

## **REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE**

In its first full year of operation, the School Building Committee (“SBC”) had a very busy year with the review and analysis of many options for the High School. The decision by the 2007 Special Town Meeting in November, authorizing the purchase of three properties on Seaver Street, substantially increased the useable land of the site, allowing for new planning opportunities for the siting of the building.

The Massachusetts School Building Authority authorized the Town to proceed with a feasibility study for the high school project. There were many public meetings and forums during the course of the year, culminating in a unanimous vote on May 15, 2008 to move forward with plans for a new high school built in a single phase next to the existing building. The 2008 Annual Town Meeting authorized an additional \$2,600,000 for planning and designing the school project.

The SBC made a concerted effort to broadly communicate with, and to seek input from, the public about the plans for the High School project by the use of an electronic newsletter, a cable show on the current condition of the high school and numerous articles in *The Townsman*.

The members of the SBC were: Katherine Babson, chair and representative from the Board of Selectmen; Hans Larsen, the Town’s Executive Director; Bella Wong, Superintendent of Schools; Andrew Keough, High School principal; Suzy Littlefield, representative from the School Committee; David Mooney, representative from the Advisory Committee; Steve Gagosian, representative from the Permanent Building Committee; Kathy Mullaney, Permanent Building Committee Projects Administrator; John Moran, Town Facilities Director; Cynthia Westerman, resident, project manager; Tom Goemaat, resident , contractor; and Steve Baker, resident, architect.