



HOLYOKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A PATHWAY FOR EVERY STUDENT

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Mr. Anthony Soto, Superintendent/Receiver
Mr. Joshua Garcia, Mayor

Tuesday, April 5, 2022

Dear City Councilors,

We hope this letter finds you and your families well. We are writing to share an update on the middle school building project.

First, Holyoke has completed its deliverables for the eligibility phase, ahead of the April 29th deadline. We are hopeful that we will be invited to the Massachusetts School Building Authority's meeting on Wednesday, April 27, 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., and that the MSBA would vote on whether to advance Holyoke to the feasibility phase. We will let you know when the invitation is official.

Second, given the work that Holyoke completed from 2017-2019 for the middle school building project, MSBA is considering an expedited process for us. We expect to have more details and information by late April or early May. We are hopeful that we may be invited to one of your meetings in May to share an update and clearly articulate any next steps required by the City Council.

Third, many members of the School Building Committee are meeting on Monday, May 9th from 4:15 - 5:15 p.m. to tour the Peck School building. You are each invited to attend. If you have questions, contact Erin Linville, 312.415.1864, elinville@hps.holyoke.ma.us, or Whitney Anderson, 413.519.4613, wanderson@hps.holyoke.ma.us. If possible, please RSVP to Erin Linville, so we know to expect you.

Finally, the School Building Committee continues to meet monthly on the first Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. (This month, we moved our meeting to Monday, May 4th since we had Senator Velis and Representative Duffy as guest speakers.) We have [zoom webinar](#) access for guests, and you are always welcome to attend. Alternatively, you may review prior meetings on the [Holyoke Media video archive](#) or read updates on our [middle school building project webpage](#) or on our weekly newsletter, the Holyoke Update. We have been very impressed with the engagement of the School Building Committee, including Councilors Tallman and Puello, and the working groups. We trust that Councilors Tallman and Puello have also been helpful resources to keep you updated and answer questions as well.

As always, please reach out with questions or suggestions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anthony Soto
Receiver/Superintendent

Joshua Garcia
Mayor of Holyoke