#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

#### GOALS:

What are the goals of the proposed project?

The School Department would like to engage in a planning process that will enable us to improve and maximize our use of Hardy Elementary School's outdoor recreational space. The Department is requesting funds to conduct a site analysis of the Hardy Elementary playground and study the feasibility of improving opportunities for outdoor learning and play. The study, to be conducted by a landscape architecture firm, will examine the main playground, which is bounded by Chandler Street and Herbert Street.

Enrollment at the Hardy School has grown rapidly in recent years, and that growth has necessitated a six-classroom addition. This change to the building's footprint will significantly affect the playground, which is already inadequate for the current population. The outdoor space needs are urgent, and because the current surface of the playground will be damaged during construction, it would be most efficient to reconsider the Hardy campus in conjunction with the building project and implement changes immediately following construction. In addition to serving Hardy students, the playground is a heavily used community resource.

The School Department has worked closely with Finegold Alexander to arrive at a design concept for the addition that will accommodate the school's growing population, complement the existing building, take into account the social and emotional needs of students, and make the school more conducive to 21st century learning. This study would offer an exciting opportunity to engage in a thoughtful process that would ensure that Hardy's outdoor recreational space is reimagined just as thoughtfully. Outdoor space—used for both recess and Physical Education—is an essential part of the overall success of this expansion project.

This final application represents a substantive change from our preliminary application. The CPA Committee has made it clear that this is an acceptable change. We appreciate this flexibility.

As part of the study, the selected firm would:

- Coordinate with Finegold Alexander, the designer of Hardy's six-room addition.
   Construction is slated to start in spring of 2018. The likely completion date is January 2019. Finegold Alexander completed a study of existing conditions at the site in August 2017 (see Appendix 1), which provides important information for the study.
- Document and analyze the state of current equipment, landscaping, surfaces, and fencing on the Chandler Street playground.
- Analyze how the Lake Street playground plan addresses outdoor needs and factor this into Chandler Street concepts.

- Assess existing drainage in the playground area and identify opportunities to improve/accommodate runoff. Finegold Alexander has probably worked on this to some extent as it relates to the addition, so it will be important to coordinate with them.
- Assess current plantings and trees that are located on the current playground or provide shade to the playground. Consult with the town's tree warden on guidelines for plantings in design.
- Prioritize use of materials and plantings that will mitigate the heat island effect of the playground area and decrease storm water runoff.
- Assess the playground's access points and evaluate how they interact with flow/ circulation in the recreational area.
- Seek detailed input from school administrators, staff, and teachers, including PE teachers and the district's Director of Guidance and Social Emotional Learning.
- In collaboration with Hardy's School Council, facilitate a robust public input process that engages Hardy students, parents, abutters, and other community members. Public sessions should be held at several different stages of the process.
- Develop and present concept alternatives, including changes to playground configuration, equipment, and surfaces.
- Based on input, develop a design for the Chandler Street playground.
- Produce construction documents for the playground.
- Ensure that architects have vetted all landscape plans with the designer of the overall campus and playground so work is not duplicated and the resulting design is cohesive.
- Develop estimated costs for engineering, construction, and project management and suggestions for project phasing. Work on the phasing plan in conjunction with Finegold Alexander.
- Assist with documentation required to secure project funding for implementation of the plan from potential sources (Town of Arlington Capital, CPA, state and/or federal grants).

#### **COMMUNITY NEED:**

Why is the project needed? Does it address needs identified in existing Town plans?

The existing Chandler Street playground was designed and installed as part of the 2001 renovation of the school. When the equipment was chosen and land use was determined, 270 students were enrolled. In the 2017-18 academic year, 457 students are enrolled. The school has experienced a population increase of 69% with no significant change in playground equipment or outdoor space configuration. In recent years, the increasing population has surpassed the limits of the playground. The 2015-16 school year was the last year all classes used the Chandler Street playground without safety concerns from teachers and administrators. The Hardy School is the only one of our seven elementary schools that is not adjacent to a town park or field. There is no field to play on during recess or PE, and no room for overflow. Enrollment forecasts predict continued growth during the next several years (Appendix 2).

