

Deerfield School Board
Deerfield Community School Library
Deerfield, NH
Monday, August 30, 2023 6:00 PM

Members: Zach Langlois, Danielle Palmer, Nate Oxnard, Kendra Cohen, Ellen O'Donnell, Supt. Patty Sherman

1. Chair, Kendra Cohen called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Superintendent Sherman asked if the City-Wide Cleaning Solutions contract could be added as a consent item due to the urgency of getting it signed. Chair Cohen and the board agreed that this could be discussed prior to nonpublic.

Superintendent Sherman asked for approval of the City-Wide Cleaning solutions contract on behalf of Mr. Koufos. City-Wide has provided services in place of night custodians due to the inability to find DCS employees. The contracted amount falls within the budgeted amount.

A motion to approve the City-Wide contract was made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Cohen. All in favor, the motion carried.

Mr. Langlois provided an update regarding the fire panel project. Chief Fisher has requested some additions to the project and the final inspection has not been completed yet. There is a plan to get school open and more information will be provided at the next meeting.

2. Non-Public Session NH RSA 91-A:3, II, k

At 6:27 PM a motion to enter nonpublic session was made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Cohen. On a roll call vote, all members voted yes.

Present during nonpublic session: Zach Langlois, Danielle Palmer, Nate Oxnard, Kendra Cohen, Ellen O'Donnell, Supt. Patty Sherman

During nonpublic session the board discussed high school negotiations.

At 7:39 a motion to exit nonpublic session was made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Cohen. On a roll call vote, all members voted yes.

3. At 7:39 PM a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Cohen. All in favor, the motion carried.



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: Tonight's meeting

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Wed, Aug 23, 2023 at 1:32 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cohen, Kendra** <kcohen@sau53.org>
Date: Tue, Aug 22, 2023 at 4:30 PM
Subject: Fwd: Tonight's meeting
To: patty sherman <psherman@sau53.org>, Danielle Palmer <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Ellen O'donnell <eodonnell@sau53.org>, nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>, z langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Linda Bean** <lbean@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Aug 16, 2023 at 8:44 PM
Subject: Tonight's meeting
To: Cohen, Kendra <kcohen@sau53.org>

Thank you very much for all of the work the board has done to investigate options for school choice. I thought this was an informative meeting, and enjoyed the various comments and questions.

--

Patty Sherman
Superintendent of Schools
Pembroke and Deerfield School Districts
267 Pembroke Street
Pembroke, NH 03275
(603)485-5187



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: High School thoughts

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>

Wed, Aug 30, 2023 at 5:49 PM

To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **kimberly.black@ymail.com** <kimberly.black@ymail.com>

Date: Wed, Aug 30, 2023, 4:51 PM

Subject: High School thoughts

To: Kendra Cohen <kcohen@sau53.org>, Patty Sherman <psherman@sau53.org>

Cc: eodonnell@sau53.org <eodonnell@sau53.org>, dpalmer@sau53.org <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Z. Langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>, Nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>

Hi Kendra,

I wanted to take a second to put a summary on paper of many of the things I've mentioned in regards to High School for Deerfield students.

1.) Concord is a fine school but it does not have any support for Agriculture in the classroom or an FFA chapter. Deerfield being a rural agricultural community, I feel that that educational opportunity is critical in sustaining our community. Coe Brown and Dover High School have FFA chapters. Additionally, those schools have regular class options for agriculture sustainability. Agriculture related classes position students who are likely to enter into the agriculture industry to be able to do so during and out of high school, they also position them for better success in agricultural programs in higher ed as well. As a farming rich and dependent community eliminating these educational options will have a detrimental long term effect.

2.) Deerfield is a small town. Our Community is a small town community. Our School is a small town school. At the end of the day, if I felt my kids would thrive in a city school I'd move to the city. To be able to provide options to city schools is an opportunity for some students who surely would and will thrive in that environment. But the majority of families want a high school that feels more like Deerfield; small town.

3.) Convenience for families; the reality is our town is an expensive town to live in (worth it, but expensive) The overwhelming majority of families with school aged kids have all (2+) parents working full time. Our community members commute to all areas of the state and out of it and there's no lack of studies on the effects of parental involvement for student success. We need parents to be active participants in their children's education in order to best assure a student's success and therefore we need to support the families needs to have different locational options that can best fit the families so they can support their student/s.

4.) Most of the Board discussions so far (that we've heard) feel like their focused on CRTC options and Special Education. I respect these feel like fairly big ticket items to your side of the table. These are specific minority groups of students. CTE is a privilege (as is Dover, Somersworth and Rochester Tri-City Career programs). These are wonderful opportunities for a small subset of our Student population but I struggle to see how a high achieving student population gets top billing to ensuring their career and college start in high school, when we're leaving behind students who don't even finish high school. In my opinion, we have an obligation to make sure our students finish high school, first and foremost, college and a job is important, but it's second to ensuring that education is provided to all.

5.) I leave the meetings and constant feel like I'm left questioning "what about the ones in the middle?" ... "what about the average students" ... While I understand we aren't privy to all the discussion, I want to make sure that these kids in the middle of CRTC and Special Ed... aren't lost in the decision making.

6.) Every day our Students say the Pledge of Allegiance at school. All of our money says "In God We Trust" ... I think it is reasonable to consider top offs to private schools, Jesse Remington, Trinity, Concord Christian, St. Thomas are a few I can think of that have been attended in the past by Deerfield Students with tuition points below Pembroke Academy.

And lastly I'll echo my disappointment in Concord's negotiations; it feels like they're ransoming our students... That doesn't feel like a administration that "treats Deerfield students like their own" ... If they want 70% of our students, they need to appeal to 30% more of the families and that's on CHS. Concord has significantly declining enrollment and they are clearly desperate for a quantity of our students to be warm bodies in a classroom.

I'll end with the chart of students missing from high school graduation at CHS that I spoke about in a prior meeting... I won't spare my thoughts on what could be the reasoning, just the numbers...

