continuous line...it is hard to see what one has already said and go back to make corrections for clarity, and to see how you answered the prior questions.)

7/29/2025 11:34 AM

Q30 What are the best ways for the Town to keep you informed about the school building project and other important town projects? (Select all information channels you prefer or find effective.)

Answered: 639 Skipped: 150



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Town website (updates posted on the official Town or project webpage)	62.75%	401
Email newsletters or alerts from the Town (e.g. Town or School Department email updates)	69.80%	446
Social media updates (e.g. Town or public Facebook pages, Twitter, Nextdoor)	41.94%	268
Local news blog/website (e.g. MySouthborough.com updates/posts)	64.95%	415
Printed mailers/flyers sent to homes (postal mail notices, brochures, or inserts)	40.85%	261
Public forums or info sessions (in-person town halls or virtual Zoom meetings to explain project updates)	48.98%	313
Local newspapers or press releases (coverage in area news outlets)	20.19%	129
Word of mouth (hearing information through community members, friends, or neighbors)	17.21%	110
Other (please specify)	5.16%	33
Total Respondents: 639		

Neary School Project Feedback

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Word of mouth is helpful, but some mailers for senior audiences, can help, maybe have some "influencers" in social media promoting and fact checking misleading information, with facts and links where people can relay with good information. Also examples of towns with success and also failures of others towns and impact in education and also estate value due to the decline of school quality (something that people does not consider sometimes) I will also make inphograhics showing tax impact overtime (considering variables like inflation, depreciation , etc.)	8/19/2025 8:48 PM
2	Emphasize the website for the project. It is a perfect spot for all current data. It	8/18/2025 7:16 PM
3	Printed mailers instructing residents to go to the website or the town mtg. Also led signage.	8/18/2025 2:12 PM
4	Emails	8/14/2025 3:34 PM
5	The updates needs to be in plain language. I quite love the blog format of MySouthborough.com	8/14/2025 1:58 PM
6	Record all meetings and post with meeting notes.	8/14/2025 12:27 PM
7	N/A	8/14/2025 12:20 PM
8	Create an independent website which can archive and distribute everything - studies, minutes, estimates, survey results...etc. in one place.	8/12/2025 10:54 AM
9	invite folks with pros and cons to present at public forums so more town folk can hear both sides more often and earlier on	8/9/2025 10:14 AM
10	A streaming service- type viewer experience that offers complete meetings and an option for a summary. Simple, quick updates. Bullet points. Ways to respond. You dont get fullparticipation from people who are busy or not personally invested in schools. Many only look at the bottom line: taxes or property values	8/8/2025 1:34 AM
11	The 8 you list is enough.	8/7/2025 7:03 PM
12	Email announcements of critical meetings and forums	8/6/2025 4:38 PM
13	You to a variety of communication that covers all age groups.	8/6/2025 3:04 PM
14	School department is great! Very official and not missed by parents	8/5/2025 10:09 AM
15	A flyer to let people know that these online resources exist and how to sign up for email updates. Maybe sent 2 times a year. Then people can get info electronically more frequently to keep mailer costs down.	8/5/2025 9:30 AM
16	I prefer to watch the meetings before reviewing comments on Facebook. My Southborough is also a great resource. I do think sending flyers to voters would be helpful as a "heads up" about upcoming meetings/questions. I was surprised how many people did not understand what had been going on until recently. The previous committee put a lot of work into the project, and it was all public.	8/2/2025 11:56 PM
17	Zoom option should always be available for public forums	8/2/2025 8:14 AM
18	printed mailers are helpful, but not promotional direct mail from the Teachers Union	8/1/2025 11:22 AM
19	When the committee meets with voters, they should listen to the voter questions. I was frustrated that there was no discussion at the meetings I attended, just the committee members saying over and over that we're doing this.	8/1/2025 4:42 AM
20	I learned about the issue at the senior center	7/31/2025 7:42 PM
21	Local newspapers are poor sources of news these days. The Community Advpcate maybe an exception.	7/31/2025 7:07 PM
22	Printed materials available in a convenient public location such as the library.	7/31/2025 3:37 PM
23	This question seems poorly written. I am not sure how the Town can keep me informed through "word of mouth"?	7/31/2025 2:03 PM
24	All forums should be in person and taped replayed for the public. This became a ongoing question between parents and seniors, Are we hearing the same message at all times????	7/31/2025 12:46 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

25	Beth Melo continues to provide the BEST and most thorough reporting. Town Officials should emulate her.	7/31/2025 8:36 AM
26	printed mailers waste of money and environmental impact	7/31/2025 5:04 AM
27	Dedicated website that is referred to by other social media platforms.	7/30/2025 3:50 PM
28	School	7/30/2025 3:22 PM
29	In Person Meetings	7/30/2025 10:17 AM
30	ALL communication avenues are important to reach the most people.	7/30/2025 6:08 AM
31	Visual & audio options!	7/29/2025 8:11 PM
32	attending committee meetings to hear directly about what is being proposed	7/29/2025 6:06 PM
33	I find the town's website to be difficult to find information and my experience with it has been less than ideal when trying to find updates to minutes, videos of meetings, etc. If you were to use that as a vehicle to inform townspeople of information relating to the K-8 School Building Project I would hope the information would be posted in a more timely manner and that it was far easier to find.	7/29/2025 11:34 AM

Q31 Is there anything specific that the Town could do to improve how it communicates project information or engages residents? (Open-ended – optional. You can suggest ways to reach more people, make information clearer, timing of communications, etc.)

Answered: 198 Skipped: 591

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Sometimes meetings are avoided by people, but we have different events in town where tables can be mounted and information shares, use social media, mailers, yard signs, etc.	8/19/2025 8:48 PM
2	Flyers sent home with pros and cons	8/18/2025 9:59 PM
3	Town forums either other boards in attendance	8/18/2025 7:46 PM
4	Its important for committees to have the support of all town boards and committees. All boards and committees had opportunities to ask questions during the process. The absolute silence from others was wrong. The Selectmen and Advisory took positions, but discussion favored the minority of positions...we should have had Concom, BOH, recreation give their opinions. The School committee should have been far more engaged.	8/18/2025 7:16 PM
5	None.	8/17/2025 5:22 PM
6	Unbiased communication. The committees communication always had a propaganda "our way is the only way" perspective. Southborough is comprised of well educated, thinking people. Please provide the facts.	8/16/2025 5:16 PM
7	Condense, simplify information, and limit presentation and debate time.	8/16/2025 3:33 PM
8	no	8/16/2025 1:33 PM
9	Email	8/16/2025 7:01 AM
10	It would've been great to have communication from day one during the process when decisions were actually being made and still just only during the last three months Before a vote. By that point, it was too late for Any changes to the plan to be made. There did not seem to be a whole lot of interest in gathering input from the community when decisions could actually be made.	8/15/2025 10:13 PM
11	There was little positive promotion of the project. This only happened when Plan B mobilized. But I also feel people are disengaged. Even though this was a big issue attendance relative to all eligible voters was poor.	8/15/2025 10:13 PM
12	Hire someone dedicated to communication.	8/15/2025 2:21 PM
13	Commit to proper social media usage. It's 2025.	8/15/2025 11:51 AM
14	In person information session to hear feedback from residents about what would make them comfortable about trusting in the information they are being provided. There is an underlying feeling that certain committee members/elected officials/school administration that are still hanging onto hope that the original project will pass a Special Town Meeting and ballot vote. It's also concerning that new information isn't being provided, but rather more of the same. In the recent PreK-8 School Building Committee a new concern was raised about how Finn's air is toxic because of it's proximity to the Mass Pike - while no real air quality studies have been done at the location. Rhetoric like this, without actual factual data obtained from our specific site seems like a scare tactic to convince community members that we need a new school because that site is also unusable.	8/15/2025 9:12 AM
15	The town could set up more video-based webinars to explain some of the rationale. This need not be a place for voters to express their frustration and opinions but questions should be welcome. Having detailed information and numbers on a website of useful but that avoids the human touch needed to explain the reasoning.	8/15/2025 7:18 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

