



# BOARD OF EDUCATION

## COLUMBIA, CONNECTICUT

*The Columbia School District is a community of leaders providing rigorous programs to ensure that each student can excel as an individual*

Christopher Lent, Chairman  
Kathy Tolsdorf, Vice Chairperson  
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Joanne Prague Doyle  
Gary Littlefield  
Maria Geryk, Superintendent

### Agenda

#### Columbia Board of Education

#### Future Needs Committee

#### Planning

#### October 15, 2018

#### 6:00 pm

#### Horace W. Porter Cafeteria

1. Introduction and Brief Historical Overview (Mr. Lent/Mr. Fearon)
2. Public Comment
3. Discussion

#### Our Two Essential Questions

- *Should the Board of Education consider tuitioning-out our middle school students to another district as we do our high school?*

#### *Findings:*

- Porter offers competitive quality programs and offerings to the middle school students
- Porter offers small class sizes with individualized instruction
- Tuitioning students will not demonstrate significant savings
- Community support was shared for continuing the Pre-K – 8 model

- *Should the Board of Education consider a single designated high school when our contracts expire with Bolton and Region 19 (E.O. Smith) in 2022?*

#### *Findings:*

- All schools offer high quality programs
- While logistical issues do arise transporting to multiple schools, no significant savings would be realized if one school was identified
- It was reported that our students are well prepared as they enter E.O. Smith and Bolton
- Community members commented on the benefits of choice

*FNC Next Steps (re: April 23, 2018 Public Forum)*

- Review Public Input from April 23, 2018 meeting
- Discuss the Scheduling of Focus Groups (meetings with stakeholders)
  - Teachers
  - Students
  - Community Members
  - Parents

**4. Recommendations & Updates to the Plan (Next Steps)**

**5. Adjournment**