2nd Term CHS Contract Data *required by amended agreements

DCS GRAD YEAR	FY20	FY19	FY18	FY17	FY16	FY15	FY14	FY13	FY12	FY11
Fiscal Year	FY24	FY23	FY22	FY21	FY20	FY19	FY18	FY17	FY16	FY15
CHS Class Graduation			37	34	34	36	30	35	35	35
DCS Class Graduation			48	54	38	48	49	52	54	53
Class difference from 8th : 12th			11	20	4	12	19	17	19	18
% of class that did not graduate as Deerfield student from CHS with DCS 8th grade peers			22.92%	37.04%	10.53%	25.00%	38.78%	32.69%	35.19%	33.96%

If you can negotiate with the lowest tuitioning school to take all DCS students like Dover or PA ... and offer top off agreements for Concord and CBNA I think that's a worth while avenue to explore.

Thank you,

Kim Black

August 30, 2023

Dear Kendra,

Since all Deerfield high school students are tuitioned out of the district, it is important that we do everything to oversee and manage that major cost for our community. The current Concord contract uses a transparent formula to calculate annual tuition, which results in responsible and ethical high school tuition costs for the Deerfield community.

I understand that the Deerfield Board is discussing a possible tuition arrangement with CBNA. It is concerning that CBNA refuses to negotiate tuition or to offer insight into the calculation of tuition or their operating budget. A willingness to negotiate and disclosure of methodology for calculating tuition should not be an unreasonable request. I appreciate your ongoing due diligence in this area and encourage you to continue to do what is best for the town, holding CBNA to the same level of financial accountability that we have held Concord to for the last ten years. Also with regard to tuition, Deerfield should not be required to pay more than any other town that sends students to Coe-Brown (Northwood, Nottingham and Strafford). Charging more just because our students live in Deerfield is unethical.

Please review the notes on the Strafford NH School District's new "Strafford / CBNA 10-year Contract", in which Strafford describes concerns about CBNA's lack of financial transparency¹. Strafford also added language to their new contract with CBNA to protect against arbitrary tuition increases and guarantee that their tuition price would not exceed that of other sending districts. Also of note in their new contract is that Strafford was successful in reducing the number of students they were required to send to CBNA. Additionally, Strafford successfully made "positive changes" by adding provisions to the new contract to require CBNA's compliance with state laws on special education, which points to a previous issue with this obligation.

Other concerns relate to the fact that CBNA is not held to the same standards as public schools; standards meant to protect and inform students, families, and communities. The CBNA board, a non-public governing body, does not have public board meetings nor do they broadcast, record, or post meetings or minutes from those meetings. They could, but they choose not to. That means members of the public are restricted from attending CBNA Board meetings where board members discuss education policy and make decisions about how they spend taxpayer funds. There are fifteen CBNA board members and they are not elected by their constituents. These are all concerning facts and indicate a suspicious lack of transparency.

¹ This document can be found on the Strafford School Board's website <https://sites.google.com/strafford.k12.nh.us/straffordsau/school-board>, from here go to the bottom of the page and select "Strafford School District – Annual Meeting Documents", then select "Annual Meeting + Signed Documents - March 2023", then select "03.11.2023 – Annual Meeting CBNA". There is also information in the document "03.11.2023 CBNA Tuition Contract Presentation".

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maryann Clark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Maryann" and the last name "Clark" clearly distinguishable.

Maryann Clark
3 Old Center Road, Deerfield
maryannclark25@gmail.com

CC: Patty Sherman, Superintendent



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: High School Options - Presentation

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 11:03 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Leah McHugh** <leah@newchapterhsc.com>
Date: Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 7:48 AM
Subject: Re: High School Options - Presentation
To: O'donnell, Ellen <eodonnell@sau53.org>, sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>

Hi Ellen,

Thank you for getting back to me. I would like you to look at this report here. Please compare Dover to Concord in this 'Completers by status by school' report. This is enough reason to see that students are more successful in Dover.

Please see that Concord has a 29.1% rate of unknown status:

<https://my.doe.nh.gov/iPlatform/Report/ExportReport/?reportPath=%2FBDMQ%2FiPlatform%20Reports%2FPerformance%20Data%2FDropouts%20and%20Completers%2FCompleters%20By%20Status%20By%20School&format=Pdf&ReportID=33&ReportViewerEnablePaging=True&SchoolYear=2022&ReportViewerEnablePaging=True>

Second, I am baffled by Concord's dictation of tuition price and the threat to pay out more for CRTC. Please review the offerings of Dover. They have the same offerings and more. They are the same distance as Concord and could provide our students with families working on the seacoast with more ease. People may not see the offerings and outcome difference of each school.

Tuition for Dover remains much lower than Concord. They are a newly renovated school as well. There is opportunity to be sought after here. I truly hope this can be considered. The goal should be to offer choices by presenting all information of offerings from each school all while keeping costs lower. Concord is clearly in the driving seat and should not be.

Thank you,

Leah McHugh

New Chapter Home Staging LLC
603.856.5872
www.newchapterhsc.com

*Please excuse any grammatical errors - iPhone Device

From: O'donnell, Ellen <eodonnell@sau53.org>
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2023 6:43:56 AM
To: Leah McHugh <leah@newchapterhsc.com>
Subject: Re: High School Options - Presentation

Hi Leah,

Thank you for your comments. I am curious as to why you are pushing Dover High School so much. The main reasons people gave for not wanting Concord are distance, size of school and academic excellence. DHS is the same distance away as Concord, the sizes are about the same, with DHS being a little bigger, and the test scores are just about the same (reading, both are 535 and math - CHS is 501 and DHS is 512). I know people are interested in agriculture and farming which is offered by Coe Brown and if they want a school which is east of Deerfield, they also have Coe Brown. Speaking for myself, I believe having only three schools to start off choice is better because we are only making a few changes at a time. That way we can see how busing goes and how difficult it might be for our students to be separated.

Certainly if all goes well we can possibly add more schools if that is what the community wants. Out of all the schools offered only one family in all three grades (150 families) chose Dover. I am not being critical but I am trying to understand why you are pushing for Dover. What have I missed?
Hope you and the family are well,
Ellen

On Thu, Aug 17, 2023 at 9:47 AM Leah McHugh <leah@newchapterhsc.com> wrote:

Hello all!

First, I'd like to say thank you for allowing for more open communication last night. I feel we have many voices that are feeling suppressed.