16	Ongoing mailed info about discussions instead of right before town meetings	8/15/2025 7:00 AM
17	Na	8/15/2025 5:02 AM
18	Clearer information.	8/14/2025 10:10 PM
19	Would like to be able to opt in to periodic email/newsletter with summary updates that	8/14/2025 8:08 PM
20	Not on social media	8/14/2025 8:06 PM
21	Develop a much better town website. What we have is poorly designed and difficult to use	8/14/2025 7:07 PM
22	Official emails and an official site with all information	8/14/2025 6:59 PM
23	Stronger social media presence.	8/14/2025 6:40 PM
24	Be clear, be mindful of who lives in the town, let us know you don't have an agenda but instead are truly trying to find the best solution for the students but also for the community at large. Pricing people out of their homes is not something that should be considered!	8/14/2025 6:35 PM
25	Be transparent.	8/14/2025 6:33 PM
26	You're doing this wrong. Clear goals and clean message with input from vocal stakeholders with clout will beat out an information dump.	8/14/2025 3:34 PM
27	Send things in the mail to family's without kids. Familys with students got emails all the time	8/14/2025 2:25 PM
28	I can't offer any specific advice, because we are all living in this era in which social media has no guard rails at all and an alarming number of our friends and neighbors can no longer differentiate between reputable and disreputable sources of truth. Please do what you think is the best way to mitigate the effect of bad actors spreading bad information, it's all any of us can do.	8/14/2025 2:17 PM
29	A short YouTube meeting video with summaries.	8/14/2025 2:13 PM
30	More one on one communication	8/14/2025 12:23 PM
31	The town can disseminate that information through other establishments in the community such as the schools themselves, local coffee, shops, fitness, Studios, etc. I don't follow any of the towns newsletters or websites so I don't even know how I would get this information if it wasn't through a different resource within town	8/14/2025 12:20 PM
32	No	8/14/2025 12:18 PM
33	Make info clearer and more succinct. Make impacts extremely clear.	8/14/2025 6:42 AM
34	Get the information out well in front of any Town meetings - months, not days or weeks.	8/12/2025 10:54 AM
35	I can't think of anything right now	8/12/2025 10:51 AM
36	An updated website could help	8/11/2025 3:45 PM
37	nothing specific	8/11/2025 10:26 AM
38	Have select people answer questions honestly	8/10/2025 8:19 PM
39	no but it is doing a very poor job	8/10/2025 5:22 PM
40	Timely and accurate mailers. Greater transparency and less bias.	8/9/2025 1:48 PM
41	present more pros and cons and how decisions were made	8/9/2025 10:14 AM
42	No	8/9/2025 8:28 AM
43	I felt well informed but older residents that may not be as connected online and skipped meetings	8/9/2025 6:20 AM
44	Inform the public on why rejected options were rejected or not considered.	8/8/2025 9:25 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

45	better	Communications is a forever problem. The more the	8/8/2025 4:53 PM
46	peoples money	Source isn't trustworthy, entire group focused on spending other	8/8/2025 9:33 AM
47	See previous answer. (this site is not allowing me to see my typed input in order to assure accurate typed responses)		8/8/2025 1:34 AM
48	C above comment.		8/7/2025 7:03 PM
49	Early warning of imminent decisions		8/7/2025 2:06 PM
50	The reliance on social media is the worst possible option.		8/7/2025 12:22 PM
51	Look at Town expenses in the entirety instead of each project and manage to a sustainable tax level and not every whim that comes before them. I feel the Town thinks it has an open credit card and doesn't pay enough attention to the financial ramifications.		8/7/2025 10:22 AM
52	Would like to have more virtual discussions, where we can hear updates and ask questions		8/7/2025 8:35 AM
53	Do not know		8/7/2025 7:31 AM
54	Push information on critical projects via email rather than assuming people have time to go on town websites, etc. Do move ahead with major projects like designing a new school without letting taxpayers vote on the approach. Support state efforts to apply a minimum tax rate to non profit real estate		8/6/2025 4:38 PM
55	Reward system for town involvement. Swag, free transfer ticket, reduced advertising cost in newsletter, special services and local free gift cards.		8/6/2025 4:08 PM
56	Use methods noted above.		8/6/2025 3:04 PM
57	I think the Town, all things considered, does a pretty good job of informing people. The information is there, but people too need to make an effort to get it.		8/6/2025 2:48 PM
58	Actually communicate		8/6/2025 2:22 PM
59	N/a		8/6/2025 1:16 PM
60	See my comments in #22 about providing data on surrounding towns and its recent projects to build new schools.		8/6/2025 11:09 AM
61	No		8/6/2025 7:45 AM
62	I think there needs to be more concerted efforts to seek out community input - not just through surveys like this (which of course is great), but also through things like focus groups, town hall events, etc. There needs to be representation from all kinds of different stakeholders in this process. And not just at these initial stages, but throughout the process, informing the work by any consultants (and not the other way around). I noticed that a big problem was that the "no" vote included a lot of different views on WHY they were voting no. With that much variation in the opposition, it was clear that not nearly enough legwork was done to come up with the kind of plan that Southborough residents could really get behind.		8/5/2025 11:36 PM
63	Have someone troll social media. You will see a lot of ideas, questions and concerns from the people. Inform them!		8/5/2025 5:07 PM
64	Continued publicity even if few people attend		8/5/2025 2:23 PM
65	Having people sign up for project updates via email would be good. There were an abundance of meetings before the Special Town Meeting in the spring but many didn't seem to know how/when to access them.		8/5/2025 1:57 PM
66	Summaries of ALL meetings. More proactive notification		8/5/2025 12:00 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

about upcoming meetings & virtual options. I often have to search for far too long to find Zoom links to town meetings.

67	meeting	Virtual voting at town	8/5/2025 11:57 AM
68	Use email and webex meetings instead of forcing people to attend in person. Parents are dealing with young children and cannot always or almost never attend. Modern tools must be utilized vs outdate methods of meeting. Let alone lessening the towns carbon foot print but thats a different story on how we lack single stream recycling.		8/5/2025 11:07 AM
69	logistics to voting	provide more information on the process and	8/5/2025 11:03 AM
70	Please stop letting anyone talk at the town meetings. Have them submit something in writing and share those instead of subjecting everyone to hundreds of opinions		8/5/2025 10:28 AM
71	Create more short videos.		8/5/2025 10:28 AM
72	Yeah. Share what you're thinking well before getting to the point of voting. Anyone could see that the old proposal wasn't something anyone liked		8/5/2025 10:28 AM
73	Printed mailers		8/5/2025 10:20 AM
74	informed	I believe town only keeps families with school age children	8/5/2025 10:13 AM
75	Clear details and resources for each option above. Please improve the project website. It needs more info and videos of people explaining and answering questions. I also suggest we have a few people really be the spokespeople that are trusted and voted both yes and no to show collaboration and to build trust.		8/5/2025 10:09 AM
76	Be very clear in the options, cost implications, social implications, etc. use easy to understand infographics and charts. Highlight the data!		8/5/2025 9:51 AM
77	Sending out regular email updates or having regular interviews/updates with MySouthborough blog. Also sending out mailers (from the town, not interest groups) on latest development when a huge step is taken or feedback is needed. Also office hours are helpful.		8/5/2025 9:41 AM
78	Emails would be ideal		8/5/2025 9:37 AM
79	Choose ONE method to be the official communication. There are WAAAAY too many places to get misinformation.		8/5/2025 9:32 AM
80	See 22		8/5/2025 9:30 AM
81	acceptable	peoples' opinions parading as facts on social media is not	8/5/2025 9:20 AM
82	Detailed mailers.		8/5/2025 9:20 AM
83	I never check the town website. Emails or a mailer directing me where to go to find more information would be helpful.		8/4/2025 10:26 PM
84	Have some smaller question and answer sessions at different times throughout a week		8/4/2025 9:46 AM
85	Better consideration of financial implications and likely declining enrollment		8/3/2025 4:51 PM
86	This project was killed twice because it's an expensive, bad plan. Not because of lack of information.		8/3/2025 6:09 AM
87	Mailers. Not everyone is on Facebook. Hosting Q&As would also be helpful.		8/2/2025 11:56 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

