

**Whitman Public Forum** 

100 gar

December 14, 2023



### **Background information**



- Opened in 1962. Second oldest regional vocational school in MA
   (6 original towns: Abington, Cohasset, Hanover, Norwell, Rockland, Scituate)
- In 1982-83, Whitman and Hanson joined district; in July 2024 Marshfield will join.
- Current enrollment: 670. Typical grade 9 class 175-180; Avg. waiting list: 68 students.
- Programs offered: Allied Health, Automotive, Carpentry, Computer Info Tech,
  Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, Design Visual Communications, Electrical, Horticulture
  Landscape Construction, HVAC-R, Manufacturing Engineering Tech. Metal
  Fabrication/Welding. Plumbing and Vet Science would be added with new project
  approval.
- Admissions: Grade 8 students apply; each town gets apportioned seats based on town 8<sup>th</sup> grade enrollment; unused seats get reapportioned to waiting list students.





### Background information: Why is this needed?



- Since 2015, we cited that building was reaching end of useful life; not being up to code; inadequate space for vocational technical programs to function; limited overall space to meet local demand. However, the school is well maintained (thank you!); long range capital planning have helped to extend its functionality.
- What will improve if this project takes place?
  - New Plumbing and Veterinary Science programs
  - Better/safer traffic flow for students and parents; Better building perimeter security
  - Elimination of 25 year old modular unit
  - Shops that have more space, more storage, dedicated classrooms
  - Properly sized science labs, cafeteria, gymnasium
  - Better instructional environments look like:
    - More space for Carpentry students to take on projects
    - Fewer students on each car in Automotive
    - Ability of programs to expand curriculum content (e.g. Medical Assisting as part of Allied Health)
    - Science labs with adequate space for labs and desk work
  - Ability to enroll more students and meet the demands of families in the district





## Where are you in the process? What is next up?



- Invited to enter MSBA Core program in March 2022
- Formed project team with DRA Architects and LeftField (OPM)
- · Submitted Educational Plan and Preliminary Design Program; under review
- Studied 5 designs at 5 enrollment levels; eliminated some designs and enrollments
- Currently in the midst of Feasibility process
  - Dec-Jan homework assignments for school building committee
    - Determine preferred site layout of parking/athletic fields (December 14)
    - Construction Manager at Risk or Design/Bid/Build (December 14)
    - Review revised project cost estimates (January 17)
    - Choose a preferred design and preferred enrollment (January 31)





### What do we know about project costs?



- Construction is an expensive investment and we need to prioritize expenditures on what we really need to fulfill the school's mission.
- MSBA reimbursement rates have improved
- We have a small site on which to build with environmental limitations.
   Fields use, bus/vehicle placement and parking spaces are challenges.
- The Add/Reno option will cost as much if not more than new construction
- We will have revised cost estimates by January 17<sup>th</sup> that will be based on specific design features (more than just square footage).
- Town debt shares are based on 3 years of enrollment data preceding the authorization for the project
- Marshfield joining will help with project cost sharing, but the exact amount is not known at this time