I understand that High School Options may be a difficult task to manage. However, I believe operating at a cost-effective rate can be done, now. To help, I would recommend that schools in our area are contacted sooner rather than later, so that you have a better idea of what surrounding schools are available to us. I was very disappointed to hear that no other schools were contacted, when all along it seemed, as it was portrayed as, you were in discussions with many schools. The reason other schools could be contacted is due to their lower tuition rates.

I want to remind you that in the past and present, we are unable to provide special education transportation. It was stated in the special education presentation, and it has been used many times in the past, the option to reimburse mileage compensation for parents. This is an alternative we have at our disposal to keep costs down through this transportation crisis. Down the road I hope to see efforts being made to adapt to the lack of transportation and the costs it instills. We currently have busses for High School. The school at that has the most students, should get the bus. There is NO guarantee that Concord will have 70% of our students.

I was displeased to hear Concord is still wanting 70% of our students. I do not feel we can provide that, given the recent survey of 60% of students wanting Coe Brown. Concord also threatened now, to having to pay out of pocket costs for CRTC. I remind you that Dover is the same distance and has CRTC and more. It also appears to have a lower tuition. We have the busses to go to the school of most student attendance. But it is important to provide these students with ALL the information.

Our students were not introduced to ANY other schools via orientation or presentation. I feel this is integral in deciding where they would like to see efforts being made towards providing all information for our students. I also request that students can take home their class selections to discuss with their families. This is a big decision, and it should include the guardian of the child.

Further, to include community members, and per RSA 91, I would request that minutes from the 7/19 meeting be uploaded, as well as the 8/2 meeting minutes. RSA states final draft within 5 days... The last minutes posted are from 6/21/2023. I wanted to acknowledge the emails now being attached to the minutes as well. I feel that is a great effort in allowing public feedback inclusion, however, all emails sent to any board member should be forwarded to the board chair, and the chair should then make sure Patty Sherman is Bcc'd so that the emails can become public record. This is a simple process that could be done.

Will videos from the 8/2 meeting as well as last night 8/16 be uploaded in a timely manner? I feel this is a great tool to keep community members involved, who are unable to attend live meetings.

I appreciate your work on this, and I truly hope to see that during your time on the board, that you are working for the community, as well as our students. Providing opportunity for our students is a great benefit that I would hope we can all agree on.

Thank you,

Leah McHugh

Lead Stylist



New Chapter Home Staging LLC

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www.newchapterhsc.com

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Instagram: [New_Chapter_Home_Staging](#)

Want to book a consultation with me? Link Below.

<https://calendly.com/leah-199/60min>

--
Patty Sherman
Superintendent of Schools
Pembroke and Deerfield School Districts
[267 Pembroke Street](#)
[Pembroke, NH 03275](#)
(603)485-5187



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: High School Options

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 10:57 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cohen, Kendra** <kcohen@sau53.org>
Date: Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 10:38 AM
Subject: Fwd: High School Options
To: Danielle Palmer <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Ellen O'donnell <eodonnell@sau53.org>, nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>, z langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>, patty sherman <psherman@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nicole Dunbar** <nicoledunbar114@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Aug 17, 2023 at 4:36 PM
Subject: High School Options
To: <kcohen@sau53.org>

Dear Kendra and board,

Thanks for all the work you have put into high school choice this far and thank you for the detailed explanation and Q&A last night. It was very enlightening and informative.

I am a parent of an incoming 8th grader, so we have been following closely as my son is anxious to know what his future might look like regarding high school.

I am a supporter of Concord. My oldest son (he is going to be a sophomore) is attending CHS now and I hope my middle son about to enter 8th grade will also have the opportunity to attend CHS next fall. My 8th grader has expressed over and over to me that CHS is where he wants to be.

When my oldest was young, I was also terrified of CHS... how could I ever consider sending my sweet innocent baby to the big bad city. But as he got older and reached middle school and we had to start seriously looking at the options, we ultimately decided the CHS was indeed the right place for him! We have looked at various options both public and private before coming to this decision. CHS has so much to offer and my son was ready for something bigger, different, more diverse, new people, and so many choices for extracurricular clubs, activities, and sports.

CHS is not perfect, but no school can claim to be perfect and one single school cannot possibly be the right fit for all of our students so I do understand the strong desire for choice, however, I don't feel that choice at any cost is the right model for our town.

A commenter last night asked what can Concord do to attract the 70% that they want from Deerfield? I hope that there is still time and possibility to pose that question to them and continue some negotiation (maybe they could offer some help with our transportation issue, or maybe they would even consider lowering their requirement to 65% or 60% at their tuition rate in option A).

Option B to me sounds a little terrifying to be honest.... CHS tuition spikes, they could charge extra for CRTC, we would lose our preferred status for acceptance to CRTC, a huge increase to taxes, and a potential negative effect on DCS funding where our kids spend their first 8 - 10 years of school.

In my opinion, I would like to see Option A with top off agreements. It would offer some options for high school choice that the town wants with minimal tax impact. I understand that this is still not ideal and somehow there will need to be a very difficult decision regarding which students will make up that 30% that goes somewhere else. But rather than viewing this as a negative, I think this could be viewed as a work in progress..... A first step in the right direction to offer more options

for choice that can be expanded on and improved over the next three years hopefully with a much smaller tax burden. I think a change this big cannot happen all at once, it has to be implemented incrementally so it can be adjusted as you learn what works well and what doesn't.

Option A is not perfect, but I believe there are more "pros" with option A, and too many "cons" for option B.

You have such a tough decision to make. I know it will not be easy. Thanks for all you are doing.

Thanks,
Nicole Dunbar

--

Patty Sherman
Superintendent of Schools
Pembroke and Deerfield School Districts
[267 Pembroke Street](#)
[Pembroke, NH 03275](#)
(603)485-5187



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: please publish the high school options presentation asap

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Thu, Aug 17, 2023 at 12:36 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Stacey Marchionni** <stacey190@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Aug 17, 2023 at 11:15 AM

Subject: please publish the high school options presentation asap

To: Cohen, Kendra <kcohen@sau53.org>, <eodonnell@sau53.org>, <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Oxnard, nathan <noxnard@sau53.org>, langlois, z <zlanglois@sau53.org>, sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>

Good Morning -

There are a lot of folks who want to go thru the presentation and the associated numbers today ... please get it posted today so we can start going thru the numbers. Several people watched the meeting online, but we could not see the numbers.