88	N/A	8/2/2025 10:07 PM
89	Have someone on social media FROM THE START, combatting misinformation. It's very hard to do, but it needs to be done. Social media is how the No to Neary movement got going.	8/2/2025 2:26 PM
90	Don't wait for the public to engage, YOU engage by sending information that is clear, concise and regular (monthly for as long as it takes). I don't want to read meeting Minutes, I want factual bullet points early and often.	8/1/2025 10:14 PM
91	No	8/1/2025 7:06 PM
92	The quality of the data on which decisions of this type are made: student enrollment trending; headcount trending in Southborough's public schools , i.e., teachers , administrators, contract labor, specialists for ADA, median salary trending, the fully-loaded salary + Benefits , disability; Facility maintenance cost trending	8/1/2025 11:22 AM
93	no	8/1/2025 9:56 AM
94	probably not. facts do not matter. experts are not trusted. Battle of the pockebook from what I can see. We can not be all things to all people. young families moving to town are heavily influenced by the schools. We owe it to ourselves and future residents to invest wisely.	8/1/2025 9:32 AM
95	More updates and alerts via texts, etc.	8/1/2025 9:26 AM
96	more information pushed out to residents as the process goes along, shorter town meetings to discuss options	8/1/2025 7:45 AM
97	Establish, publicize, and utilize an official communication venue. Summarize via mail/email to all town residents.	8/1/2025 4:48 AM
98	How about emailing meeting agendas and updates from the committee. People who want to stay informed could sign up to be on the distribution list.	8/1/2025 4:42 AM
99	Not a single neighbor knew about this issue before I mentioned it to them. Communication about major issues like this is just poor and often biased.	7/31/2025 7:42 PM
100	I think the Neary Committee tried very hard using every means available to reach the townspeople unfortunately the product their were pushing was DOA.	7/31/2025 7:07 PM
101	The committee was clearly caught off guard and maybe it's because they believed their own justification even though it made very little logical sense. Also, the schools may have been caught up in a general anger against the town for recklessly spending money	7/31/2025 5:45 PM
102	Mail info	7/31/2025 5:04 PM
103	Town emails about meetings related to the topic, whether public forums or committee meetings.	7/31/2025 4:49 PM
104	Just more of it. The Neary website felt like it was designed to sell the project rather than to be factual.	7/31/2025 3:40 PM
105	Seek interim feedback. Not just "approve study" then "approve funds"	7/31/2025 3:37 PM
106	More communication. Zoom meeting availability for all meetings.	7/31/2025 2:33 PM
107	Yes. Tell the truth, don't gaslight people! More information is helpful - perhaps on the Town website - but more importantly, when you speak, tell the truth, not just the facts that are favorable to your project. This is not the place or time to review years of history and months of	7/31/2025 2:03 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

meetings but the proponents of this project had a big credibility problem with many of us. We asked questions and did not get straight answers. Start with the truth.

108	have public forums to educate not short Q&A sessions	7/31/2025 1:56 PM
109	none	7/31/2025 1:49 PM
110	Keeping an open mind.	7/31/2025 1:46 PM
111	same as above	7/31/2025 12:46 PM
112	I feel like the town does a great job of informing. I was disappointed that in this particular case the town presented a costly option to vote on without exploring the options available that would not be a cost to the town.	7/31/2025 11:29 AM
113	see 22.	7/31/2025 11:27 AM
114	town website is not always user friendly in looking for specific information	7/31/2025 11:17 AM
115	You are doing a great job but people only show up when it influences their pocket which is sad but true. Tax reduction to seniors could sway those votes plus the potential increase in 55+ housing may encourage people not using our schools to downsize.	7/31/2025 11:09 AM
116	I think the town did an excellent job communicating about the Neary Building Project. I just think a lot of people did not choose to listen or pay attention until it was in the final stages. All information was extremely clear!	7/31/2025 10:42 AM
117	Offer more virtual meetings and recordings of non-virtual meetings	7/31/2025 8:58 AM
118	The Town's website is terrible. I don't know why it has taken so long to address the issues. Other towns use better templates. Let's fix it. s	7/31/2025 8:36 AM
119	The emails from the school are very long. I would almost prefer a larger number of brief emails.	7/31/2025 8:29 AM
120	no	7/31/2025 8:29 AM
121	N/A	7/31/2025 7:19 AM
122	opt in text updates, actual presence on facebook	7/30/2025 10:03 PM
123	The majority of town debate was on the Southborough town facebook page so posting stuff there would make sense	7/30/2025 10:01 PM
124	I strongly recommend hiring a professional who could support the town in this process.	7/30/2025 9:19 PM
125	Communication from Town is good. People must reach out to it.	7/30/2025 9:19 PM
126	No	7/30/2025 8:35 PM
127	make it a ballot question like an election where you can go and vote vs an inperson hours long meeting	7/30/2025 7:59 PM
128	No	7/30/2025 5:45 PM
129	Don't use AI to build propaganda websites	7/30/2025 5:18 PM
130	Better email system.	7/30/2025 4:51 PM
131	The town website and neary website could have had more detailed and up to date information for people who can't watch or attend the meetings.	7/30/2025 4:34 PM
132	Try to prevent misinformation from spreading in social media	7/30/2025 4:31 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

133	Next time please prepare more than one option and don't fault people for not being able to increase taxes	7/30/2025 4:13 PM
134	Expanded email updates or a mailing list	7/30/2025 4:11 PM
135	Felt like the "no" group was better organized with their signs.	7/30/2025 4:01 PM
136	Everyone loves Jason Malinowski. He's smart and articulate. PAY him to be a part of this process.	7/30/2025 3:50 PM
137	Watch the cost. In my opinion this failed on 2 votes and it was driven by cost.	7/30/2025 3:49 PM
138	Above	7/30/2025 3:49 PM
139	Email newsletters that include full timeline, where at in process and key updates , decisions needed, next steps	7/30/2025 3:45 PM
140	short of going door to door, i think you've covered the basics. maybe just be more aggressive in communication EVERY STEP.	7/30/2025 3:35 PM
141	Maybe an email to all residents with updates?	7/30/2025 3:30 PM
142	Make sure the communication is made to those unaffected because they will be the most likely to vote NO so hearing their concerns early would help.	7/30/2025 3:24 PM
143	Need advocates in various constituencies to promote the message in all available channels	7/30/2025 3:19 PM
144	Information mailed directly to homes	7/30/2025 3:13 PM
145	Email out when meetings are going to be or send a bi weekly newsletter recapping meetings and upcoming meetings. Like the school does, make a calendar import for all important upcoming meetings.	7/30/2025 2:46 PM
146	Many people asked for information and meeting dates to be mailed. More non-partisan "yard" signs announcing meeting dates would also help.	7/30/2025 12:52 PM
147	I'm in favor of keeping politics out of social clubs such as Kindergroup. I don't need emails from these social clubs telling me to vote. I think it makes these groups divisive as both sides have folks who are very confrontational to those who oppose their views.	7/30/2025 12:30 PM
148	Be way more specific about costs and options	7/30/2025 12:27 PM
149	be very clear and transparent about all options and clearly why decisions are being considered/made at key milestones. There is a tendency for the community to "distrust" the school district in not being fully transparent and disclosing all options. While they are our experts as educators and administrators, they are not the final say on what the community needs. This was clearly articulated by the special town meeting and vote.	7/30/2025 12:27 PM
150	Printed mail/flyers need to be send in order to improve community engagement in this issue.	7/30/2025 12:20 PM
151	Us links in emails or social media that bring people directly to updates, etc. The communication needs to be complete and include ALL relevant information.	7/30/2025 11:43 AM
152	Meeting notes shared on Facebook.	7/30/2025 10:35 AM
153	emails, mailings and social posts	7/30/2025 8:53 AM
154	Yes, the town should have more direct communications with Southborough community. They can do this through the town blog or with	7/30/2025 8:08 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

