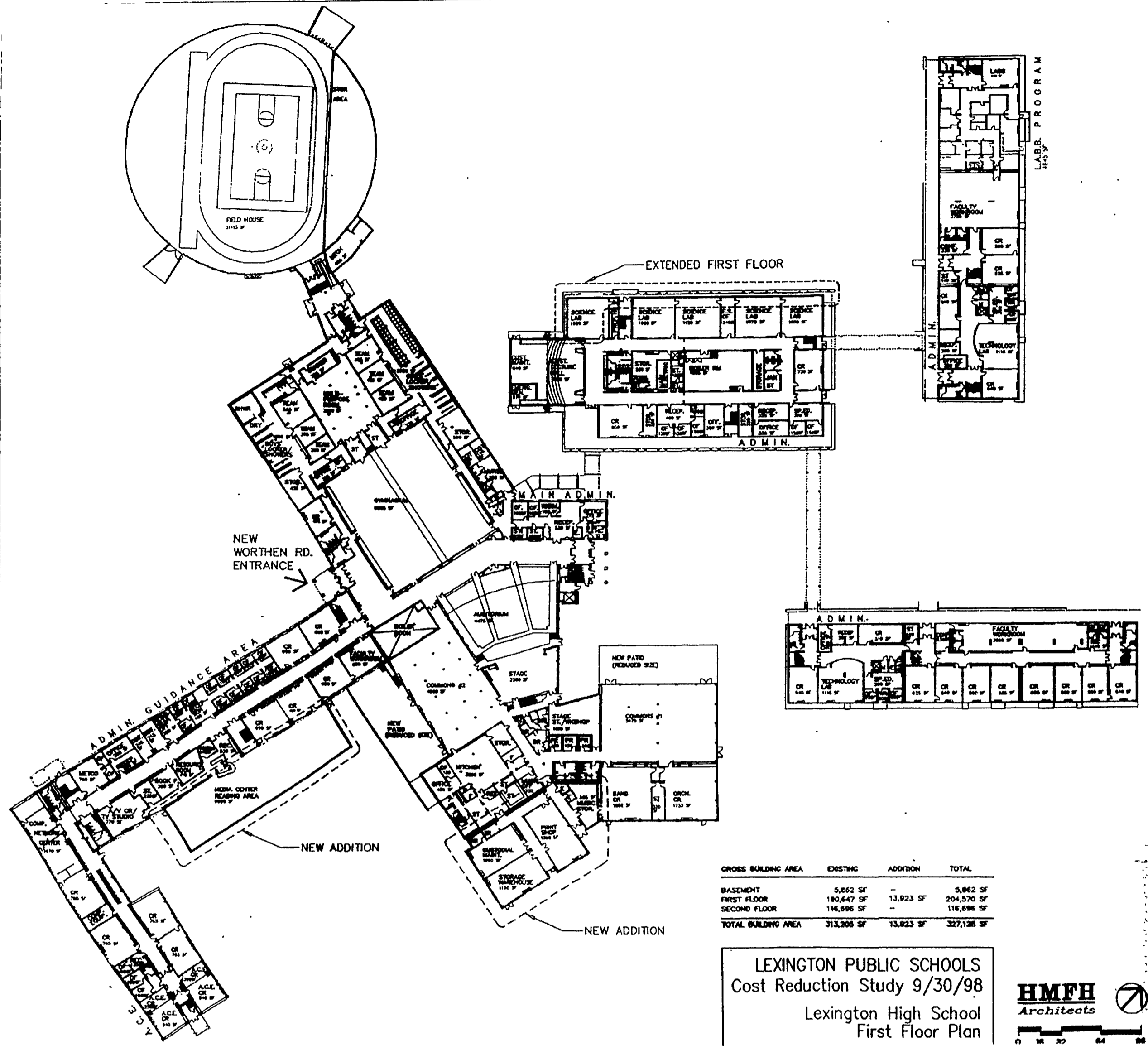


# LEARNING



## Capital project plans for Lexington High School

This and the following page contain the architectural drawings and descriptions for the LHS portion of the school capital project proposal to be discussed by Special Town Meeting next week and voted on in a general election on Dec. 7. Future issues will feature material relevant to the Clarke and Diamond Middle School portions of the project. The Minuteman wishes to thank Dorothea Hayes of HMFH Architects and John Moynihan of the Lexington School Department for their assistance in obtaining these drawings and descriptions.