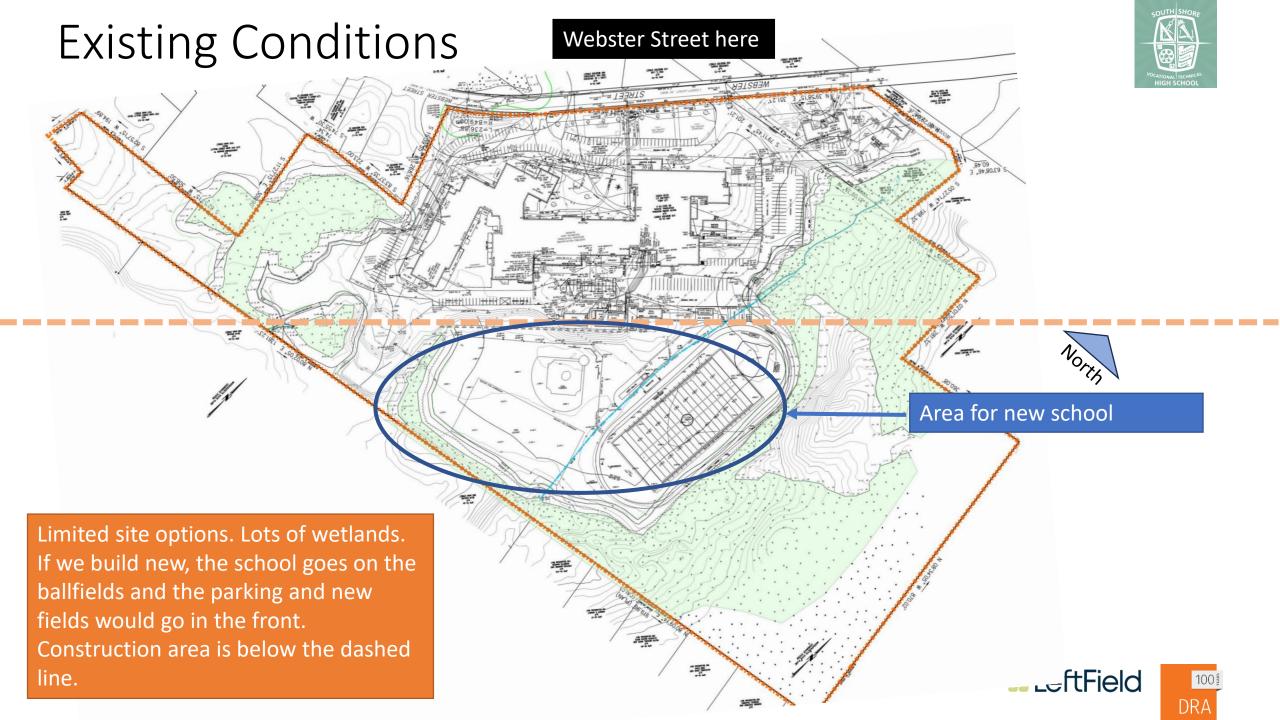


#### Narrowing down the options to 3 designs and 2 enrollments

Option	645 students	<b>750</b> students	<b>805</b> students	<b>900</b> students	<b>975</b> students
Addition/ Renovation AR- 1 "L-shape"	<del>201,500 sf</del>	<del>217,500 sf</del>	230,400 sf	243,200 sf	<del>254,500 sf</del>
Addition/ Renovation  AR- 2 "Lightwell"	<del>188,100 sf</del>	<del>201,700 sf</del>	<del>209,600 sf</del>	<del>228,500 sf</del>	<del>236,100 sf</del>
New Construction NC-1-"Courtyard"	<del>203,480 sf</del>	<del>228,540 sf</del>	<del>240,000 sf</del>	<del>260,000 sf</del>	<del>278,000 sf</del>
New Construction NC-2.0 "Linear"	<del>203,480 sf</del>	<del>228,540 sf</del>	240,000 sf	260,000 sf	<del>278,000 sf</del>
New Construction NC-2.1 "Linear/Center core"	<del>203,480 sf</del>	<del>228,540 sf</del>	240,000 sf	260,000 sf	<del>278,000 sf</del>
New Construction NC-3-"Wings"	<del>203,480 sf</del>	<del>228,540 sf</del>	<del>240,000 sf</del>	<del>260,000 sf</del>	<del>278,000 sf</del>