	direct emails.	
155	Consider having "neighborhood gatherings" inviting 2-3 members of the committee to sit and chat with families....I am willing to host	7/30/2025 7:57 AM
156	We did not arrive at a no vote by not capturing yes voters nor lack of communication. We reached a no vote because this project is not required and we have alternate options that were not explored nor considered seriously.	7/30/2025 7:48 AM
157	While the plan is incomplete, it is okay to say so. Just say that finer details haven't been worked out yet. I don't expert a panel of volunteers to have this 100% done when they start communicating	7/30/2025 7:08 AM
158	More frequent public updates.	7/30/2025 6:31 AM
159	Key talking points, PROS/CONS of each option with cost	7/30/2025 6:16 AM
160	A door to door campaign should be considered. I was shocked when I learned my neighbors were not informed!	7/30/2025 6:08 AM
161	Actively engage with the "No" and "what about" constituencies. Pretending that you can't supports mischief makers. Get legal help on how to engage instead of being risk-adverse turtles.	7/30/2025 3:37 AM
162	They really should make short presentations like maybe in videos like Al's one about the town's finances. The committee absolutely shat the bed in terms of communications. You have to actually sell the plan if you want people to vote for it, and they never hit back on this half-baked plan B or the landfill nonsense.	7/30/2025 1:27 AM
163	Post plans & info in community spaces for residents to see/review. Mail info to residents.	7/29/2025 11:32 PM
164	Texting would be most effective	7/29/2025 9:45 PM
165	Social media seemed to be the main driver of the opposition gaining traction. I would encourage the sobo share and care page as a form of communucation or way to direct people to useful information on the town website.	7/29/2025 9:37 PM
166	I thought they did a great job of trying to collect information and communicate. the only bit missing was the total failure to imagine that people would be upset about abandoning the Finn school with no specific plan	7/29/2025 9:36 PM
167	Senior center for the elderly community that's against the project	7/29/2025 8:42 PM
168	have one "known" point person to comment on social media as the comment corrector about the actual facts and go to point person for social media questions	7/29/2025 8:14 PM
169	It's important to have someone from the committee willing to shut down misinformation on social media.	7/29/2025 8:11 PM
170	Find a way to engage families who are newer to town and so busy with babies or pre- school age kids. So many families who aren't in the school systems today had no idea about this and they are the ones who this will affect most but their kids aren't in the schools yet.	7/29/2025 7:55 PM
171	Frequent communication in the early planning stages before the committee is locked in on one thing.	7/29/2025 7:42 PM
172	Make information clearer, CLARITY is key!	7/29/2025 7:31 PM
173	Diverse time options for meetings	7/29/2025 7:13 PM
174	Bullet point and easy to read descriptions	7/29/2025 6:33 PM
175	Mailers, more signs around town (library, transfer station, fields)	7/29/2025 6:28 PM
176	email would be good. i did	7/29/2025 6:18 PM

Neary School Project Feedback

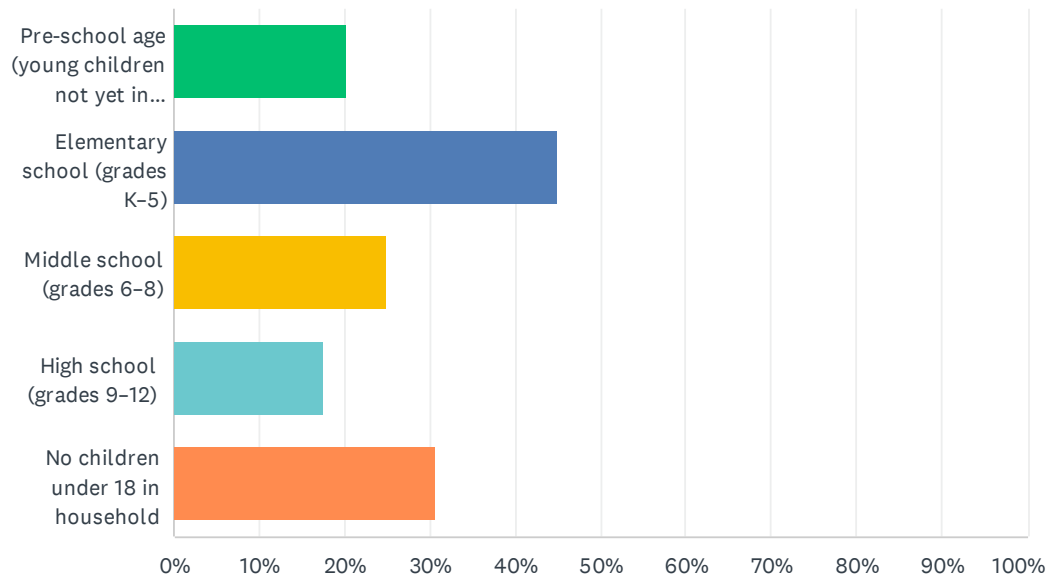
not even know this survey existed until it was posted on social media that they were making it more accessible for seniors. posts on the townie fb group is where i get a lot of town info

177	in person meetings adequately advertised	7/29/2025 5:15 PM
178	No, they suck in general	7/29/2025 5:07 PM
179	Use signs in Town to remind people to check out the information resources available.	7/29/2025 4:29 PM
180	Be honest about what things will cost. Be transparent about all expected spending and projects for a 10 year. Period. Period. Be considerate of those of modest means to afford very over-the-top expensive projects.	7/29/2025 4:26 PM
181	Have a presence and provide fact checking responses to comments on Southboro FB page that could be incorrect/inaccurate. Maintain an ongoing "faq" page to dispel rumors.	7/29/2025 4:19 PM
182	Clearly state the issue, then send out flyers	7/29/2025 3:27 PM
183	There needs to be more effort, put forth into reaching families, especially those with children that will be directly impacted by these decisions. Unfortunately, it was felt that only a small percentage of our town voted on this project and it does not represent the town as a whole.	7/29/2025 3:18 PM
184	Aside from widely spreading information about open meetings like it was done towards the end of the project, I think the most important thing is to be very transparent about the options available and the relevant information. Voters do not appreciate feeling like they are only being given part of the story, or treated like they don't possess the sophistication to decide what is best for them.	7/29/2025 2:37 PM
185	Na	7/29/2025 1:47 PM
186	Post on the Southborough community Facebook page and MySouthborough blog	7/29/2025 1:39 PM
187	Address the misinformation head on instead of letting it fester- whether it's for or against the project! Also my Southborough is not a reliable source of information and should not be the primary source you use to spread project information!	7/29/2025 1:37 PM
188	Just inform us,	7/29/2025 1:12 PM
189	I find that the town website is really challenging to navigate. The Nearby subcommittee pages don't even have a link to the nearybuilding.com website except through PDFs of meeting minutes. I used to have to use Google to even find the nearby building website.	7/29/2025 1:10 PM
190	none	7/29/2025 1:09 PM
191	Get a dales or marketing professional on your team!!	7/29/2025 1:08 PM
192	Send official emails with summary updates of progress	7/29/2025 1:06 PM
193	Limit rumor mills on social media	7/29/2025 1:05 PM
194	This is a hard question to answer without spending more money. Mailers work great but has big costs. I believe people are watching the recordings and word of mouth is strong.	7/29/2025 12:54 PM
195	Have a committee that considers all the needs of the town an co.mu I ate by print as well as meetings.	7/29/2025 12:48 PM
196	Provide specifics and details	7/29/2025 12:45 PM
197	Make materials consumable and respond directly to concerns raised versus reiterating canned messages.	7/29/2025 12:04 PM
198	Improve the website. Post	7/29/2025 11:34 AM

information is a more urgent and timely manner. Make things easier to find.

Q32 Do you currently have any children in your household in the following age/grade ranges? (Select all that apply.)

