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March 13, 2007

Ms. Katherine Craven
Executive Director
Massachusetts School Building Authority
3 Center Plaza, Suite 430
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Ms. Craven:

In July 2006 the Town of Wellesley submitted a Statement of Interest to the Massachusetts School Building Authority with regard to our High School. This letter is intended to update the Authority on some of the steps we have taken to prepare for this potential school project.

Our initial planning for the High School project began approximately four years ago. Our work to-date has primarily consisted of needs assessment, programming study, site and facilities assessment, and initial exploration of potential solutions. Based on the new MSBA Regulations and guidance from Town Counsel, we recently formed a School Building Committee for the High School project. The members of the Committee are:

- Katherine Babson, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen
- Hans Larsen, Executive Director of the Town
- Suzy Littlefield, School Committee
- Matt King, Superintendent of Schools (retiring 7/1/07)
- Bella Wong, Assistant School Superintendent (recently appointed to serve as Superintendent effective 7/1/07)
- John Donahue, Town Facilities Director
- Steve Gagosian, Permanent Building Committee
- Kathy Mullaney, staff to the Permanent Building Committee
- Rena Mirkin, High School Principal
- Morris (Rusty) Kellogg, Advisory Committee (Wellesley's equivalent of a Finance Committee)
- Tom Goematt – CEO of a construction company
- Cynthia Westerman – Construction project manager
- Steve Baker – Architect

The initial efforts of the Committee are focused on familiarizing the full Committee with the results of all previous related planning work, and assessing the next steps required under the new MSBA application and approval process. Having attended your presentation at the January Massachusetts Municipal Association meeting in Boston, we understand the Authority will be performing further facilities and maintenance assessments shortly. In the meantime, we would appreciate your feedback on the composition of our School Building Committee.

A copy of Town Counsel's guidance regarding our formation of the School Building Committee is attached. Also attached is a related newspaper article jointly authored by the Chairs of our Board of Selectmen and School Committee.

The Town of Wellesley appreciates the progress your organization has made in a short period of time. We look forward to collaborating with you on our High School project and will appreciate any advice you may wish to give us at this point.

Sincerely,

Katherine L. Babson Jr.
Chairman, School Building Committee

CC: School Building Committee

Enclosures (2)