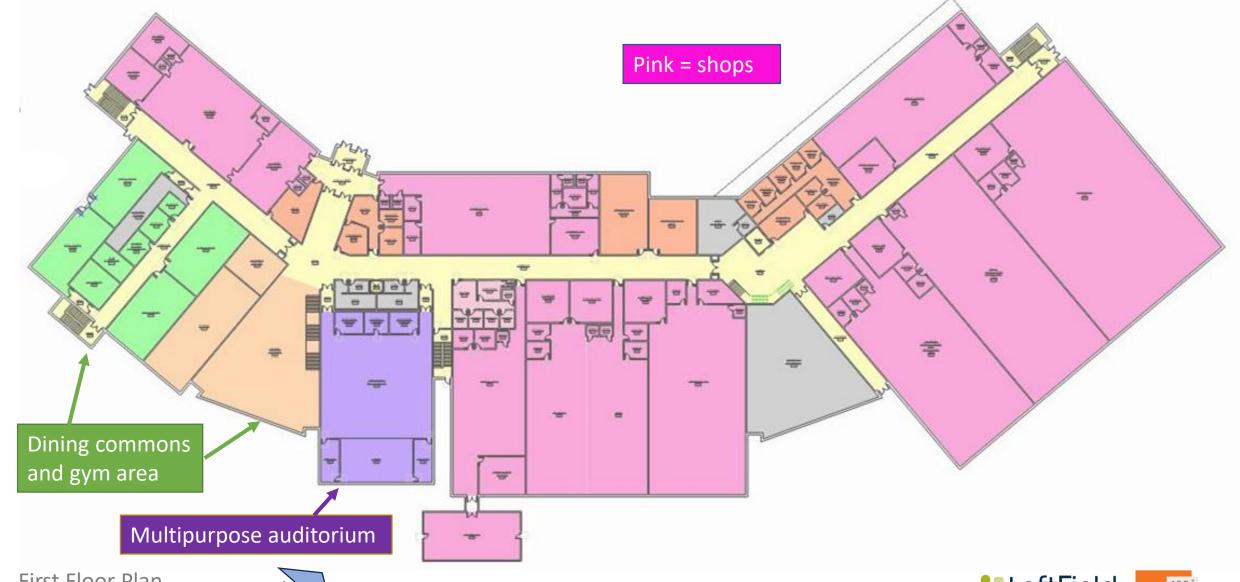




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#### NC 2.0 900 students











#### NC 2.0 900 students





#### Webster Street at top of page

#### NC 2.0 900 