**Lexington High School**

- Year constructed — 1949, 1955, 1964
- Site area — 56.46 acres
- Building area — 320,786 gsf (307,343 gsf existing + 13,443 gsf new additions)
- Current enrollment — 1,443 students
- Projected design capacity — 2,100 students

The High School will undergo a significant reorganization of its existing spaces in order to accommodate the increased student population, the educational program, technology needs, and to improve the "cultural" environment. Additions will be made to the campus in three different areas. First, a new Library Reading Room is added to the main building, (G.) Along with support spaces located in the existing G Building, this will establish a new centrally located Library/Media Center. Second, a row of undersized Science Labs is expanded by a small addition to fill out an overhang at the Science Building. Third, an addition is built at existing Receiving to expand receiving, storage, and custodian facilities.

significantly revised. A new entrance to the campus is established off Worthen Road. This will create a new image for the school as well as clarifying and simplifying circulation, security, and other functional issues related to access to the High School. Regular vehicle circulation is removed from the central courtyard in order to reinforce and improve the pedestrian environment in this space.

**Parking:** The Worthen Road parking lot will still be reconfigured for student parking. It will include a new vehicle access directly from the street. Independent loops are established for safe and convenient parent and bus drop-off. The rear lot off Waltham Street is used for staff parking and service, with access from this area to Muzzey Street for emergency vehicles only. This lot will be resurfaced and improved, but it will not be reconfigured as it was in Design Development. This will improve control over auto circulation through the site. It will also serve to emphasize the quieter, more pedestrian orientation of the Muzzey Street access to the school. Vehicle access from Muzzey Street will be limited to a drop-off loop behind the ABC Building for high school students and LABB vans. The total amount of parking on the campus is increased in this scheme.

**Site:** The inner courtyard was being reconfigured and landscaped in Design Development, including the demolition of existing canopies and the creation of a new Gazebo. This courtyard will now receive only upgrades for handicapped access and minor improvements to paving and planting. In addition the existing

canopies will remain in place and the Gazebo will not be built. In addition, cost reduction measures, the paving of the Emergency roadway behind the school is reduced, new planting is reduced, new paving is reduced and changed from concrete to bituminous, and site lighting scope is reduced.

**Main Entrance:** The New Entrance for the High School off Worthen Street is now relocated closer to the Gymnasium in order to utilize the existing Main Entrance Lobby. Because of this, the existing central Administration cluster for the Principal and the existing Nurse Suite can remain in their current locations. The new Athletic Entrance and canopy proposed in Design Development are eliminated since this relocated Entrance can now serve for Athletic events as well as student daily entry.

The new canopy at this entrance has been reduced in size and scope in order to reduce costs. It will provide shelter for the entrance as well as serving to unify and improve this face of the high school.

