

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 15, 2015**  
**Mount Greylock School Building Committee invites public input on sustainable design**

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The Mount Greylock Regional School Building Committee invites the public to participate in a “green building charrette” (idea generation process) to envision ways to incorporate sustainability into the design of the school building project. “Green building” encompasses a wide variety of factors and “the Committee wants to tap the talent and creativity of community members,” according to Building Committee Chair Mark Schiek.

The building project charrette meetings on July 22nd and 23rd will be facilitated by members of the architectural design team of Design Partnership of Cambridge. Those in attendance on the 22nd will work in groups to brainstorm and vision design strategies that will contribute to building and site sustainability and efficiency. Discussion will focus on three broad topic areas: site/water strategies, indoor air quality, and passive/active energy systems. The session on the 23rd will focus on refining and prioritizing the ideas generated in the first meeting. Participation is open to all and attendance at both meetings is welcome but not required. RSVPs are appreciated to ensure enough food is available. [wendypenner@hotmail.com](mailto:wendypenner@hotmail.com)

In order to encourage broad public input, the Building Committee has formed a Sustainability work group to support the project. The group is led by Wendy Penner, (former staff member and consultant to the Center for EcoTechnology). According to Penner “the Charrette will guide foundational decisions regarding which aspects of sustainability will get the greatest priority.” Those who cannot attend one of the Charrettes are welcome to send their contributions and questions to Penner at [wendypenner@hotmail.com](mailto:wendypenner@hotmail.com)

The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), structures the process to ensure that schools meet a high standard for sustainability. The MSBA offers a higher level of reimbursement to projects that meet the LEED Silver standard. In some cases communities have found it worthwhile to exceed that standard.

On August 6, the Building Committee is expected to submit one of the options for development into a full schematic design and cost estimate. These documents are due to the MSBA in December. “We need public input in this early design phase to insure a successful project,” noted Building Committee Vice-Chair Paula Consolini.

**Dates and Times of note:**

July 22 4:30-8:30PM: Idea Generation Charrette, MG Meeting Room

July 23 1-4PM: Prioritizing Charrette, MG Meeting Room

July 23 5:30PM: School Building Committee Meeting, MG Meeting Room

July 30 5:30PM: School Building Committee to vote final building design selection, MG Meeting Room