students









## Preliminary Options

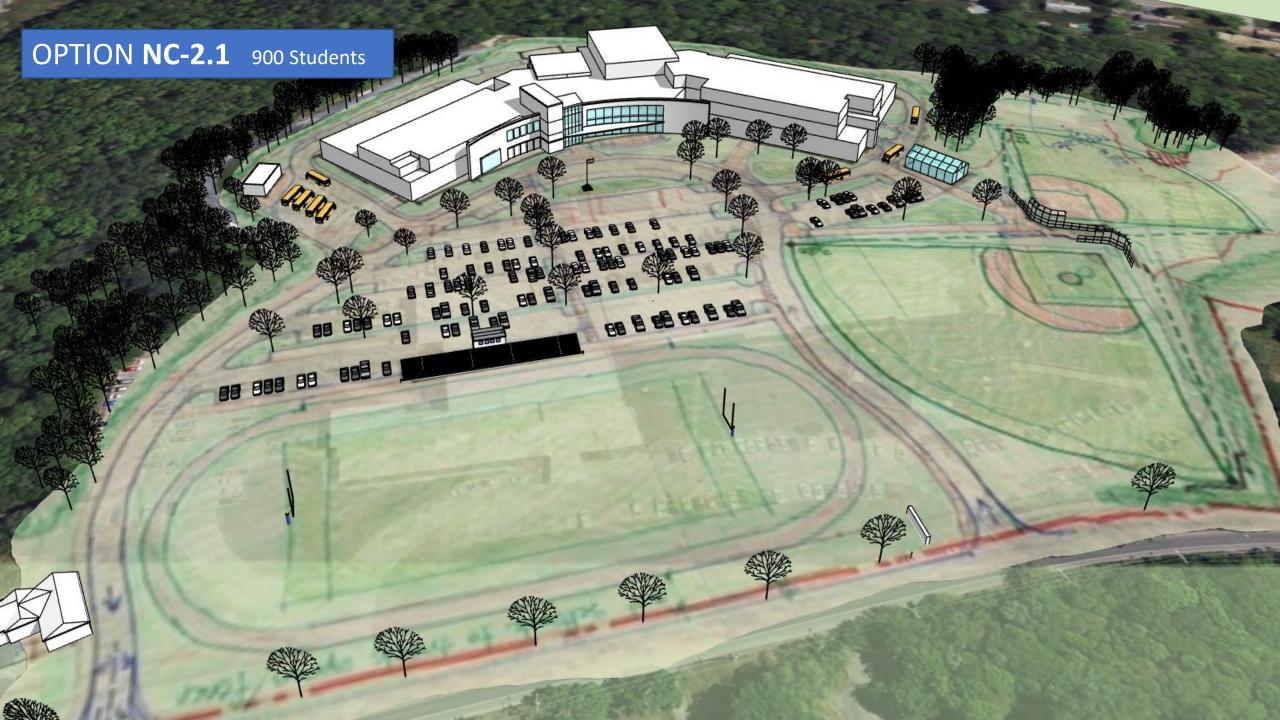


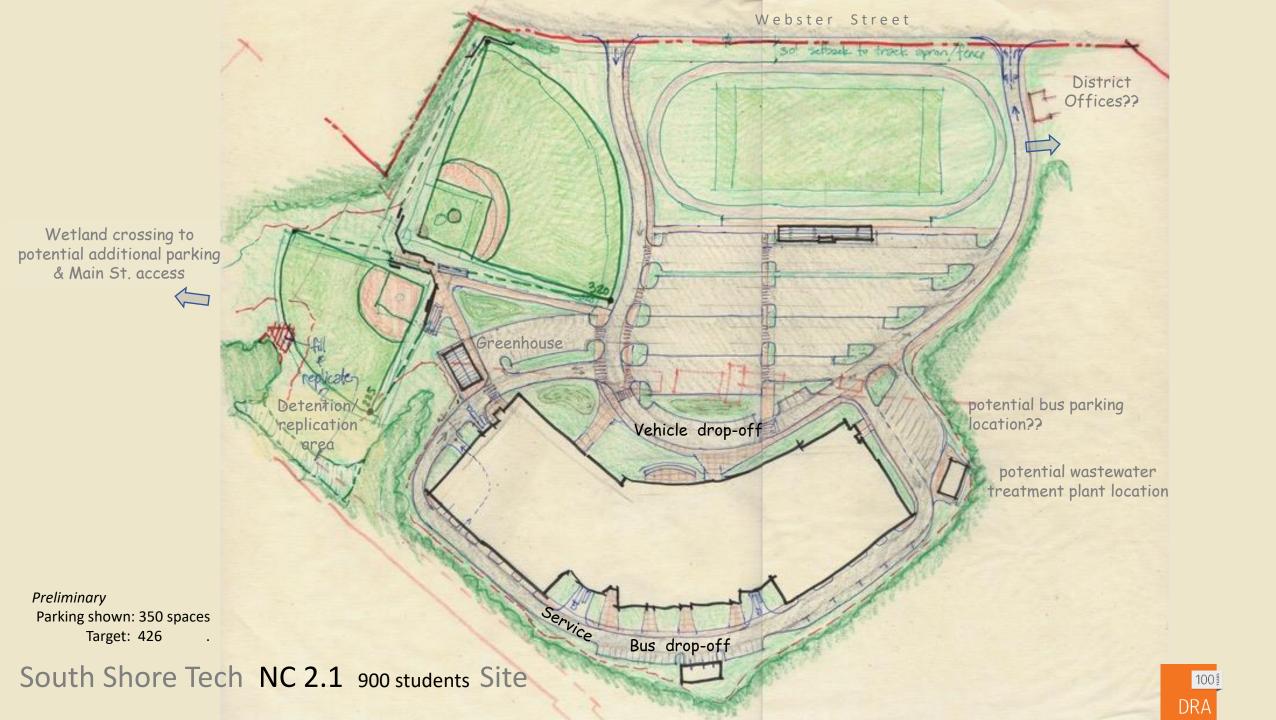
# **New Construction Options**

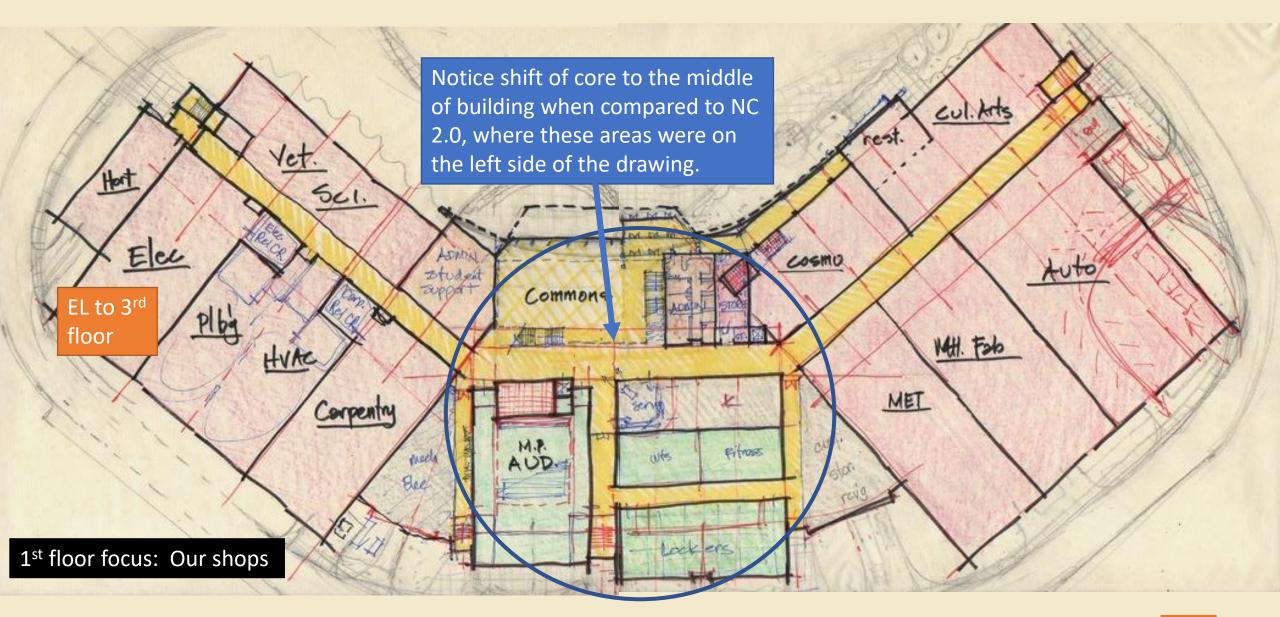
• NC-2.0 "Linear"