In the fall of 2016, administrators and teachers tried using the small yard that runs along Lake Street for recess for half of kindergarten classes. However, the space became too muddy to use

by late fall. As a result, kindergarten classes had to split outdoor recess blocks, reducing outdoor recess time for kindergartners. In the fall of 2017, the town made improvements to the Lake Street yard, adding wood chips and installing a taller temporary fence. Two kindergarten classes at a time are currently able to use the space, but equipment is minimal. The town plans to design and build a permanent playground in the Lake Street yard. The amount of \$200,000 is allocated for the project in the FY2019 Capital Plan. The relatively small yard is expected to accommodate two classes (about 40-50 students) at a time. Design work is underway, with an expected completion date of September 2018.

The building expansion will require the removal of the existing kindergarten play structure on the Chandler Street playground. The Lake Street playground will therefore *replace* the play area that will be lost to construction, but there is *no net gain* of play space, which means that changes must be made to the main playground in order to safely accommodate the current and projected student body.

The challenges of school enrollment growth are outlined in chapter nine of the Town of Arlington's Master Plan. The plan emphasizes the need to consider outdoor space when evaluating facilities: "In addition to looking at the physical layout of space, an assessment of the environmental quality, such as daylight and the availability of fresh air, and the adequacy of grounds that support municipal and school facilities, should be considered." (p. 169)

A substantial majority of the recreational space is impervious blacktop surface, including a full basketball court, two half-courts, and a large open area. Half of the smaller area currently surfaced with wood chips will be lost to the building project. In chapter eight of the town's Master Plan, it is noted that "a significant portion of the town (41.4 percent) is covered with impervious surfaces—mainly buildings and pavement—which impede the land's ability to absorb and disperse rainwater." (p. 132) The town can lead on changing this with careful attention to its properties.

The Arlington Tree Committee recently undertook a tree inventory, and students at Boston University analyzed the data and generated maps showing surface temperature, population density, and tree canopy (Appendix 3). The Hardy School is part of a heat island in one of the most densely populated areas of town, and the current playground design is a significant factor. According to the <a href="Environmental Protection Agency">Environmental Protection Agency</a>, "The term 'heat island' describes built up areas that are hotter than nearby rural areas. ...Heat islands can affect communities by increasing summertime peak energy demand, air conditioning costs, air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, heat-related illness and mortality, and water quality." Research published in the <a href="Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health">Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health</a> suggests that an increase in tree density is associated with a lower prevalence of early childhood asthma. One of the EPA's suggested strategies for heat island mitigation is tree planting. Careful evaluation of opportunities to develop the tree canopy of the Hardy playground would improve the climate in the recreational area, inside the building, and in the neighborhood at large. In addition to plantings, the surfaces used on a redesigned Hardy playground could be carefully chosen to mitigate the heat island effect.

Finally, a number of parents have expressed concern that the current playground does not equally serve all students. Social, emotional, and wellness support is a central aspect of our district goals, and this support is important during recess as well as in the classroom. A study would help us explore how we might best serve all of our students in our playground design. The School Department and members of the Hardy community would like to investigate a more varied mix of surfaces, equipment, and thoughtfully designed play areas for Hardy's recreational space. Outdoor play is an important part of our students' day, and it has tremendous benefits for cognitive function as well as social and emotional regulation.

Enrollment growth has created a sense of urgency for this study, but it's also important to note that outside of school hours, the Hardy playground is a heavily used resource in a densely populated part of town with limited park space. A reimagining of the playground would serve the wider community, in keeping with CPA goals.

#### **COMMUNITY SUPPORT:**

What is the nature and level of support for this project? Include letters of support and any petitions.

The Hardy community enthusiastically supports an outdoor space study. Teachers, parents, and administrators are in agreement that the current space is not adequate for the current population and would welcome the opportunity to give input in a redesign.

In June 2017, Hardy parents collected 201 signatures from parents on a petition (Appendix 4) they sent to the school department and School Committee voicing concerns about Hardy's outdoor space and asking that:

"Creative, forward-thinking ideas for the future of the Chandler Street play area...be considered as part of this construction project. ...We know that the playground space we have now is inadequate for this year's population of approximately 450 students. Projections indicate that Hardy will have about 40 additional students within three years. Simply replacing the already-crowded play structure that will be lost to construction with a new one on the Lake Street side will not sufficiently increase playground capacity, and it will do nothing to make the Chandler Street side a vibrant space with multiple play opportunities. Playground capacity and usability at Hardy have become an issue of parity.