Please also get the meeting videos published within 2 days of the meetings. This is a reasonable expectation, and will help you get engagement from residents ... once a week, 2 weeks, several weeks pass and there is no video ... people forget about the meeting and disengage or become frustrated.

Thank you so much, I look forward to seeing the documents today. Also, Kendra, per my previous email today, please provide the number of students in Deerfield operating under IEP/504, and the number of those students whose plans require transportation be provided. These numbers are critical to understanding the special ed transportation costs.

Thank you so much,
Stacey

--

Stacey Marchionni

--

Patty Sherman
Superintendent of Schools
Pembroke and Deerfield School Districts
267 Pembroke Street
Pembroke, NH 03275
(603)485-5187



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: Question re choice options

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 8:48 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cohen, Kendra** <kcohen@sau53.org>
Date: Fri, Aug 18, 2023, 4:29 PM
Subject: Fwd: Question re choice options
To: z langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>, nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>, Danielle Palmer <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Ellen O'donnell <eodonnell@sau53.org>, patty sherman <psherman@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Rebecca Fisher** <r_b_cca@msn.com>
Date: Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 4:28 PM
Subject: Question re choice options
To: Kendra Cohen <kcohen@sau53.org>

Hi Kendra

Great work with the presentation; however, I don't think the financial comparatives are meaningful to taxpayers. Could you please provide the 17% and 30% differences as cost per 1,000\$ property value, as we received the financial info regarding the school remodel? It is essential everyone can easily calculate an approximation of how their taxes will increase in response to either option. (Alternatively if we knew what portion of our current taxes go to education we could also calculate the 17%/30% increases. Maybe I missed this piece of info?)

Also, If more than 30% of the current middle school parents surveyed said they would choose CBNA given the choice, Option A is not feasible- how would the 30% be chosen? Small town politics would prevent any attempts at equity and what would be the admin costs of sorting this out? The psychological impact on kids who don't get to choose? If we offer choice every student needs access to the same choices. This should not be negotiable.

If the town decides both A and B are too costly, and we proceed to renegotiate solely with CHS could we ask they provide two late buses, ie 430pm and 630pm with a central drop off point so Deerfield students can take advantage of after school help, programming, sports, all the options available? It is an essential piece of the high school experience to be able to participate and many Deerfield kids do not, due to lack of afternoon transportation.

If the tax increases are significant we risk pricing retirees out of their homes, and increasing the number of young families moving in, likely lured by choice, and subsequently further increasing education costs.

Thanks again for all your work on this, as above if taxpayers could see the estimated individual tax increases of what we are looking at purchasing I suspect that will have a significant impact on the conversation, as most folks support choice if it is affordable for all.

Rebecca

Sent from my iPhone



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: School options

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Thu, Aug 17, 2023 at 12:37 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cohen, Kendra** <kcohen@sau53.org>
Date: Thu, Aug 17, 2023 at 11:05 AM
Subject: Fwd: School options
To: z langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>, nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>, Danielle Palmer <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Ellen O'donnell <eodonnell@sau53.org>, patty sherman <psherman@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **oljeyfam** <oljeyfam@yahoo.com>
Date: Thu, Aug 17, 2023 at 11:03 AM
Subject: School options
To: Kendra Cohen <kcohen@sau53.org>

As a parent of an incoming 8th gradee, I want to make my voice heard once again on high-school options. Deerfield already spoke and the majority wants options. The option A discussed last night is not equitable as it provides options to some, not all and should not be considered an option at all! How exactly would you decide the 30% that gets to have options? 60%+ wants options, yet you are considering only 30% to get that?! Option B is the only option that should be being discussed! Deerfield spoke in March on the ballot and with the May survey, WE WANT OPTIONS! It is your job as elected officials to provide it. I remeber the "committed to community" slogan and the "we are not anti choice", well the majority of the community desires options.

Melissa Oljey
Mountain Rd

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

--

Patty Sherman
Superintendent of Schools
Pembroke and Deerfield School Districts
267 Pembroke Street
Pembroke, NH 03275
(603)485-5187



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: Thank You

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Thu, Aug 17, 2023 at 12:38 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cohen, Kendra** <kcohen@sau53.org>
Date: Thu, Aug 17, 2023 at 10:06 AM
Subject: Fwd: Thank You
To: Danielle Palmer <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Ellen O'donnell <eodonnell@sau53.org>, nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>, z langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>, patty sherman <psherman@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Christine Grega** <stine22@earthlink.net>
Date: Wed, Aug 16, 2023 at 8:23 PM
Subject: Thank You
To: <kcohen@sau53.org>

Hello, Just a note to say Thank You to everyone on the Board for the presentation this evening. I know I can't imagine how much work you all put in regarding this issue and that is in addition to all the regular business. I was too nervous to give a gracious Thank You when asking my questions, so am taking the time here. Best of wishes, gratefully, Christine Grega

--

Patty Sherman
Superintendent of Schools
Pembroke and Deerfield School Districts
267 Pembroke Street
Pembroke, NH 03275
(603)485-5187



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: Tuition due Private School

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Thu, Aug 17, 2023 at 12:38 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cohen, Kendra** <kcohen@sau53.org>
Date: Thu, Aug 17, 2023 at 10:05 AM
Subject: Fwd: Tuition due Private School
To: Ellen O'donnell <eodonnell@sau53.org>, Danielle Palmer <dpalmer@sau53.org>, nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>, patty sherman <psherman@sau53.org>, z langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Linda Bean** <lbean@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Aug 16, 2023 at 7:07 PM
Subject: Tuition due Private School
To: Cohen, Kendra <kcohen@sau53.org>

Just want to voice my opinion on this subject. If parents are choosing to send their children to a private school, that is on their dime. I am totally against using town funds for someone's private school tuition.

