

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

To the Concord Middle School Building Committee --

This letter is submitted on behalf of the Concord chapter of Mothers Out Front and our allies. We are an organization of mothers and others driven by our obligation to ensure a livable climate for all children.

This pandemic has taught us that we must listen to the scientific community and plan for foreseeable threats to our future. Scientists are sounding the alarm on climate change, and we have an opportunity **here and now** to be part of the solution.

We applaud the work done by the full committee, the sustainability sub-committee, and the designers to date. As this project moves towards the design phase, we urge the Concord Middle School Building Committee to follow through on its commitment to design and construct a middle school that is:

1. All-electric, with no fossil fuel
2. Highly energy efficient
3. Powered by solar panels and equipped with energy storage
4. Constructed with building materials that have low embodied carbon

Our community is clear-eyed on the threat of climate change, and we have consistently voted to take action. In 2020, the Town of Concord published a [Climate Action and Resilience Plan](#) - a blueprint for achieving the climate goals passed by citizens at Town Meeting in 2017. This plan calls for “new municipal and school buildings to achieve high sustainability standards, including net zero energy, all-electric, and resilient design.” The construction of a middle school that meets these standards is necessary for the Town of Concord to meet our emissions reduction goals.

As parents, we also recognize that a sustainable school will be a learning tool in its own right. With this project, we have the opportunity to build a place that reflects our community’s values and teaches our children to be careful stewards of the climate.

Sustainable design accounts for less than 1% of the total construction costs. We ask that you follow through on your commitment to design a structure that is energy efficient and all-electric. Furthermore, we ask that you commit to installing solar panels and energy storage before the school opens by aggressively pursuing external funding and/or partnership opportunities.

Our children need both a livable climate and a great education to realize their full potential. Let's make sure they get both.

Sincerely,

Mothers Out Front | [Concord Chapter](#)

Chapter Leadership Team Members

Alice Kaufman
Amanda Peppercorn
Bouzha Cookman
Gilda Gussin
Hewon Hwang

Laura Davis
Linda Nieman
Melanie Coo
Shelly Karlin
Sue Richardson

Members & Allies

Abraham Fisher
Alice Rosen
Alice Van Deusen
Andrea Hubbard-Nelson
Andrew Goldstein
Andy Puchrik
Ann Thornley
Audrey Gasteier
Barbara Stevens
Bethany Mandell Chayrigues
Bianca Taylor
Brooke Redmond
Brooks Stevens
Caitlin Selle
Carolyn duPont
Carolyn Wilkins
Catherine Parmelee
Cheryl Mandler
Cheryl Shea
Christine Miara
Colleen Walston
Cosette Dunn
Cynthia Katz
Dan Scholten
Diane Proctor
Dick Robinson
Edward Feather
Elizabeth "Betsy"
Olsson-Mackowski
Elizabeth Awalt
Elizabeth Fuller
Ellen Matheson
Enid Boasberg
Garret Whitney
Gregory Maguire
Haley Orvedal
Inge Knudson
Irene Stapleford

Jane Hosie-Bounar
Janet Lawson
Janet Miller
Janet Rothrock
Janice Moritz
Jennifer Hurley-Wales
Jerry Frenkil
Jessica Grogins
Jill O'Sullivan
John Riley
John Scotnicki
Judith Herman
Judith Hill
Karen Graziani
Kate Kavanagh
Katherine Spencer
Kathryn Hopkins
Katrina Kelner
Kayte Bellusci
Kristen Ferguson
L. Michelle Touw
Lauren Kopcsco
Laurence Constable
Liza F. Carter
Lorna Campbell
Lucy Goldstein
Lyell Slade
Lynn Bloom
Maria Macias
Mark Del Guidice
Mark Gailus
Mark Lauritano
Martin Plotkin
Mary White
Michael McAteer
Molly Constable
Molly Delehey
Nate Kemp

Nathan Davis
Nicole Palmer
Norman Miller
pam Howell
Pamela Dritt
Pamela Goar
Pat Goldstein
Patricia Keane
Peter Lowitt
Philippe Villers
Rebecca Woodward
Rick and Louise Johnson
Rick Shoup
Robert Andrews
Robert Comer
Ronni Olitsky
Rosemary Shaw
Ruthy Bennett
Sarah Mckeon
Sarah Paino
Scott Richardson
Sharon Carlson
Stephan Bader
Sue Felshin
Susan LaChance
Susan Mlodozieniec
Susan Oman
Sylvia Lotspeich Greene
Tammy Johnson
Tara Edelman
Tiffany Thompson
Toby Smith Ropeik
Tom Garrett
Tracy Winn
Tricia Haut
Virginia Lang
Wayne Lobb
William Lehr