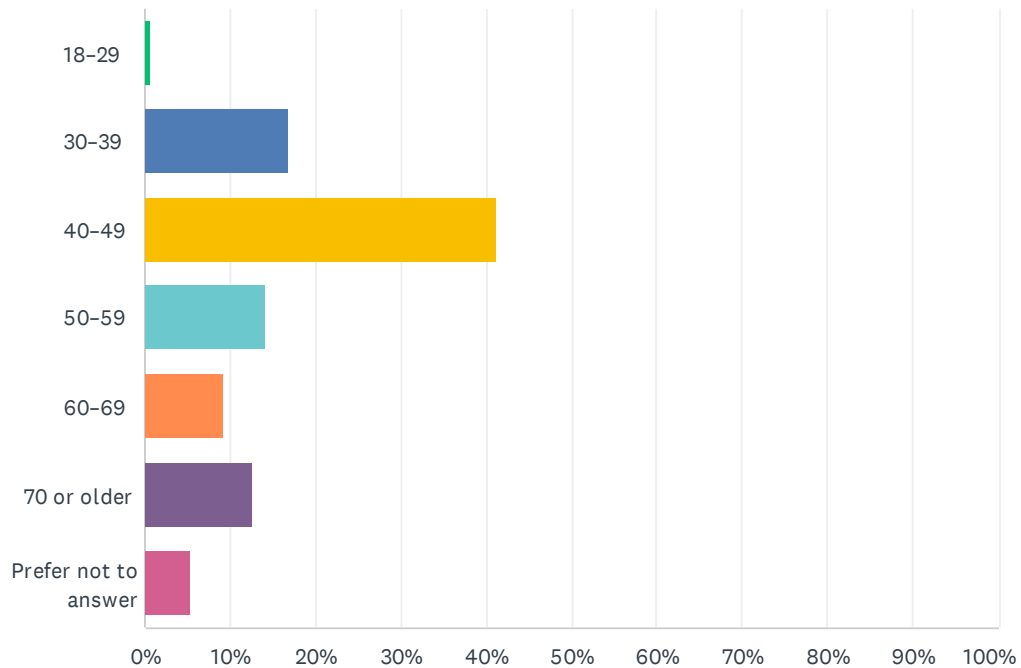
Answered: 637 Skipped: 152



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Pre-school age (young children not yet in elementary school, approximately ages 0–4)	20.25%	129
Elementary school (grades K–5)	45.05%	287
Middle school (grades 6–8)	24.96%	159
High school (grades 9–12)	17.43%	111
No children under 18 in household	30.77%	196
Total Respondents: 637		

Q33 Please select your age group. (Select one.)

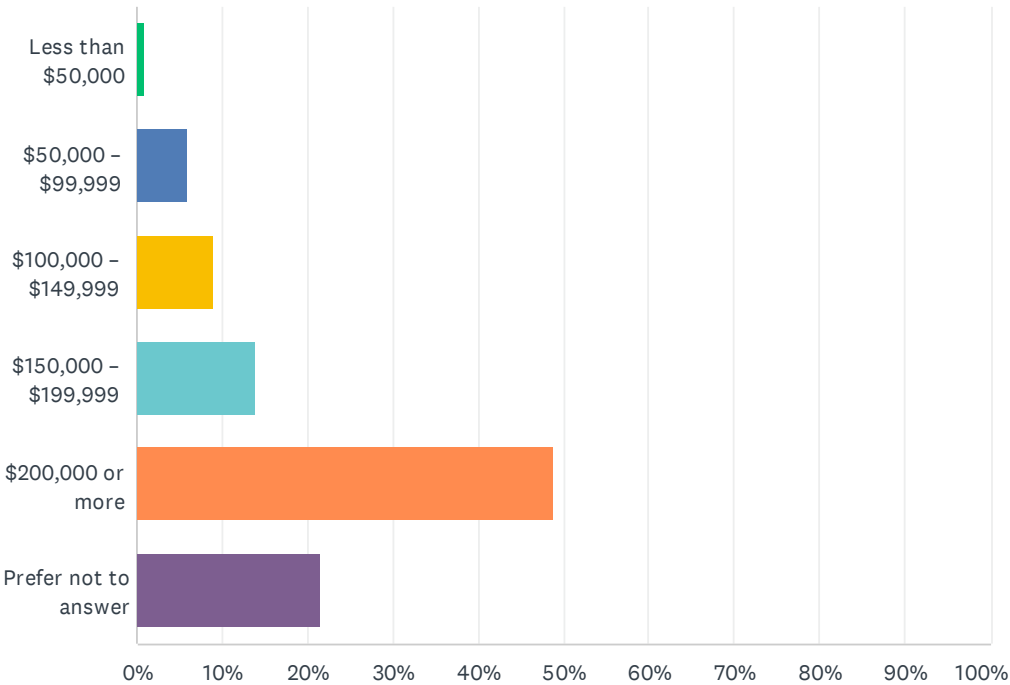
Answered: 647 Skipped: 142



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
18-29	0.62%	4
30-39	16.85%	109
40-49	41.11%	266
50-59	14.06%	91
60-69	9.27%	60
70 or older	12.67%	82
Prefer not to answer	5.41%	35
TOTAL		647

Q34 What is your approximate annual household income?

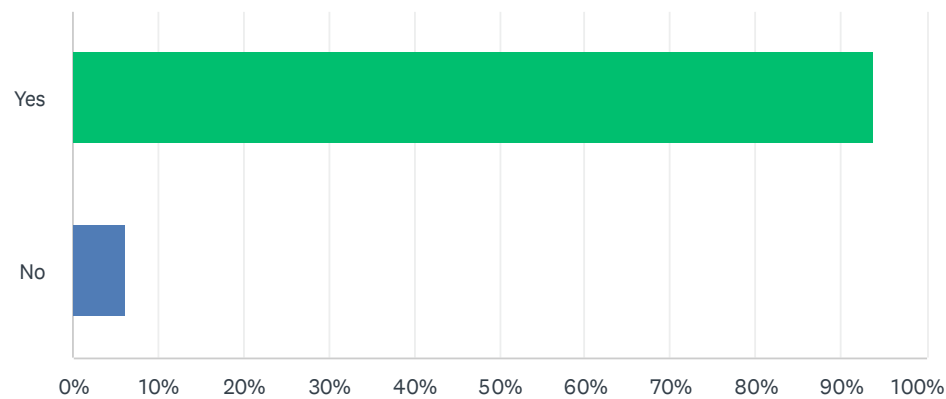
Answered: 643 Skipped: 146



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than \$50,000	0.93%	6
\$50,000 – \$99,999	6.07%	39
\$100,000 – \$149,999	8.86%	57
\$150,000 – \$199,999	13.84%	89
\$200,000 or more	48.83%	314
Prefer not to answer	21.46%	138
TOTAL		643

Q35 Are you a registered Voter in the Town of Southborough?

Answered: 652 Skipped: 137



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	93.87%	612
No	6.13%	40
TOTAL		652

Q36 If you have any other comments or feedback about the Neary project or the future school planning process that weren't covered in the questions above, you may share them here: (Open-ended optional response.)