With this in mind, we urge you to consider how the large blacktop area could be be reconfigured to keep a basketball court and space for other games but also offer space for other types of play. ...We request that multiple options be explored to make the most of the space we have, both during and after construction. As a parent community, we view the upcoming expansion as the appropriate time—for financial and programmatic reasons—to make needed improvements

to the function of the whole school, which includes classrooms, common space, and outdoor space.

As we work toward meeting our enrollment challenges, we see the current moment as a chance to look holistically at the way our outdoor space contributes to our children's social learning and overall educational experience.

This application is supported by the Hardy School Council, which is made up of the school principal (Kristin DeFrancisco), three Hardy teachers, and four parents of Hardy students. The council has been involved in the building design process and is responsible for outreach to the school community about the addition.

This application is also supported by the Executive Board of the Hardy School Parent Teacher Association. The PTO plans to raise funds to eventually help in purchasing playground equipment (details are included in their letter).

In addition, this application is unanimously supported by the Arlington School Committee. Facilities Subcommittee Chair and former Hardy parent Jennifer Susse has also provided a personal letter of support. Joseph Curro, Jr. has also provided a letter of support.

All letters of support are included as Appendix 8.

#### PROJECT DOCUMENTATION:

Attach any applicable engineering plans, architectural drawings, site plans, photographs, any other renderings, relevant studies or material.

- In August of 2017, Nitsch Engineering completed an Existing Condition Survey of the entire Hardy property. This comprehensive study was completed for Finegold Alexander in preparation for designing the addition. It includes topography, boundary marks, and locations of utilities (Appendix 1).
- The executive board of the Hardy PTO has prepared a presentation to aid the committee in visually understanding Hardy's population growth, outdoor space, and current use and plans (Appendix 5). It includes many photographs of the campus.
- A press release with an illustration of the design concept for the addition from Finegold Alexander is included (Appendix 6).

#### TIMELINE:

What is the schedule for project implementation, including a timeline for all critical milestones?

The study would take approximately six months from the start date, in July 2018.

- If the application is successful, Town Meeting Approval May 2018
- Town issues RFP and selects landscape architecture firm May/June 2018
- CPA funds available 1 July 2018
- Coordination with the Recreation Department in the development of the plan. July 2018
- Coordination with Finegold Alexander and examination of existing plans and information
   July 2018
- Engagement with administrators and Hardy teachers (surveys, interviews) August 2018
- Public meeting (community visioning session) September 2018
- Development of concept alternatives and presentation and feedback at public meeting -October/November 2018
- Recommendations/cost estimates and phasing plan/public meeting December 2018
- Construction documents completed December 2018/ January 2019

#### **CREDENTIALS:**

How will the experience of the applicant contribute to the success of this project?

The School Department has built and maintained many school playgrounds as the town has designed and executed rebuilds or renovations of all seven elementary schools during the past sixteen years. We have recently strengthened our relationship and collaboration with the town's Parks and Recreation Department so we can work together to evaluate and maintain all of our school playgrounds year round.

The School Department has extensive experience working with design firms to execute studies and designs for complex school building projects. We also coordinate with and draw on the expertise of other town employees and committees. A space study of the Hardy playground will be a natural extension of our work on school building projects.

#### **BUDGET:**

What is the total budget for the project and how will funds be sourced and spent? All items of expenditure must be clearly identified. Distinguish between hard and soft costs and contingencies. (NOTE: CPA funds may not be used for maintenance.)

Feasibility study - \$39,500 total

Estimates for study components:
Site analysis and coordination with Finegold Alexander - \$4,000
Public engagement process - \$8,000
Conceptual designs - \$6,500
Design Development and final report - \$9,500
Construction documents - \$11,500

#### OTHER FUNDING:

What additional funding sources are available, committed, or under consideration? Include commitment letters, if available, and describe any other attempts to secure funding for this project.