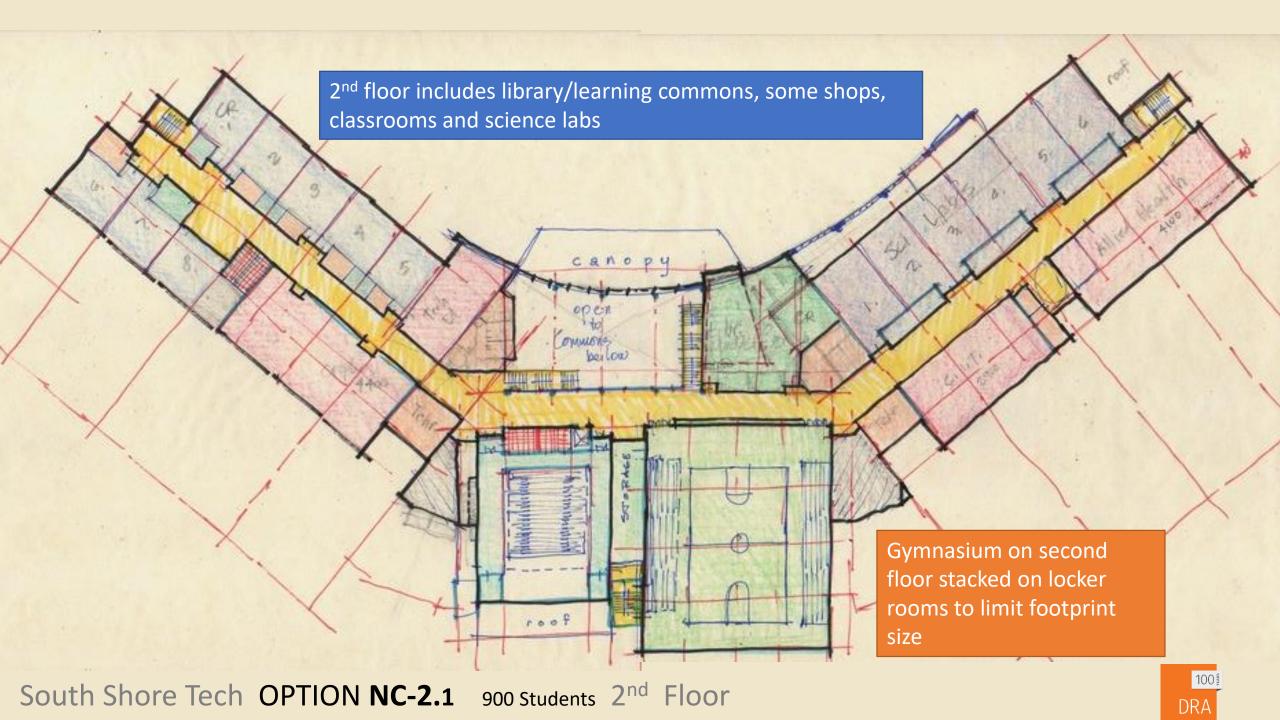
Next: NC-2.1 "Linear/ Center core"

