

Town of Colrain
Select Board/MLP Board Meeting
Jacobs Road Municipal Center
18 Jacobs Rd, Heath, MA
5:00 PM

MINUTES OF SELECT BOARD
March 18, 2025

Present Emily Thurber, Chair; Benjamin Eastman; Katie Korby

Others Present: Marjorie Smith, Administrative Assistant; Diana Parsons, Town Administrator

Chair Emily Thurber called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm. Ben Eastman seconded.

Joint Meeting with Heath Select Board

Martha Thurber presented a brief summary of the charge of the sustainability study and challenges of the district, summary of the models, high level findings (financial, educational, facility upgrades). She outlined a projected Phase III timetable and going through MSBA timetable.

Martha further outlined each of the five models including a summary of the impacts, the advantages and disadvantages of each, and the projected operating assessments.

The facilities were discussed based on where the kids fit in potential configurations. Two conceptual designs were presented to reconfigure BSE and MTRS. Projected debt service figures were presented for both Colrain and Heath and how they affect the total assessments when applied to Models 4(A) and 5.

Sheryl Stanton presented the transportation findings based on each model, number of runs, cost/equipment, travel time and considerations. Discussion on bus sizes and transporting children to and from school, current routes and efficiencies. Discussion on Gateway Regional that has a single campus, school start times, preschool and special ed transportation, including Rowe in the study and rejoining the district. She further presented an education assessment including educational quality domains and each of the models and the impact of minimal-low, low, moderate and significant.

Discussion regarding impacts to the Town of Heath when the school closed.

Dissolve Meeting:

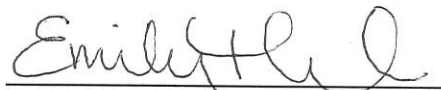
MOVED: Emily Thurber moved to dissolve the meeting at 6:50pm.
Katie Korby seconded.

Respectfully submitted,



Marjorie Smith
Administrative Assistant


Accepted by the Select Board on 4/8/2025



Emily Thurber - Chair



Benjamin Eastman



Katie Korby

Documents Distributed to the Select Board Before the Meeting in a Packet or at the Meeting:

2Districts8Towns MTRSD/HSRD Sustainability Project Slide Presentation

2Districts8Towns Sustainability Study Project Work to Date February 2025