--

Patty Sherman
Superintendent of Schools
Pembroke and Deerfield School Districts
267 Pembroke Street
Pembroke, NH 03275
(603)485-5187



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd:

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Tue, Aug 29, 2023 at 11:00 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cohen, Kendra** <kcohen@sau53.org>
Date: Mon, Aug 28, 2023, 9:35 PM
Subject: Fwd:
To: Danielle Palmer <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Ellen O'donnell <eodonnell@sau53.org>, nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>, patty sherman <psherman@sau53.org>, z langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Amanda DuBois** <adubois16@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Aug 28, 2023 at 9:33 PM
Subject:
To: Cohen, Kendra <kcohen@sau53.org>

To whom it may concern,

Based on the information that has been provided and my understanding of that information, I would vote to continue with Concord High School as our school of record and forego any option for choice. While I do agree that now is the time to discuss options as the contract is up, I don't think it is the right choice for Deerfield. I do not think that Coe Brown or any other school, offers enough difference to justify the excess cost. I also do not think that we can compare the options that other towns have with what Deerfield "should" have. We are not the same and do not have the commercial tax base to offset the direct costs that the individuals would incur. I do not believe that other opinions are focused on the greatest good for the greatest number and are simply focused on a "me" mentality. In the end, everyone has a choice.

Unfortunately, that may come at a cost to you, but should not cost everyone else (and I don't agree with a top off agreement either). Anyone that has moved into town in the last 20 years has known that Concord is our school of record. Most people move to certain towns based on the school district, so it's no surprise to anyone in the current school system that Concord is our school. While I agree that we should consider change and be open to new possibilities, we also need to understand when we have a good thing and change, especially at a huge cost, is not necessary. If the town is willing to come up with the excess money to support choice, I would rather see it go to improving our current school, roads, community, etc.

I appreciate all the work the board (past and present) has put in to this. It is a thankless job and I appreciate you all. I certainly could not do it.

Thank you for your time,

Respectfully,

Amanda DuBois



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: Feedback- High School options

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>

Wed, Aug 23, 2023 at 10:23 AM

To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cohen, Kendra** <kcohen@sau53.org>

Date: Wed, Aug 23, 2023 at 8:52 AM

Subject: Fwd: Feedback- High School options

To: Danielle Palmer <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Ellen O'donnell <eodonnell@sau53.org>, nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>, patty sherman <psherman@sau53.org>, z langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Christina Eagen** <eagen.cs@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Aug 23, 2023 at 8:43 AM

Subject: Feedback- High School options

To: <kcohen@sau53.org>

Dear Deerfield School Board members,

I'm writing in response to your request for feedback on the High School options that were presented at the 8/16/23 meeting. My husband and I have one soon-to-be 6th grader at DCS.

I've been following this debate over what is best for our town and students quite closely. I appreciate the hours and work that you all have put in trying to tackle this nearly impossible job. I'm struggling, as I'm sure you all are, with which option will satisfy the needs/wants of our town's students and taxpayers. My intent is to view this issue based on what would serve not just my own family, but most of our community.

Option A would work for my family. We like Concord High School. However, the majority of 5th-7th grade families chose CBNA in the survey the board conducted. With that data in mind, my understanding is there would be a large number of kids subject to a lottery system if you vote for Option A. In the course of the HS choice discussions, I've heard many anecdotes about how dreadful the lottery system was in the past in Deerfield. Knowing that the majority of families surveyed chose CBNA, combined with the lottery system, it is difficult to reasonably support Option A.

Option B would also work for my family. It appears to satisfy the warrant article, in which the majority of voters conveyed they would like HS choice, better than Option A. However, reading through the information presented, I'm left with many questions. The most glaring concern I have about Option B is what happens to CRTC? Would students that wish to attend CRTC be left to pay for it on their own? What number of students is CHS willing to take and what would the tuition be? Does Pembroke have limited space indefinitely or are they willing to incrementally take more students over time? What is the likelihood that Option B would be more affordable than the projections outlined in the presentation? Depending on the answers to some of these questions, I could possibly support Option B.

My final thoughts are regarding taxpayers who understandably do not want their taxes to increase. However, the majority of voters may be willing to take on a higher tax bill for HS choice based on the following:

1. 3 newly elected School Board Members while campaigning stated they would explore HS school choice if elected and if that's what voters desired.
2. At least one (possibly all 3) stated that high school choice would come with a higher cost.
3. With that knowledge, the majority of voters elected them.
4. The majority of voters conveyed they would like HS choice based on the warrant article.

Those are all the thoughts I have. I wish you all the best in your continued work on tackling this issue and I thank each one of you for your dedication to our town and school!

Christina Eagen

--

Patty Sherman
Superintendent of Schools
Pembroke and Deerfield School Districts
[267 Pembroke Street](#)
[Pembroke, NH 03275](#)
(603)485-5187



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: High School Options

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Mon, Aug 28, 2023 at 11:26 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cohen, Kendra** <kcohen@sau53.org>
Date: Sat, Aug 26, 2023 at 2:15 PM
Subject: Fwd: High School Options
To: Danielle Palmer <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Ellen O'donnell <eodonnell@sau53.org>, nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>, patty sherman <psherman@sau53.org>, z langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sharon French** <sharon.french@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, Aug 26, 2023 at 2:03 PM
Subject: High School Options
To: <kcohen@sau53.org>

A quick note to share my thoughts on the high school discussion as a parent of a sophomore and an eighth grader.

First and foremost - THANK YOU! Serving on the school board is challenging during typical times, and these recent years have been anything but typical. I am endlessly thankful for the time and energy you all have devoted to assuring our children have the best possible options for their education.

And second - I love Concord High School and CRTC. My daughter is having a wonderful experience there, and I feel strongly it is the best option for my soon-to-be high-schooler. More importantly I think it is the option that meets the needs of the highest number of our Deerfield students. With a diversity of offerings from AP classes to training in direct-to-work options.

I would support a Concord only high-school option or a multiple school option so long as it preserved the student numbers required to assure Deerfield students continue to receive in-school preference for CRTC.

Again, thank you for your service to the town and to our children. We appreciate you.