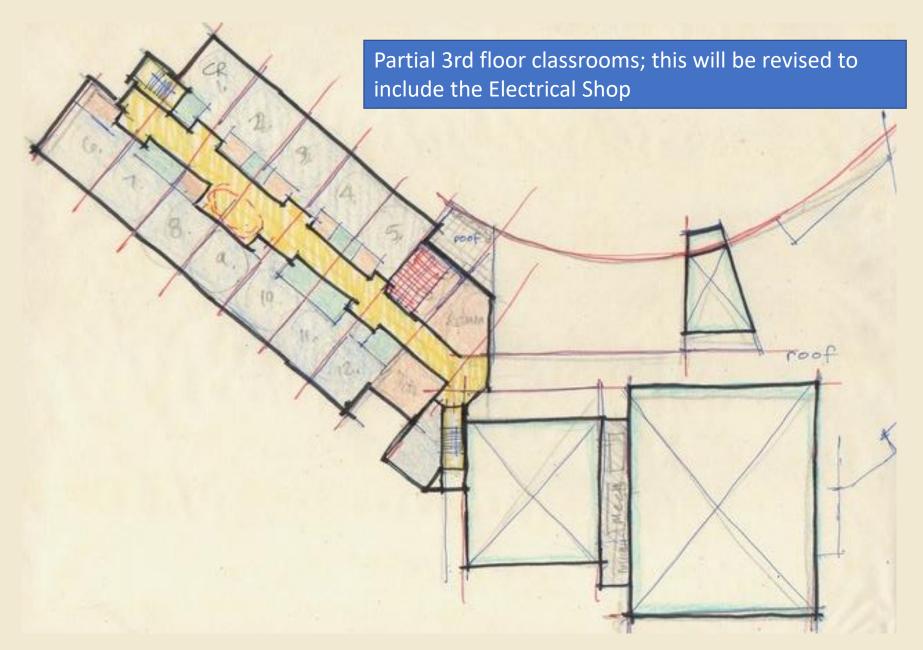












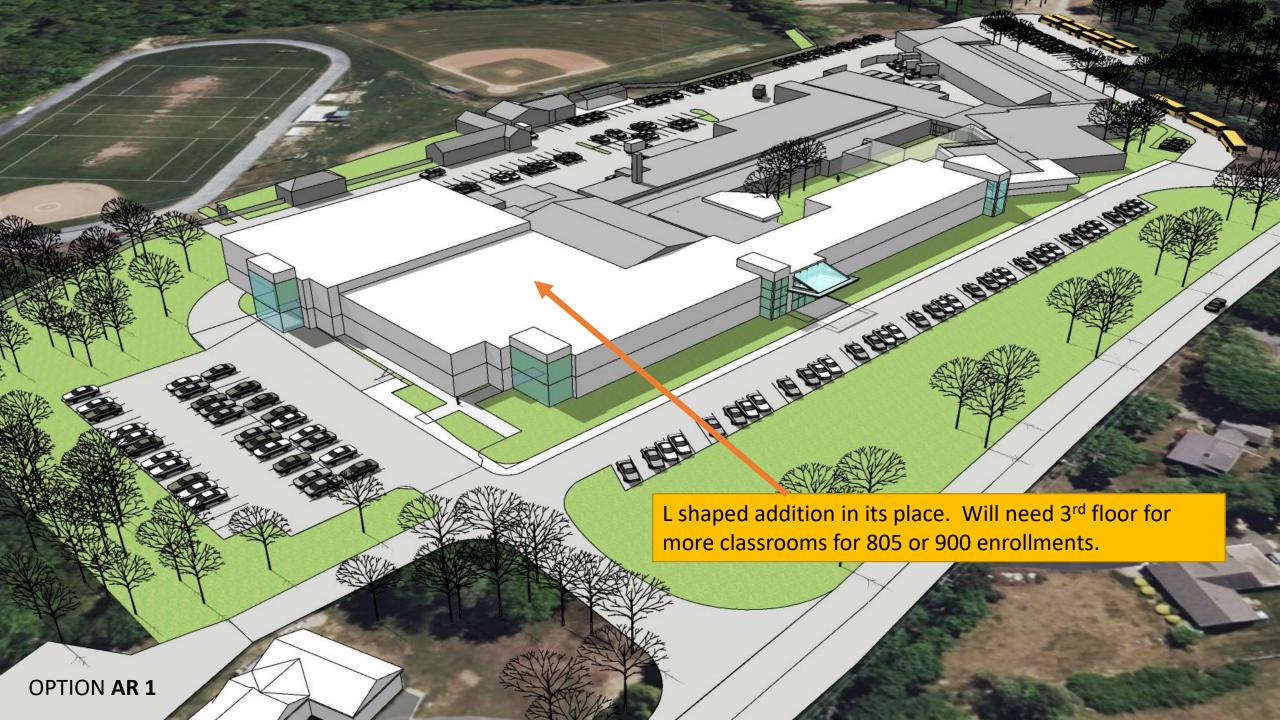
## Preliminary Options

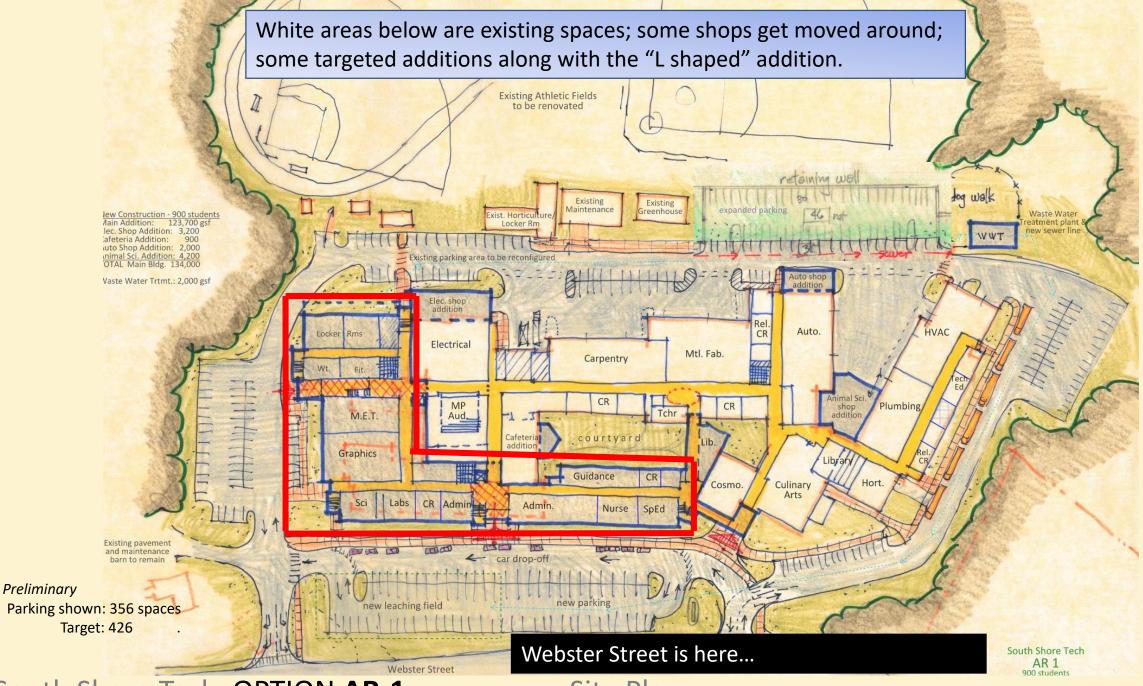


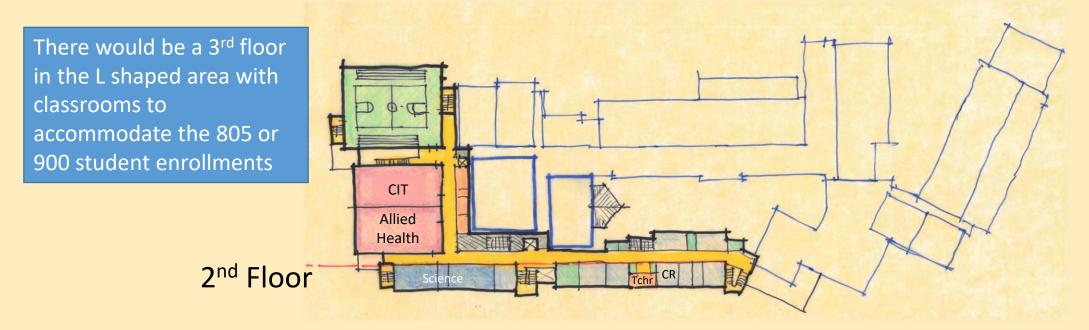
# Addition / Renovation Options

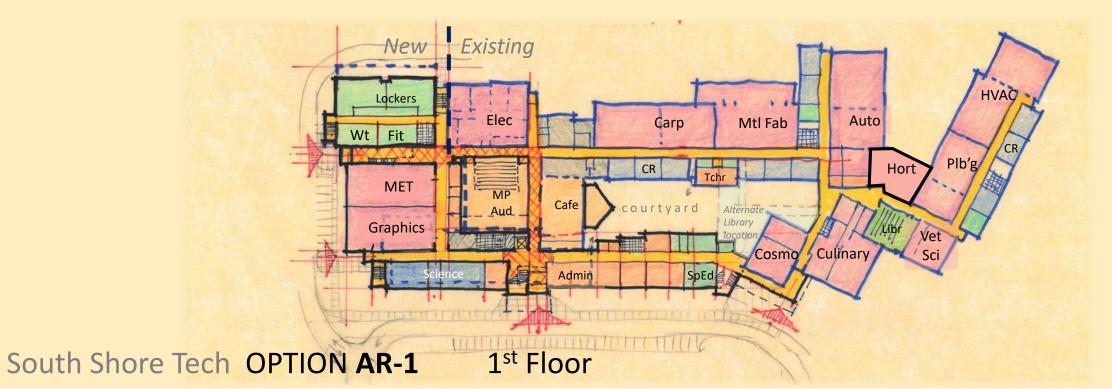
AR-1 "L-Shaped"











## Okay, Now Can We Talk Money???





Disclaimer: <u>We won't have more accurate estimates until January 17, 2024</u>. We are expecting figures to drop once the estimates are based on actual designs. Current market costs are under \$1,000/sq. ft. and these rough estimates below are much higher. We used these numbers as a tool to compare cost between designs.



Design	805 enrollment	900 enrollment
New construction (NC 2.0) "Linear"  New construction (NC 2.1) "Linear/center core"	\$344.1m -\$104.6m reimb \$239.6m local	\$367.9m -\$113.3m reimb \$254.6m local
Add/Reno (AR-1) "L shaped"	\$349.8m -\$106.7m reimb \$243.1m local	\$366.7m -\$111.9m reimb \$254.9m local





## Let's pretend these fake costs are real...





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Town	% share*	Based on 805 enrollment		Based on 900 enrollment	
