

Common School Working Group Meeting Notes

Wednesday April 29, 2026 5:00PM – 6:30PM

Fairfield Town Office, Chester Arthur Room

1. Discussion of working group organization

- Should we set up co-chairs to help with meeting facilitation, leadership and shared burdens?
- Work on keeping to agenda items.
- How do we help new participants get up to speed without taking time away from meeting agendas? Offer support outside of meetings.
- More participation is good!
- Committee will think about whether having chairs is a good direction and discuss more next meeting.

2. Getting survey out and timeline (my apologies for the delay on this - but everything should be ready now)

- Jeanne volunteered to do physical postings around town.
- Greta will send to school newsletter and a FPF notice this week.
- Town Facebook – Cathy when she returns.
- Everyone get your friends to fill it out.
- Greta will check in mid-May on how responses are coming and for another push on outreach.

Open to June 1st.

Survey entered into raffle – Tomorrow – add the raffle question.

Add question, if you would like to be entered into a raffle, please fill out survey.

- What to raffle to be? Joanna will ask Carl about snow tire switch.
- Pizza from West End – Jeanne will ask.
- Maple Green Wind – confirm with Julie.

Last question of survey – add question mark. And add Student as option.

3. Keeping the conversation going - other updates and project framing

- At what point do we do press release and reach out to Messenger for coverage?
- May be appropriate when fundraising is getting underway.
- Certainly, coordinate with SB ahead of any press.
- May meeting agenda will include discussion of fundraising and grant opportunities.
- Plan for communication to broader project stakeholders. Mini-newsletter on project progress on quarterly basis. OR when do Selectboard updates, send similar update email to stakeholder list. The SB memo could potentially be used as content for an update that is adapted for stakeholder audience.

- Next year - Look to partner with Fairfield school librarian or teacher for student project that would help with communications via newsletter or social media.

4. Selectboard update and wastewater work (I am working on a proposal from B&G)

- Spoke with Cristian Jobliski from Bernard and Jarvais. Will prepare proposal to determine maximum capacity for septic at the site. Hold off on full design and permitting, at this point just need real understanding of capacity of a new septic system as it relates to planned uses.
- Hope to attend May 11 Selectboard meeting to provide project update- mainly how Open House went and next steps. Will prepare memo. Will also discuss septic feasibility work and proposal from B&G.
- Are there any studies that document the benefit of restoring community spaces in numbers? Greta will reach out to VCRD/PTV Village Trust folks to ask about any studies or info they may have.

5. Next Meeting and Steps:

- May 27 Wednesday 5:00
- Follow up with Chi – bringing contract to close, help with understanding cost estimate
- Implementation/fundraising plan
- Selectboard debrief