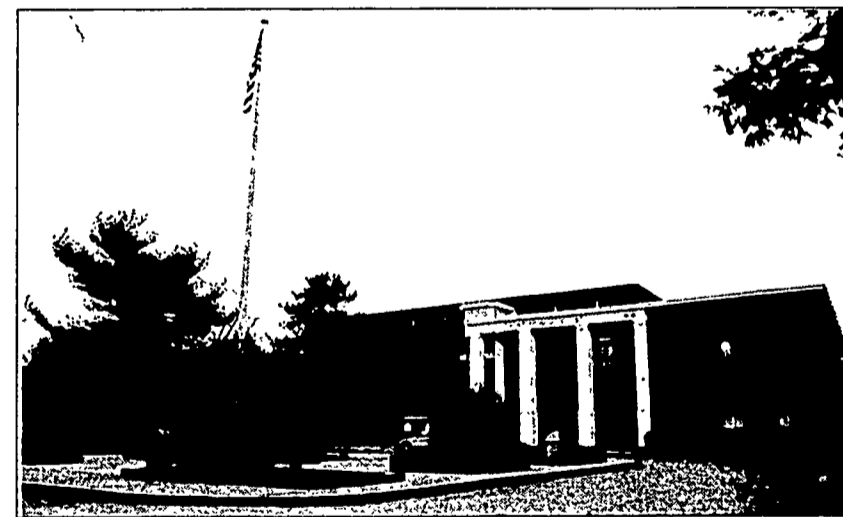
**Department Reconfiguration:** Departments and room layouts are being reconfigured throughout the campus in order to de-emphasize the current house system. Flow through the buildings is reestablished on both floors to encourage intercommunication between faculty and students in all disciplines. Department Clusters are distributed around the campus and provide office space, resource area, and storage space for each department.

**Library/Media Center:** The library will be moved out of the Science Building to provide space for the expanding Science Department

and to provide a more central location which will serve all students and faculty better. It will move into an important location near the main entrance which is appropriate for a space so important as the heart of the high school campus. The required support spaces will occupy the existing spaces along the old G Building corridor. The new Reading Room Addition has been reduced in volume and has been simplified so as to reduce the cost of this addition. This will still provide a pleasant environment for access to and use of the multi-media resources that the Library will contain, while making efficient use of existing spaces.

**Commons Wing:** The area of the main building which formerly contained Industrial Arts and the Cafeteria will be reorganized and expanded. This area will contain two open Commons areas to function as cafeterias and other purposes, Music, and a new receiving/storage area. The existing Kitchen will remain as it is. The loading area off the parking lot is reconfigured to serve this area adequately. Commons will open to outdoor eating patios in good weather. One of these patios faces the central courtyard. The other faces the southern courtyard which will also include the new Library Reading Room addition. Both patios have been reduced in size from Design Development so as to reduce costs.

**Science:** The Science Building is renovated in order to provide additional Science Labs. Existing, undersized Labs on the First Floor are expanded to be equal to those above. The existing tiered Lecture Hall was to be demolished in Design Development. It will now remain in place and receive minor



upgrades to improve its function. This results in a significant cost reduction.

**Physical Education:** The current locker/shower area will undergo a significant reconfiguration in order to accommodate a new Fitness Center and improved team and training facilities. Under utilized shower facilities will be reduced in size. Coach and teacher offices will be improved.

**Fine Arts:** New music facilities for band, and orchestra will be created in the former Industrial Arts Wing. Much needed storage for music equipment and materials will be added to this area. This will make good use of the high ceilings and relative acoustic isolation of this area. The current Drama Room on the second floor above the present Administration space will be expanded to better serve its use. The Art Department will get a new CADD Drafting Room.

All mechanical systems will be renovated. A new automatic sprinkler system will be installed. Existing plumbing fixtures will be replaced where necessary. The domestic water services will be replaced will now be replaced only where absolutely necessary due to the age and poor condition of the existing services. The HVAC systems in the school are 42-, 40-, and 33-years-old with the exception of the new one-year old steam boiler plant in the original Main building. Most of the motor-driven equipment will be replaced, with the exception of unit ventilators — which will be refurbished. Ductwork — which will be reused wherever possible — all existing ductwork will be cleaned. The existing oil fuel system will be converted to a gas fuel system. A new pneumatic temperature control system will be installed. The boilers and associated equipment serving the 1962 additions will be replaced. Steam and condensate piping will be tested and replaced where required, assuming 15 percent will be new. One-half of the steam and hydronic valves will be replaced.

Electrical systems will be completely updated and will provide an expansion of educational technology of the recently installed data network. New energy efficient lighting will improve light quality. New emergency lighting will provide proper illumination of all egress and assembly areas for safe evacuation. Power will be upgraded to accommodate the demands of a modern educational environment.