		New 2.0/2.1	Add/Reno AR-1	New 2.0/2.1	Add/Reno AR-1
Abington	16.7%	\$40m	\$40.6m	\$42.5m	\$42.6m
Cohasset	1.49%	\$3.6m	\$3.6m	\$3.8m	\$3.8m
Hanover	11.06%	\$26.5m	\$26.9m	\$28.1m	\$28.2m
Hanson	13.03%	\$31.2m	\$31.7m	\$33.2m	\$33.2m
Norwell	4.1%	\$9.8m	\$10m	\$10.4m	\$10.5m
Rockland	22.77%	\$54.5m	\$55.3m	\$58m	\$58m
Scituate	6.6%	\$15.8m	\$16m	\$16.8m	\$16.8m
Whitman	24.25%	\$58m	\$59m	\$61.8m	\$61.8m





<sup>\*%</sup> share come from enrollments from October 1 reports in 2023, 2022, and 2021.

## Marshfield and cost sharing



How will the addition of Marshfield impact the project costs?

Town	% share*		
Abington	16.7%		
Cohasset	1.49%		
Hanover	11.06%		
Hanson	13.03%		
Norwell	4.1%		
Rockland	22.77%		
Scituate	6.6%		
Whitman	24.25%		
Marshfield	TBD		

Marshfield will start paying a portion of a share of the project in FY26, which we anticipate will be the first year of bond anticipation notes.

Their annual debt share will adjust with their enrollment as they add students for FY27, 27, 28, 29. Then on October 1, 2028 as we prepare the FY30 budget, Marshfield's share will be fixed.

To illustrate: If Marshfield sends, say, 20 students per year from FY26-29, assuming current capacity (670), that would equate to 11.9% of the school enrollment, which would mean an 11.9% haircut for each town's share in FY30 and beyond. From FY26-29, there would be slight haircuts on the debt share leading up to the 11.9% in FY30.





#### Selected timeline of events



- More public forums and presentations.
- December 2023: Site Preference; CMR/DBB selection
- January 2024: Design and enrollment selection
- August 2024: MSBA Approval
- January 2025: District wide ballot to voters on all 9 towns on the project.
- 2025-early 2026: Design
- 2026-mid 2028: Construction phase
- 28-29 school year: ready in Sept 2028 or maybe Jan 2029; fields construction would be at the end of the process





#### Please note:

Upcoming Community Meetings:

November 9 Marshfield Town Hall 6 pm December 5 Rockland Senior Center 7 pm

December 14 Whitman Town Hall 7 pm

January 25 Abington Town Hall 7 pm

**Whitman Public Forum** 

**December 14, 2023** 



