The Building Committee met on February 3, 2021 to hear a presentation from Steven Blatt Architects on the analysis of sites for the new building project.

Architect Steven Hoffman and Engineer Patrick Carroll provided an overview of the analysis and site review of five sites throughout the district: (1) MSAD 54 Campus, (2) Wright Property, (3) Finley Property, (4) Dillon Property, and (5) Margaret Chase Smith Site.

Using criteria developed by the committee, the firm was quickly able to demonstrate properties that were and were not ideal for a new consolidated elementary school. The campus was too wet and a project could potentially preclude a future project at the technical center/high school. The Wright property (adjacent to campus) was also too wet and provided very limited developable property. The Finley site layout and road (201) provided challenges that were deemed to be not ideal for a school site. The Dillon and Margaret Chase Smith sites rated very high. The recommendation of the firm is to move forward and consider these two sites.

The committee asked questions and reviewed the benefits and impacts of the two sites including the integration of students from Bloomfield, Canaan, Margaret Chase Smith, and North Elementary School on each of the sites. The committee discussed traffic patterns, etc. The Firm indicated that a review of both sites by DOT is in process and will shed additional light on the final site selection, and that this would be available for the next committee meeting (scheduled March 3rd).

The committee thanked representatives from the firm for coming to the meeting, presenting and answering the committee’s questions.

The meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm.