

# Farmington High School Community Survey Ad Hoc Committee

*Intro to Survey Results*

*Findings & Recommendations of the Committee*

(Reference: Summary Document dated November 27, 2018)

# Introduction Summary

- The FHS Community Survey Ad Hoc Committee was established May 2018
  - charged with hiring a consultant to facilitate a citizen survey focused on the high school facility, report the results of the survey to the Town Council and Board of Education
- The ad hoc committee developed an RFP, reviewed responses, and in August, CRPP was selected from five firms that responded to the RFP
- The ad hoc committee provided input for survey questions, CRPP staff edited out bias. The survey was designed by CRPP using a process to ensure a fair, objective and balanced survey.
- The survey was completed among Farmington residents from October 17-25, 2018.

# Introduction of Survey Consultant

## **Jerry Lindsley, Center for Research & Public Policy**

- President & founder of CRPP, which was established in 1979.
- Masters from Fairfield University
- Lives in and works out of New Hampshire
- Teaches college courses in business management, research, marketing, polling, and public policy
- Certified ski instructor, junior ski race team coach and a volunteer EMT

# Committee Findings :

## *Highlights of Survey Results*

### ***High Quality of Life:***

- Nearly all residents said their quality of life was very good or good.

### ***Satisfaction with Town services and Farmington Public Schools:***

- Over 85% rated the quality of town services as positive
- Over 80% rated the quality of the public schools as positive

### ***The main ways people get information about the school system and Town:***

- Friends/Family/Neighbors/Co-workers
- Local print newspapers
- Farmington Town newsletter
- Of those who use social media, Facebook - most popular

## **Interest:**

***Residents express significant interest in a renewed planning process for the high school facility.***

***Over 4/5 perceive the need for changes at FHS as important.***

## **Awareness:**

***Residents are aware of the needs of the FHS facility as outlined in the Statement of Needs:***

- About two-thirds were aware of most of the needs
- Respondents were most aware of the needs for:
  - school safety and security upgrades
  - required roof repairs, and
  - increased space to accommodate students and educational needs

## Support:

### ***There is support for a project:***

- 83% of respondents agree that an updated and upgraded high school facility is important to maintaining home property values
- 51% support at least a \$135M project (\$511 annual tax increase)
- 55% support at least a \$125M project (\$435 annual tax increase)
- 62% support at least a \$100M project (\$348 annual tax increase)
- 74% support at least a \$75M project (\$261 annual tax increase)

### ***Nearly three quarters of respondents support a project that accomplishes more than the minimum requirements:***

There was less interest in a renovation where the minimum required updates are accomplished (15.5%)

# Committee Recommendations

*Focused, clear, and concise communication is necessary to build support of a project.*

- Understand how people get their information
- Encourage more public participation
- Show the public how the committee arrived at the proposed project
- Communicate the required vs. desired upgrades
- Communicate the facility project cost

*A new building committee should use the survey results throughout their process.*

# Questions & Answers / Discussion