Sharon French

--

Patty Sherman
Superintendent of Schools
Pembroke and Deerfield School Districts
267 Pembroke Street
Pembroke, NH 03275
(603)485-5187



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: Fw: For the School Board

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
 To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Wed, Aug 23, 2023 at 10:25 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cohen, Kendra** <kcohen@sau53.org>
 Date: Tue, Aug 22, 2023 at 9:02 PM
 Subject: Fwd: Fw: For the School Board
 To: Danielle Palmer <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Ellen O'donnell <eodonnell@sau53.org>, nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>, patty sherman <psherman@sau53.org>, z langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Oxnard, nathan** <noxnard@sau53.org>
 Date: Tue, Aug 22, 2023 at 8:50 PM
 Subject: Fwd: Fw: For the School Board
 To: Kendra Cohen <kcohen@sau53.org>

To be forwarded to the board + publicized

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Simon George <csuvel@yahoo.com>
To: Nathan Oxnard
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 at 10:02:11 AM EDT
Subject: For the School Board

Hi Nate,

As a representative of our school board, I would like you to hear my opinion on high school choice.

While I was apprehensive at first of my children transitioning from a small school like Deerfield to a large school like Concord (especially during the COVID years), I have been very pleasantly surprised. Tristan's Freshman year was a struggle due to mental health issues not related to school that had started while they were at DCS during COVID and middle school. Concord was so amazing to work with while they missed 2 full months of school. The teachers and guidance counselor were in constant communication and very supportive to help Tristan to stay caught up during hospitalization and intensive therapy. They met with me online and in person to come up with a plan to help Tristan adjust after the trauma they endured.

Fast forward to Sophomore year and Tristan thrived! They joined band and found their tribe of friends that included two best friends from Deerfield as well as new friends found in Concord. This group is still going strong heading into Junior year. They are good kids who are supportive of each other and a very positive influence.

The classes have been a great mix of interesting and challenging. And, Tristan starts the CRTC program this fall in the Criminal Justice program to help them prepare for a future in Forensic Sciences. The guidance counselor is even looking at helping Tristan get an internship with someone in the state forensic lab.

Also, they joined many clubs and are now the president of the Environmental Club. I am amazed at the opportunities available for ALL interests that students may have.

All in all, I am looking forward to my other two children continuing their education in Concord. While there will always be some challenges, I have no doubt we can overcome them with the great team at CHS.

I know that many in town are proponents for school choice. And, I am sure they have their reasons. But, I am extremely happy with Concord. No matter how the board moves forward, I hope CHS remains an option as that is where my children will go if possible.

Thank you for your time and service in this capacity!

Jenni George, CVPM

(she, her, hers)

"Whether you think you can or you think you can't, you're right." - Henry Ford

--

Patty Sherman
Superintendent of Schools
Pembroke and Deerfield School Districts
[267 Pembroke Street](#)
[Pembroke, NH 03275](#)
(603)485-5187



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: High school Choice

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Mon, Aug 28, 2023 at 11:27 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cohen, Kendra** <kcohen@sau53.org>
Date: Sat, Aug 26, 2023 at 11:19 AM
Subject: Fwd: High school Choice
To: Danielle Palmer <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Ellen O'donnell <eodonnell@sau53.org>, nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>, patty sherman <psherman@sau53.org>, z langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Alline Jurewicz** <alljurewicz@outlook.com>
Date: Sat, Aug 26, 2023 at 11:15 AM
Subject: High school Choice
To: kcohen@sau53.org <kcohen@sau53.org>

Hello,

I am a parent and I would love to have choice to choose the best and better school for my children.

My older child is in 10th grade at CHS, what I see hard is distance, last year my child got sick and I had to promptly go pick her up more than 5 times in a month and it was very time consuming and gas and everything all together I just wish she were closer home.

I have study and research both school curriculum and notice Coe-Brown would better fits better for my children and my family.

I have another child who is in 5th grade,

And my son will be starting at the pre-k.

We would like to ask for please let us choose, because for us as parents we know what is best for our children.

Thank you

Alline Jurewicz
1603-318-5967

--

Patty Sherman
Superintendent of Schools
Pembroke and Deerfield School Districts
267 Pembroke Street
Pembroke, NH 03275
(603)485-5187



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: High-school

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Wed, Aug 23, 2023 at 10:26 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cohen, Kendra** <kcohen@sau53.org>
Date: Tue, Aug 22, 2023 at 8:52 PM
Subject: Fwd: High-school
To: Danielle Palmer <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Ellen O'donnell <eodonnell@sau53.org>, nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>, patty sherman <psherman@sau53.org>, z langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dawn Jodoin** <djodoin82@hotmail.com>
Date: Tue, Aug 22, 2023 at 8:51 PM
Subject: High-school
To: kcohen@sau53.org <kcohen@sau53.org>, eodonnell@sau53.org <eodonnell@sau53.org>

Please make Coe Brown a choice!

Look at Pembroke for a school of record. Cheaper, closer same sau, we need a school of record.

Town has made their wishes known over and over and over again. Survey after survey. Please do your job and what you were elected to do.

Thank you. Dawn Messina

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

--

Patty Sherman
Superintendent of Schools
Pembroke and Deerfield School Districts
267 Pembroke Street
Pembroke, NH 03275
(603)485-5187



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: High School Choice Comments & Questions

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Mon, Aug 21, 2023 at 2:05 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cohen, Kendra** <kcohen@sau53.org>
Date: Mon, Aug 21, 2023 at 1:15 PM
Subject: Fwd: High School Choice Comments & Questions
To: patty sherman <psherman@sau53.org>, Danielle Palmer <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Ellen O'donnell <eodonnell@sau53.org>, z langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>, nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Carolyn O'Neal** <ceoneal@metrocast.net>
Date: Mon, Aug 21, 2023 at 1:12 PM
Subject: High School Choice Comments & Questions
To: <kcohen@sau53.org>
Cc: Alan O'Neal <aoneal@metrocast.net>

Hi Kendra,

We would like to open by thanking the Board for all of their hard work with formulating some feasible options that could offer Deerfield HS students school choice. It is a daunting task and we greatly appreciate your time and service to our Community.

