



# City of Waltham

*Jeannette A. McCarthy*  
*Mayor*

CITY OF WALTHAM  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

2017 JUN 22 A 11:02

RECORDED

June 22, 2017

TO: The City Council  
RE: Request for Joint Letter to Massachusetts Historical Commission Regarding  
Fernald as the Site for a New Waltham High School

Dear Councillors:

Enclosed please find a request for a joint letter to the Massachusetts Historical Commission from the Mayor, City Council and School Committee.

Also enclosed is a draft letter from the Superintendent of Schools.

The School Committee, School Building Committee and Superintendent will be available to answer questions on this request.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeannette A. McCarthy

JAM/ccb

Enclosure

cc: School Committee  
School Building Committee



TO: Waltham City Council  
Mayor Jeannette A. McCarthy

FROM: Drew M. Echelson, Ed. D.

DATE: June 22, 2017

RE: Waltham School Committee and Waltham School Building Committee

At their joint meeting held on June 21, 2017, the Waltham School Committee and the Waltham School Building Committee, in their commitment to provide the best opportunity for the children and the City of Waltham, took the following votes:

**VOTED:** On motion of Mr. Tarallo, seconded by Mr. Frassica, to explore the Fernald Property as an educational site for a new Waltham High School. Roll call: Mr. Tarallo, yes; Mr. Frassica, yes; Mrs. AlJammal, yes; Ms. Donnelly, yes; Mr. Graceffa, yes; Mr. Rando, yes; Mayor McCarthy, yes.

**VOTED:** On motion of Dr. Stein, seconded by Mr. Pinzone, to explore the Fernald Property as an educational site for a new Waltham High School. Roll call: Ms. Wilcinski, yes; Dr. Stein, yes; Mr. Maiorano, yes; Mr. Frost, yes; Mr. Pinzone, yes; Ms. Casey-Brenner, yes; Mr. Caruso, yes; Mr. Cusano, yes; Mr. Demeo, yes; Ms. Brown, yes; Dr. Echelson, yes.

**VOTED:** On motion of Mr. Tarallo, seconded by Mr. Graceffa, to request that the entire Fernald Property, with a minimum of seventy-five (75) usable acres, be under the care, custody and control of the Waltham School Committee for educational, recreational and open space. Roll call: Mr. Tarallo, yes; Mr. Frassica, yes; Mrs. AlJammal, yes; Ms. Donnelly, yes; Mr. Graceffa, yes; Mr. Rando, yes; Mayor McCarthy, yes.

**VOTED:** On motion of Ms. Brown, seconded by Mr. Caruso, to request that the entire Fernald Property, with a minimum of seventy-five (75) usable acres, be under the care, custody and control of the Waltham School Committee for educational, recreational and open space. Roll call: Ms. Wilcinski, yes; Dr. Stein, yes; Mr. Maiorano, yes; Mr. Frost, yes; Mr. Pinzone, yes; Ms. Casey-Brenner, yes; Mr. Caruso, yes; Mr. Cusano, yes; Mr. Demeo, yes; Ms. Brown, yes; Dr. Echelson, yes.

**VOTED:** On motion of Ms. Donnelly, seconded by Mr. Graceffa, that the City Council, Waltham School Committee and Waltham School Building Committee send a letter to the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the Waltham Historical Commission that they have a new request for the Fernald Property and that time is of the essence regarding the Waltham High School Project. Roll call: Mr. Frassica, yes; Mrs. AlJammal, yes; Ms. Donnelly, yes; Mr. Graceffa, yes; Mr. Rando, yes; Mayor McCarthy, yes.



**VOTED:** On motion of Ms. Casey-Brenner, seconded by Mr. Caruso, that the City Council, Waltham School Committee and Waltham School Building Committee send a letter to the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the Waltham Historical Commission that they have a new request for the Fernald Property and that time is of the essence regarding the Waltham High School Project. Roll call: Ms. Wilcinski, yes; Mr. Maiorano, yes; Mr. Frost, yes; Mr. Pinzone, yes; Ms. Casey-Brenner, yes; Mr. Centofanti, yes; Mr. Caruso, yes; Mr. Cusano, yes; Mr. Demeo, yes; Ms. Brown, yes; Dr. Echelson, yes.

**VOTED:** On motion of Mr. Frassica, seconded by Mr. Rando, that a workshop be scheduled, as soon as possible, with the Waltham School Committee, Waltham School Building Committee, Waltham City Council, Waltham Historical Commission and Waltham Conservation Commission to discuss and explore the potential for a new Waltham High School and compatible uses at the Fernald Property. Roll call: Mr. Frassica, yes; Mrs. AlJammal, yes; Ms. Donnelly, yes; Mr. Graceffa, yes; Mr. Rando, yes; Mayor McCarthy, yes.

**VOTED:** On motion of Ms. Brown, seconded by Mr. Pinzone, that a workshop be scheduled, as soon as possible, with the Waltham School Committee, Waltham School Building Committee, Waltham City Council, Waltham Historical Commission and Waltham Conservation Commission to discuss and explore the potential for a new Waltham High School and compatible uses at the Fernald Property. Roll call: Ms. Wilcinski, yes; Mr. Maiorano, yes; Mr. Frost, yes; Mr. Pinzone, yes; Ms. Casey-Brenner, yes; Mr. Centofanti, yes; Mr. Caruso, yes; Mr. Cusano, yes; Mr. Demeo, yes; Ms. Brown, yes; Dr. Echelson, yes.



## *Waltham Public Schools*

**Drew M. Echelson, Ed.D**, Superintendent  
[drewechelson@walthampublicschools.org](mailto:drewechelson@walthampublicschools.org)

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June 22, 2017

MA Historical Commission  
Ms. Brona Simon, State Historic Preservation Officer  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, MA 02125

Dear Ms. Simon,

The purpose of this letter is to communicate that the Waltham City Council, Waltham School Committee, and Waltham School Building Committee support the use of the Walter E. Fernald Developmental Center (Fernald) for educational space—specifically, the site for a new Waltham High School. In addition, if the new Waltham High School is located on the Fernald site it would be paired with open and recreational space, as well as with other uses compatible with a school, as determined by the Mayor, Waltham City Council, and Waltham School Committee. The School Building Committee will partner with the project's design team to identify useable acreage on the 190 acres for the specific location of a new high school. The Waltham School Building Committee would partner with the state and local historical commissions to minimize the impact to the historically contributing aspects of the site.

We respectfully request a consultation meeting with the Massachusetts and Waltham Historical Commissions to discuss our plans for a new school. We would also like to discuss how a new school would fit on the site and what would remain on the Fernald after the high school is constructed.

Sincerely,

Mayor Jeannette A. McCarthy  
Mayor and CEO, City of Waltham and Chair Waltham School Committee

Diane P. LeBlanc  
President, Waltham City Council

Margaret M. Donnelly  
Vice-Chair, Waltham School Committee

Enclosure: Votes of SBC, SC and CC (if taken)

Cc: Waltham Historical Commission