Answered: 140 Skipped: 649

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Don't be reactive, be proactive. I feel that one reason why the vote failed was because the No was more active at the end and they got a fresh and appealing message for some folks in town, and then the Yes reaction was week and slow (yard signs, mailers, social media, etc). The "Yes" played by the old school rules, the no used 2020s tactics.	8/19/2025 8:48 PM
2	Comments for above question- I have grandchildren in the system. The Plan B was ill-conceived...and became an emotional response. we lost the basics of a decision....safe, healthy environment, meets or exceeds the educational needs...and even more importantly, the building needs to be a net zero building. Finally we would have a facility that is built as close to carbon neutral as can be, and actually could not only pay for the utilities for the building but could cut the utilities on other buildings through solar. The HVAC system is an important component to this. Hardly a Peep at town meeting, but the first time we would have a facility and cut some of the non educational costs that continually go up.	8/18/2025 7:16 PM
3	Send me postcards telling me where to get the needed information on ongoing projects that effect our taxes and town upgrades. Give options like websites or meetings or how to subscribe to a newsletter with that info.	8/18/2025 2:12 PM
4	It would be beneficial to see a financial impact of home values over the last 20 years of top 10 k-8 towns vs a lower quartile (per se) with a focus on the hat happens to values if we don't continue investing in the education system.	8/17/2025 8:45 PM
5	I would like the town to publish an annual financial timeline that outlines all of the monies that people in this town should know about that are coming up or being considered and a price tag for each -infrastructure projects, costs associated with routine and neglected maintenance, projected hires in different departments etc. Most people don't have the time to go to meeting notes from the vast number of departments and committees.	8/17/2025 5:34 PM
6	None	8/17/2025 5:22 PM
7	Thank you to the committee for doing this thankless job. It is appreciated. Again. I think the challenge of the 1st round was in the pry set forth by the MBTA grant. Do the work without it, and then apply the results to play the grant game. Thank you.	8/16/2025 5:16 PM
8	no	8/16/2025 1:33 PM
9	I really feel for the elderly and lower income folks in town that could be priced out. Also, I don't understand why money is not set aside for proper care and maintenance of buildings that the town owns. This feels irresponsible to have to put all this burden on at once.	8/15/2025 8:31 PM
10	Thank you for your time and effort .	8/15/2025 4:54 PM
11	Thank you for this survey, great idea, I hope to see more engagement and understanding and less confusion.	8/15/2025 2:21 PM
12	1. When voting get right to it. The town hall/vote at Algonquin was a punishment 2. "There's a plan B" ok, what is it!? 3. The school system is what makes our town strong and brings in new, young families. Shame on the Seniors in our community to be so close minded to what may have brought them to Southborough in the first place.	8/15/2025 2:11 PM
13	We need to be using outside consultants to assess and identify opportunities on how we can utilize our current space based upon enrollment projections and actual data. There needs to be more transparency with the public regarding "subjective" line items included in the PreK-8 matrix.	8/15/2025 9:12 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

14	I appreciate the survey and hope we can find a solution that works for the entire down. I can't imagine how disheartening this has been for the Neary building committee and I for one appreciate all of the incredible effort put forth by everyone involved.	8/15/2025 7:42 AM
15	Na	8/15/2025 5:02 AM
16	It was difficult to add comments in this format on phone! Could not go back and change/edit them	8/14/2025 8:08 PM
17	The town voters expressed their wishes in the spring I think it is wrong to try to force another vote!	8/14/2025 8:06 PM
18	Do not keep on principal valenti. She should not still be a principal.	8/14/2025 6:40 PM
19	Listen to and respond to objections without trying to railroad a proposal through because the state is offering money. It's like shopping at Bloomingdales instead of target because you have a 25% off coupon.	8/14/2025 6:33 PM
20	The school is the same when I was in it 20 years ago. It's out of date not safe. Why do people in prison get better than the kids at near. Make shift class rooms, can't cook there own food, so fire or intruder safety. On top of that filled with asbestos. If something happens the whole town will be filled with asbestos	8/14/2025 2:25 PM
21	I am sorry I didn't spend more time and effort getting people onboard with the "YES" vote on the previous proposal. I had no idea how outvoted we were going to be. I intend to be much more involved in whatever the next proposal we try to move ahead with. The school system is one of this town's most important resources. If we can't agree as a town to invest in our kids' educations, we'll start running out of families willing to live here pretty quickly. That's unacceptable.	8/14/2025 2:17 PM
22	Cut down wastage of resources. We should learn and educate our children to manage within our resources.	8/14/2025 12:59 PM
23	N/A	8/14/2025 12:20 PM
24	No	8/14/2025 12:18 PM
25	We can afford to retire in Southborough, however, we are considering leaving due to lack of attention to basic fiscal responsibility in the town. Too many committees, too little progress on solving bigger problems like roads, sidewalks, parks. Don't see a scenario where it ends well for Southborough tax payers over the next few years. The value we get for our taxes has diminished year over year for the last two decades and will continue to decline.	8/12/2025 10:54 AM
26	This survey is self defeating. It is way too long to be of any use. Get your money back from the survey company!	8/11/2025 2:12 PM
27	our children had good relations with Southborough schools, all of our children went to Finn, Neary and Woodward and all onto Algonquin. Neither they or us ever thought that they were being cheated.	8/11/2025 10:26 AM
28	My hope is that the members of this new committee are really focused on what is best for the town's youngest population, who cannot speak up for themselves. Something needs to be done, and I'm hopeful all members of this committee will be open minded in coming together for a solution, rather than pushing their own ideas or agendas.	8/11/2025 10:24 AM
29	I am a tax payer. Doesn't matter if WE have children in the system. Include all taxpayers. Stop being so secretive. Stop over spending. Don't do another stupid move like the Main Street project.	8/10/2025 8:19 PM
30	There was a survey done by a committee that was ignored and not published enough	8/10/2025 6:28 PM
31	Logically there must be a significant investment to improve the infrastructure. Further, there's enough income in this town and the overall tax base to pay for that. The individuals with lower income, such as those 65 years and older with limited income, should not have to bear the increased cost of	8/9/2025 8:28 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

this project. I use the word billionaires in my responses above Riley as a generic way of saying those with significantly high income, and in fact, there are billionaires in this town that could donate \$50 million and not even notice it's missing. If you continue to look to impose, this significant cost on the individuals with less means you're dealing with an unjust allocation and it's not right

32	The community's commitment to great schools has been the strength of decades of continuous growth and vision. Let it remain so.	8/8/2025 4:53 PM
33	Need some balance for taxpayers rather than administrators serving administrators	8/8/2025 9:33 AM
34	Retired home owners without children in the school system should get a discount on property taxes and free transfer station stickers.	8/7/2025 2:50 PM
35	This survey is a good start	8/7/2025 2:06 PM
36	Theres a dramatic difference in the types of towns that invest in their kids and their facilities and the types that dont. I dont want to be a part of a town that doesnt.	8/7/2025 12:22 PM
37	Cost cost 🚧	8/7/2025 10:53 AM
38	Bring financial responsibility to the Town	8/7/2025 10:22 AM
39	NO. 1, THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN. Not concerned with outside opinions, parents running classes. Main object for teachers is to TEACH children. Not enough emphasis on math. How many students are able to add in their head?? How many students can successfully give back change?? Sad to say - Not Many.	8/7/2025 9:57 AM
40	I think if we can find a way to avoid increasing taxes, the project will pass	8/7/2025 8:35 AM
41	I don't trust the building committee. They seem very biased toward spending money.	8/7/2025 6:13 AM
42	I don't think the town meeting vote was about school. It was about the fiscal state of the town	8/6/2025 4:38 PM
43	I am not a voter but a tax payer. Permanent resident.	8/6/2025 2:46 PM
44	Do not build on wetlands. Consider sites for safety. Having too many age groups on the same bus is a bad idea	8/6/2025 12:27 PM
45	Please see comments in #s 22 & 24. Thank you.	8/6/2025 11:09 AM
46	No	8/6/2025 7:45 AM
47	Thank you for the survey!	8/5/2025 8:37 PM
48	Focus on data driven comparisons and analysis vs emotional appeals	8/5/2025 6:17 PM
49	Thank you for your time and effort in this project	8/5/2025 2:23 PM
50	Thank you to the folks who are volunteering their time and energy trying to solve this issue!	8/5/2025 1:57 PM
51	Overly disappointed with this town and how they value our children's education.	8/5/2025 11:07 AM
52	The new committee should align on an overall vision for our town in terms of school. Do we want I provide the "best" and invest in really making our buildings the highest standard. Or what our vision? Write that down and make sure the town knows what you are working towards — aka mission statement or future vision. The also align on budget constraints you will want to stay under.	8/5/2025 10:09 AM
53	Families with no children, retired people, and lowest income families will not vote for this. Their concerns need to be addressed regarding taxes or benefits to their property values etc. The town has made horrible	8/5/2025 9:42 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

choices in the past regarding budgets, spending and non beneficial deals with St Marks and Fay. Either have those schools give more, allow business into southborough, and address everyone's concerns about town taxes and over spending