Before offering comment on the options as well as asking a couple of questions, we wanted to share a bit of background about our family and current HS situation. Alan is a life-long resident of Deerfield with a long family history in Deerfield dating back to the early 1900's. He was a student who experienced HS choice decisions, and we have witnessed through the years the positive and negative impacts that can result from HS choice. Our nieces are in the age range that were required to apply to CBNA due to enrollment. Our son, Harrison, is currently a sophomore at CBNA. We private pay his tuition as he was not eligible for Deerfield to cover his tuition under the 'Policy JCA – Change of School Assignment'. In the Fall of his 8th grade year, he visited both CHS and CBNA, and decided Coe-Brown was a better fit for him. His primary reasons were related to school size (he liked that CBNA can gather the entire student body and staff into the gymnasium for 'all school' meetings...everyone gets to know each other), high academic and behavior expectations/standards as well as distance to home. (For us, CHS is a minimum 45 minute commute one way.) He is loving his experience at CBNA and is thriving, but it comes at a financial cost to our family to make this happen for him. We have considered moving from the home and Community we love here in Deerfield to relocate into the Coe-Brown district so we are not burdened with paying out of pocket. So, we are very grateful that the Board is pursuing HS choice options.

We have reviewed Options A and B. The Concord HS / Pembroke Academy / Coe-Brown Academy trio is a good offering for choice. Each of these schools offer something different to cover a wide range of needs and wants, whether it be school size, academic areas or simply distance from home. Limiting the options to three schools also allows for our Community to build relationships with these schools which will hopefully help to bridge challenges that may arise along the way. We are also in favor of Top Off agreements, if the Board decides that is necessary. Below are our

questions/comments. We apologize if some of these were answered at the August 16th meeting. (We were not able to find the meeting video posted to watch.)

1. With regard to Concord HS under Option B, when will Concord School Board commit to a decision on how they will select students (wording is 'placement will be negotiated') and if they will assess an additional charge for CRTC? The ambiguous wording comes across as a consequence or punishment to Deerfield for lessening our % of students at CHS. Does Concord's future enrollment have that much potential competition for them to leverage negotiations with our Town in this way? Concord has had months to prepare their proposal...the lack of these critical pieces of information under that option is disappointing.

2. Under Option A, how will the 30% allowed to go to CBNA or PA be determined? Will it be another policy to meet certain criteria approved by the School Board, a lottery, something different? And, is this limited to 30% of only the class of 2024 or all eligible HS students that first year? We feel strongly that you need to consider upperclassmen in your choice model numbers.

3. Both Options A and B reference that current students at CHS can remain there. We assume this is the same for students at CBNA and PA who are being paid for by the Town under the Policy JCA. Our question is how will other upper classmen be considered? Specifically, will Harrison be paid for as a current CBNA student under either of these plans? We are concerned that he will fall into a gap under these plans and we feel strongly you need to consider all HS students when creating these plans and budgeting.

Thank you for your time. Again, we really appreciate the hard work you all are doing with so many huge tasks on your plate. (o:

Best regards,

Carolyn & Alan O'Neal

--

Patty Sherman
Superintendent of Schools
Pembroke and Deerfield School Districts
[267 Pembroke Street](#)
[Pembroke, NH 03275](#)
(603)485-5187



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: CHS negotiation ideas

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
 To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Thu, Aug 24, 2023 at 1:49 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cohen, Kendra** <kcohen@sau53.org>
 Date: Thu, Aug 24, 2023 at 10:49 AM
 Subject: Fwd: CHS negotiation ideas
 To: Danielle Palmer <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Ellen O'donnell <eodonnell@sau53.org>, nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>, patty sherman <psherman@sau53.org>, z langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Amy Poirier** <amyfilipowicz@hotmail.com>
 Date: Thu, Aug 24, 2023 at 10:47 AM
 Subject: CHS negotiation ideas
 To: kcohen@sau53.org <kcohen@sau53.org>

Hi Kenda (and board members) -

Perhaps this is a pipe dream - but wouldn't it be grand if:

1. Concord let go of the minimum % of Deerfield students - but agreed to accept all students, if needed.
2. Concord agreed on a tuition rate in between the previously negotiated 70% rate (\$16k) and no minimum rate (\$19K).....let's say \$18K.
3. Deerfield students currently enrolled at CHS graduate from CHS (unless they petition the board for a hardship to transfer to another school)
4. Busses continue to run to CHS for at least 3 years (=length of new contract)
5. Deerfield allowed for top-off agreements for students to attend CBNH (as \$18K is less than CBNH tuition). Transportation provided by families.
6. Deerfield allowed students to attend PA (and DHS?) at no cost (as tuition rates are lower than CHS). Transportation provided by families.

I don't see top-off agreements as a long-term solution. I think you need several years of letting students choose a school before you can predict the % attending each school (and then budget for the appropriate tuition).

Best of luck! Let me know what I can do to help!
 ~Amy Poirier

204 Nottingham Rd

Sent from [Outlook](#)

--

Patty Sherman
Superintendent of Schools
Pembroke and Deerfield School Districts
[267 Pembroke Street](#)
[Pembroke, NH 03275](#)
(603)485-5187



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: High school choice

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Wed, Aug 23, 2023 at 10:29 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cohen, Kendra** <kcohen@sau53.org>
Date: Tue, Aug 22, 2023 at 5:57 PM
Subject: Fwd: High school choice
To: Danielle Palmer <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Ellen O'donnell <eodonnell@sau53.org>, nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>, patty sherman <psherman@sau53.org>, z langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Susan Seitz** <kseitzfamily@icloud.com>
Date: Tue, Aug 22, 2023 at 5:55 PM
Subject: High school choice
To: <kcohen@sau53.org>

I would like to express my concerns about having Concord as our only choice.

1. Concord has made it clear they have a declining enrollment. My concern is because this contract does not have money attached our costs are going to skyrocket during the contract term.
2. Because of declining enrollment I am concerned with the classes that will be available in 5-10 years. Our students have a variety of needs.
3. The changing dynamics of Concord no longer makes Concord the best choice for Deerfield students.

Susan Seitz
Grandmother of Deerfield students

Sent from my iPhone

--

Patty Sherman
Superintendent of Schools
Pembroke and Deerfield School Districts
267 Pembroke Street
Pembroke, NH 03275
(603)485-5187

To the members of the Deerfield School Board,

First, thank you for the work you are doing to find a high school solution that will be in the best interest of all Deerfield residents. As I said at one school board meeting, you were elected by the voters of Deerfield, not just the few who attend meetings. I wish a larger cross section of the town would attend these meetings so they could have a first-hand understanding of the process, not just what is posted on Facebook.

I am writing in favor of Option A for the following reasons:

1. I have been reviewing the videos of past school board meetings and the deliberative season, to name a few. People who spoke against the Concord contract often stated that it was too long and the percentage of students required to go to Concord was too high. I believe option A does what the people at those meetings asked for. It immediately lowers the percentage rate and continues to do so over the course of the three years.
2. Looking at the financial impact, Option A appears to have the smallest impact on the tax rate. I strongly feel a large portion of the population does not understand the impact full choice will have on their tax bills. Any of these options will raise taxes. That is a given. To increase one line item in the budget by such a sizable increase has the potential of the budget not passing. Hopefully the lowest possible increase will prevent that.
3. I have publicly stated that I am against top off agreements. Listening to comments made at various public meetings, many people feel that they are a valid and legal option. They do help to keep the tax burden lower for members of the community. That is my only reason for supporting them. Hopefully families that want choice understand the additional financial burden that could be placed on them.

I still see several negatives no matter which option is decided on.

At several meetings the question of how do you decide who gets to go to another school if it is not full choice has been brought up. My child went through the lottery /application process when he was going to high school. In my opinion, it was a terrible experience for those students to go through. Yet I hear others at

meetings state that it was an enjoyable experience and prepared them for other situations they faced later in life. Maybe we should return to that and let the receiving schools make the decision as to which students they want to attend their schools.

My biggest fear is the impact this is going to have on the students of DCS. There are more students that attend school at DCS than high school yet they will be the ones that feel the greatest impact if the school budget does not pass. High school tuition, busing and special education cost must be paid if the budget is passed or not. If the high school line item has a substantial increase and we are faced with a default budget again, where does the additional funding come from? It will be the DCS budget. The supplies and staff needed for the education of our elementary and middle school students will take a hit. How is that fair to them? Their education is just as valuable as our high school students. We also know there is work that needs to be done to the building itself from general maintenance to additional space. A building may be just a building but it needs to be a safe environment for the students.

We will continue to need a long-term solution. Having to negotiate contracts every three years does not make sense. It does not provide security for our graduating students or make financial sense.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts on this issue.

Sincerely,

Nancy Shute



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: Deerfield High School Choice

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Wed, Aug 23, 2023 at 10:29 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cohen, Kendra** <kcohen@sau53.org>
Date: Tue, Aug 22, 2023 at 6:52 PM
Subject: Fwd: Deerfield High School Choice
To: Danielle Palmer <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Ellen O'donnell <eodonnell@sau53.org>, nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>, patty sherman <psherman@sau53.org>, z langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ann Travers** <nhsnowrider5@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Aug 22, 2023 at 6:51 PM
Subject: Deerfield High School Choice
To: <kcohen@sau53.org>

Good Afternoon!

Thank you for accepting emails on the subject of school choice. I appreciate your role and time as the school board chair. It is refreshing to have someone with more integrity than the last chair person and some other board members. This is a serious position and the subject is equally important.

I have lived in Deerfield for 33 years. I have seen this issue come up again and again. This is the first time it is being handled more seriously and hope that it is a genuine effort for choice. The division in town has been awful for just as many years for various unacceptable reasons. This is the time to rally for our children's education! Voters want choice that means NOT Concord only or any other school only.

My family's choice was/is Coe Brown. The true statistics on Coe Brown are outstanding. We considered proximity to Deerfield, safety, class size, academics and activities. This includes the goal of being part of FFA. Best choice for our family and we pursued this through the RSA193:3 which was granted by the Superintendent. We hoped over the 33 years that choice would be part of the Deerfield High school plan. We want others to have their children attend Coe Brown more easily. If there were other schools besides Concord we support choice. The key being the families making that choice.

Thank you for your time.
Ann Travers Mount Delight Road

--

Patty Sherman
Superintendent of Schools
Pembroke and Deerfield School Districts
267 Pembroke Street
Pembroke, NH 03275
(603)485-5187



gladu, ashley <agladu@sau53.org>

Fwd: Paved Road by Modulares Question

sherman, patty <psherman@sau53.org>
To: "gladu, ashley" <agladu@sau53.org>

Tue, Aug 29, 2023 at 12:52 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cohen, Kendra** <kcohen@sau53.org>
Date: Tue, Aug 29, 2023, 12:17 PM
Subject: Fwd: Paved Road by Modulares Question
To: Danielle Palmer <dpalmer@sau53.org>, Ellen O'donnell <eodonnell@sau53.org>, nathan Oxnard <noxnard@sau53.org>, patty sherman <psherman@sau53.org>, z langlois <zlanglois@sau53.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jacqueline Trimmer** <jmaupai@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Aug 29, 2023 at 12:15 PM
Subject: Paved Road by Modulares Question
To: <kcohen@sau53.org>

Hi Kendra and happy Tuesday!

I am writing to you (and through you, the whole board) with a concern regarding the new paved road that goes along the modulares.

When the paving plans were presented at the board meeting some months ago, I raised concern during public comments (and separately to the town engineer who created the plans) about the safety of students near the modulares. My biggest concern was that without proper indicators (cross walks, lights, signs), people would drive along that road without the appropriate level of caution for the students who are in the four modular classrooms. Students are constantly going in and out of the building, without adult supervision, because there are no bathrooms or running water inside the mods.

I was reminded of my earlier public comments and discussion with the engineer while at the back to school BBQ last night. We visited the modulares, where my daughter will be for 3rd grade and her teacher, Mrs. Wilson, mentioned that she was very nervous about the students going in and out of the building now that the road was there. She was wishing there was a crosswalk painted on the road and additional signs put out to tell drivers not to use the road during school hours, or to proceed with caution.

I would like to ask that, if not already a part of your plans, the board discuss adding proper safety signs and lights, and consider painting a cross walk to indicate to drivers that pedestrians use that path.

Thank you for your time and consideration!
Jackie

--
Jacqueline Trimmer
201.230.3381
[uppernotchpress.etsy.com](https://www.etsy.com/shop/uppernotchpress)