54	None. Neary has great outdoor facility which is well maintained	8/5/2025 9:37 AM
55	Please just streamline communication next time. There was an insane amount of confusion. When people are obtaining most of their town news from Facebook or word of mouth, we need to have one official page where we can get ALLLL the news in one spot.	8/5/2025 9:32 AM
56	Southborough has always supported our schools, but it is unfortunate that the administration appears to have let Neary decay to the point it has in order to advocate for a new school. Maintenance has been deferred for a decade or more, leaving residents feeling manipulated into a new school decision.	8/4/2025 10:55 AM
57	To be honest, a new school would be useless to my child. In fact it would probably make his 4th and 5th grade years more challenging. I'm just not seeing a surge of kids moving here that would warrant a very expensive new school. I say make it work with what we have and what we have is plenty in my opinion. I myself attended school in a small town. My elementary was k-6 and high school was 7-12. It was great and we did just fine. It's baloney that 5th graders shouldn't be with 8th graders.	8/4/2025 8:53 AM
58	The old committee needs to look in the mirror and seriously ask themselves if the final Neary budget that they presented was the best that they could have done. If they still think the answer is yes then they should 100% not be on the new committee.	8/3/2025 6:24 PM
59	Lack of information is not the issue, cost is.	8/3/2025 6:09 AM
60	Thank you all for your hard work. I appreciate that all options are being reviewed.	8/2/2025 11:56 PM
61	N/A	8/2/2025 10:07 PM
62	Thank you for serving the town and doing this difficult work!	8/2/2025 2:26 PM
63	Question 20 is arguably the crux of this entire survey, and in my opinion it was not nearly clear enough. All 7 options shown should have shown how all 9 grade levels (Pre-K through 8) would be served. For example, in Option A, what school(s) serve Pre-K through 2? Are we to assume Woodward (why?)? In Option D, what school(s) serve 4 through 8? Are we closing Woodward or Neary? In Option G, are we to assume/conclude that we are closing 1, 2 or 3 schools, with "Pre-K to 5" served in one mega-elementary school? For almost all 7 of the Options listed I read it and thought "ok, great, but what am I missing?" You get the point. Again, this was the most important question in the survey, and I did my best to answer it as it was framed, but I am frustrated by this failure of clarity, mainly because an abject failure of clarity is exactly the reason why the STM Article failed so spectacularly, and that lesson seems not to have been learned yet.	8/1/2025 10:14 PM
64	None	8/1/2025 7:06 PM
65	Cutting three checks for the same amount as the price of one big check does not make sense.	8/1/2025 3:49 PM
66	none at the moment	8/1/2025 11:22 AM
67	Find another solution, stop shoving this behemoth down our throats. Keep this shit up and it will get voted down every time!	8/1/2025 10:08 AM
68	none	8/1/2025 9:56 AM
69	Infrastructure is a part of the problem/opportunity. Actually addressing weaknesses of the schools does not appear to be addressed. That is, I can not find a list of priorities of the schools that are being worked against to improve. If we do not know what we are working to improve, what are we doing? Reputation of the schools as excellent from my perspective is heavily dependent on parents with means supplementing town education to make up for some very real weaknesses / deficiencies with tutors, etc. Appreciate that some part of our reputation is attributable to town but some of it is self-fulfilling as it is heavily influenced by parents who care and make up	8/1/2025 9:32 AM

Neary School Project Feedback

for weaknesses that are ignored, not addressed, and often compounded by what appears to be a combination of ignorance and, or incompetence.

70	Not at this time.	8/1/2025 9:26 AM
71	our children attended the Southboro schools and the teachers/education got them excellently prepared to move onto higher education than some other public school system, Southboro has always been known for it's excellent school system, not because of the buildings but because of the teachers, invest in the equipment and resources for teachers so they do not have to purchase supplies themselves, these are teachers committed to educating our children.	8/1/2025 7:45 AM
72	I may share them? Thank you for your permission! How about please share them!	8/1/2025 4:42 AM
73	Long range planning, fiscal responsibility, presenting compelling need and viable options should be the norm and the operating standard.	7/31/2025 7:42 PM
74	Well prepared survey. The new committee should NOT be further constrained by the MSBC!	7/31/2025 7:07 PM
75	Let's get a rational solution in place.	7/31/2025 6:43 PM
76	We have said no in several town meeting and someone in power in this down wants this. They are wasting time and money on something the residents of this town have said no to. In addition, Trump means unpredictable economic swings and the lack of state and federal funding. Now is not the time to pursue any large scale building project. It is a bad idea and must be table. We have voted no on several occasions. Hear us.	7/31/2025 5:51 PM
77	I'll end it by saying that people are angry about the way the town spends money, and the schools paid the price. I've been in town for 30 years and every year taxes go up at a rate greater than inflation	7/31/2025 5:45 PM
78	Town should allow more businesses to help balance out tax issues	7/31/2025 5:04 PM
79	A main point is the the town itself needs to first get it's financial house in order. The online tax tool that was developed for the project showed a tremendous projected tax increase over the next 5 years without the Neary project. I think the project might have passed if it wasn't for that. It just felt like purposefully piling on to any already significant issue felt irresponsible.	7/31/2025 3:40 PM
80	The school department should serve the town, not vice versa.	7/31/2025 3:37 PM
81	The Select Board needs to be truthful, not be the No. 1 cheerleaders for a project that an overwhelming majority did not support.	7/31/2025 2:03 PM
82	I really hope we come together as a town and don't let this vote become more divisive than it already has. I hope for honest discussion and compassion to win out over politicizing and misinformation.	7/31/2025 12:26 PM
83	Having to do multiple drop offs and pick ups daily at multiple elementary schools is ridiculous. All the different start and end times create stress. Consolidating the schools would not only benefit for those that bring/pick up their kids but would be easier for busses as well. The kids would spend less time on the bus. I believe if kids had a smaller amount of time on the bus more families would use bus services, alleviating traffic/congestion in town.	7/31/2025 11:32 AM
84	No survey is anonymous, so I hope if you get comments that you are curious about or would be helpful to the project, you would reach out to the respondent. Everyone in town is coming from a good place when thinking about this project and sometimes it's hard to be passionate about what's best for the future for the children of this town while also remaining neutral during conversations (especially when money is involved). Personally I would love a new school! Do I think right now is the best time to ask for that?	7/31/2025 11:22 AM
85	Most people moved here for the schools. Those that are staying after their kids have used the	7/31/2025 11:09 AM

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schools because they have so much equity and lower interest rates is the problem.

86	I appreciate being asked to participate and give my opinions. I appreciate the work being done by all the volunteers and am hopeful that a resolution can be made to move forward.	7/31/2025 9:23 AM
87	Thank you for your work!	7/31/2025 8:58 AM
88	Excellent survey	7/31/2025 8:36 AM
89	My recommendations are: 1. Form a new committee. The previous committee opted into expensive options unnecessarily and forced a yes/no vote under time pressure (using state funding as the stick). I think most voters found this democratically disingenuous; I had to vote yes for my kids, despite this forced process and the dumb price tag (were you crazy? \$100 million? what was Trottier, like \$10 million?). 2. Conduct a sober accounting of the town's school facilities, and current&projected student demographics (by age), and communicate this to the public. Obviously, Finn should be (and should have been) included. How old is each building? How much is the deferred maintenance and ADA compliance? What happens if Neary isn't ADA compliant? How many schools & classrooms do we actually need? 3. Address the landfill problem on its own. If a school can't be next to it, why is one next to it? People against building a new school there should support remediation if it is indeed needed (of which I was not convinced). Alternatively, have an independent agency (such as, the state government) audit the landfill to prove it's not a problem. The Neary site has a ton of land, it's nuts to think it shouldn't be reused. 4. Scrutinize the \$100M price tag. What was necessary and what wasn't? What would the price have been without all the "options"? What have other MA towns paid for their schools in the last decade? Show a scatterplot of student capacity vs. price.	7/31/2025 8:29 AM
90	N/A	7/31/2025 7:19 AM
91	Waiting for state money may not be in the best interest of the town. A town funded option should be made available in the near future instead of a complicated process, years of inflation and hoping for a small potential reimbursement.	7/30/2025 10:03 PM
92	NA	7/30/2025 9:19 PM
93	No	7/30/2025 8:35 PM
94	Let's do everything that we can to benefit from MA state assistance for a new facility!	7/30/2025 8:09 PM
95	I thought the Neary Building committee chair's presentation at the TM was disingenuous. Only 3 of the 6 voting members voted in favor of the project. How anyone expected a committee that was split 50:50 to lead to a 66% TM approval is baffling, this vote should never have been brought to the TM. Of the 3 committee members that did not vote in favor, one was against and stated lack of consideration of alternatives as the reason and the two abstentions listed the same reason among several. The committee wasn't 2/3 in favor after studying the project for years.	7/30/2025 6:55 PM
96	Keep trying!! We'll get to a good solution, but we do need a more effective engagement strategy to combat the "Nos"	7/30/2025 4:34 PM
97	Keep up the good work! It's a shame that the folks that voted no were not present during all of the open meetings during the previous committee's work to voice their opinions. Hopefully this time around there will be better participation.	7/30/2025 4:14 PM
98	Thank you to the building committee for putting together such a thoughtful proposal. I'm sad more of the townspeople didn't take time to read the entire thing. It would have answered so many questions that they had.	7/30/2025 4:06 PM
99	Keep the committee fair. The old committee already had their time.	7/30/2025 3:58 PM
100	No neighborhood schools under any circumstances	7/30/2025 3:55 PM
101	Fix rt 9 waste water problem so new businesses can come in and contribute to our taxes. Make it a part of the school project.	7/30/2025 3:50 PM

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102	i've been put off by some of the select board's tone around important town projects like this, the MBTA zoning, and 21 Highland. I don't know how you address that, but I do think the Neary Committee acquitted themselves with dignity and responsibility to the town. thank you to them!	7/30/2025 3:35 PM
103	Can you please spend some time addressing the ridiculous concerns over water polution at the Neary site? Half of the town meeting and much of the noise against New Neary seemed to be about that, yet Neary is currently on the same site so what is the difference? Would any ground water from the site be used inside the school? What is the health risk that is potentially being claimed?	7/30/2025 3:24 PM
104	If this survey and the near-term work of the School Building Committee isn't enough to reduce the choices to 2 or no more than 3 options, then the town needs to implement an appropriate multiple-stage selection process to ensure that the final choice actually represents a super majority of the voter desires.	7/30/2025 12:52 PM
105	The original neary proposal lost by a significant margin in both the town meeting and ballot vote. Continuing this endeavor goes against the will of the town. That said, less arrogance and more research on the facts will go a long way to swaying some of the no votes. Simply asking for a revote of the original proposal would be an embarrassment and alienate those who already voted no.	7/30/2025 12:30 PM
106	Should be able to vote at town meetings from home	7/30/2025 12:27 PM
107	Thank you for everything you are doing!	7/30/2025 12:27 PM
108	MSBA grant deadline needs to be extended	7/30/2025 12:20 PM
109	Let it go	7/30/2025 10:17 AM
110	this was a nice survey and a great start. I liked seeing the different possible options. Unfortunately the only way you will be able to get anything passed is to do what the "NOs" suggest and want. Thank you for your time and effort. It's appreciated and good luck.	7/30/2025 8:53 AM
111	The value of our homes depends on how good our schools are.	7/30/2025 8:15 AM
112	My children went through the Southborough schools. Now, my grandchildren have been going through the Southborough schools, so I care deeply about the education they get here. I was very disappointed in the Neary planning project as it was clear to me it was started with a heavy bias toward new build. As I wrote earlier, a new building will not fix some of the issues I have seen with the way Southborough addresses special needs issue, which, quite honestly, has not changed much since my experience with the schools when my children went through them.	7/30/2025 8:08 AM
113	Thank you for this opportunity to have input using this survey	7/30/2025 7:57 AM
114	Focus on consolidation with existing resources.	7/30/2025 7:48 AM
115	My children went to Neary in the 90's. It was too small and not in the best of shape then. Whenever we needed a new school, the town came together and the schools that were needed, were build. I feel just because you no longer have school age children is not a reason to not want a needed new school. As the saying goes, "it takes a village." We owe it to the children today, just as it has been done in the past.	7/30/2025 7:36 AM
116	N/A	7/30/2025 6:16 AM
117	Until we have solutions in place to generate more tax revenue and/or cut current spending, I think this initiative will not be successful. The towns focus should be stabilizing our financial future, not on big projects we can't afford.	7/30/2025 4:28 AM
118	The failure of the votes is shameful. Both the opponents who fabricated excuses to "just say no" and the proponents who passively didn't respond and let good work go to waste should be ashamed. That the new committee has been stacked with opponents and is running out the clock by	7/30/2025 3:37 AM

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"researching" the already known is evident. The loss of expertise from the NBC guarantees a suboptimal, late result.

119	I really found the committee didn't communicate well, even in the public meetings and forums. Also, the educational vision in the MSBA application was really bad; it was entirely fluff statements with no real meaning. Also, the early cost estimates for the non 4-grade options were very suspicious to me, and there was no detail behind them. So all that really killed the credibility of the project (and I still voted for it).	7/30/2025 1:27 AM
120	Select Board credibility is at an all-time low for the fifteen years that I have lived in town. Not sure there is a major decision for which they alone can convince the general population to support. Leadership, including the ability to generate grass roots support, is lacking in the town at present.	7/29/2025 9:43 PM
121	Mysouthborough should not have allowed that "plan b" article to be posted.	7/29/2025 8:42 PM
122	Thank you for being willing to find common ground to help our children and educators be in a safe environment that is intentionally designed with educational philosophy at the forefront.	7/29/2025 8:11 PM
123	The use of classrooms could be better utilized especially at Finn. 2 speech pathologists dont need to be sharing an entire large classroom. Preschool doesnt need 2 sub seperate classrooms only being utilized 4 days a wk.	7/29/2025 7:36 PM
124	the board of selectman need to start listening to the people of this town and not push there own views on what they may think is best start working on the other important issues in this town and not give these town departments everything they ask for	7/29/2025 6:27 PM
125	Thank you to the committee for their hard work, time and attention to this important matter.	7/29/2025 6:24 PM
126	i hope the results of this survey are made public unlike the previous survey that was sent out that mysteriously we never heard about again	7/29/2025 6:18 PM
127	very weak committee (far weaker than original committee)--I'm not optimistic that they will come up with anything useful, but I'll hope for a miracle!	7/29/2025 6:06 PM
128	You ask what my income is. My income isn't enough to cover the mortgage on a house when you put in a new school and spend hundreds of millions of dollars	7/29/2025 5:07 PM
129	I'm glad "doing nothing" wasn't an option presented here. That would have been the worst option in my opinion. But I fear that there isn't an insignificant number of people that may choose something like that if it were offered.	7/29/2025 4:31 PM
130	Any project will have cost. The difference of a few hundred dollars per year on taxes is not a reason to vote against what is best for children.	7/29/2025 3:18 PM
131	About previous question, I have 3 grandchildren living in town. All too young for school at this time	7/29/2025 2:52 PM
132	Thank you to the original Neary committee and the current group - this is a huge project and your hard work does not go unnoticed. I appreciate the survey option!	7/29/2025 2:14 PM
133	Keep Finn.	7/29/2025 2:04 PM
134	The townspeople do not feel like the elected officials are representing their interest. The recent election is a good indicator of that.	7/29/2025 1:13 PM
135	none	7/29/2025 1:09 PM
136	The combined 'get out the vote' issues and the inability of people to vote remotely for Town Meeting continues to be a big problem that is not going away. Please consider actively addressing the antiquated rules of Town Meeting at the state level to allow for more equity in participation.	7/29/2025 1:06 PM

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137	I understand this is a big decision but it's important that to not let people make financial driven decisions that hurt one of the things people love most about Southborough and that's our education system and schools. We can force students and teachers into a school that has known health and safety concerns because people think their taxes are too high already.	7/29/2025 1:05 PM
138	A new Neary is not needed. It's inappropriate for our town, for our tax payers and for our students and faculty. We don't need the new neary and we don't want it.	7/29/2025 12:54 PM
139	The lying and bullying by the pro Neary folks, along with the elitism was a real deciding factor.	7/29/2025 12:48 PM
140	Very disappointed in the Select Boards election denying. It shows a lack of respect for Town Meeting and the Voters. It is hard to trust them.	7/29/2025 12:15 PM