There are no other designated funds for this project.

#### MAINTENANCE:

If ongoing maintenance is required for your project, how will it be funded?

Ongoing maintenance will be funded through the existing Town mechanism for funding playground maintenance.

#### IMPACT ON TOWN BUDGET:

What, if any, potential secondary effects will your proposed project have on the Town's Operating Budget? Are there any capital projects that rely on the successful completion of your project?

The Capital Planning Committee has added a placeholder amount of \$300,000 to the Capital Budget for FY2020. This funding has not yet been approved by Town Meeting. This placeholder allocation would allow the Town and School Department to construct a reimagined Chandler Street playground. The budget allocation amount would be updated after the results of the study proposed in this application. The Hardy PTO also plans to raise funds to make a contribution for some equipment, but it will be a relatively small percentage of the budget amount.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### **CONTROL OF SITE:**

The School Department controls the property. See property card (Appendix 7.)

DEED RESTRICTIONS: N/A

ACQUISITIONS: N/A

FEASIBILITY: N/A

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: N/A

PERMITTING: N/A

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS:** 

Identify all known wetlands, floodplains, and/or any natural resource limitation that occur within the boundaries of your submission.

None.

#### PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS:

Evidence that appropriate professional standards will be followed if construction, restoration or rehabilitation is proposed. Evidence that the applicant and the project team have the proven or potential capacity to conduct the scope and scale of the proposed project, as evidenced by project leaders with appropriate qualifications and technical experience or access to technical expertise.

- The project will be managed by School Department CFO John Danizio and the town's Director of Facilities. They will work closely with Recreation Director Jon Marshall.
- The project will be awarded to a landscape architecture firm with appropriate capabilities.
- The study cost estimate was developed in consultation with Assistant Town Manager
  Jim Feeney, who has extensive experience with feasibility studies. The budget number
  has been verified by a volunteer who is a landscape designer and certified playground
  safety inspector who visited the site.

#### **FURTHER ATTACHMENTS:**

- Appendix 1: Existing Conditions Survey of Hardy School (p. 1)
- Appendix 2: Update to Enrollment Forecast, December 2015 (p. 3)
- Appendix 3: Heat Map with Hardy Pinpointed (p. 6)
- Appendix 4: Petition from Hardy Parents (p. 7)
- Appendix 5: Presentation from the Hardy PTO Executive Board (p. 26)
- Appendix 6: Press Release from Finegold Alexander on Hardy Addition Design (p. 43)
- Appendix 7: Assessor's Map and Property Card for Hardy School (p. 44)
- Appendix 8: Letters of Support (p. 47)

### Community Preservation Committee Town of Arlington

#### CPA Funding – FY2019 Final Application

One (1) electronic copy and three (3) hard copies of the completed Application must be submitted to the CPAC no later than noon on **Friday, December 8, 2017 in order to be considered for the 2018 Annual Town Meeting**, with the electronic copy sent to <a href="mailto:AFidalgo@town.arlington.ma.us">AFidalgo@town.arlington.ma.us</a> and the hard copies to:

Community Preservation Committee c/o Amy Fidalgo Town of Arlington, 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476

Applications will be date stamped and assigned control numbers in the order that the hard copies are received.

Project Title Hardy E	lementary School Playg	rouna Stuay	
Applicant/Contact Pers	on_ Kathleen Bodie, Ed.	D., Superintender	nt of Schools
Organization Arlingt	ton Public Schools		
Mailing Address86	9 Massachusetts Avenue	e, Arlington, MA 02	2476
Telephone781-3	L6-3502 E-mail_	kbodie@arlingto	n.k12.ma.us
Signature Catt	L. Rodie	Date Dec	ember 1, 2017
CPA Category (select on	e):		
☐ Community Housing  Amount Requested	☐ Historic Preservation \$50,000	□ Open Space	☑ Recreation
Total Project Cost	\$50,000		

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

#### GOALS:

What are the goals of the proposed project?

The School Department would like to engage in a holistic planning process that will enable us to improve and maximize our use of Hardy Elementary School's outdoor space. The Department is requesting funds to conduct a site analysis of the Hardy Elementary grounds/campus and study the feasibility of improving opportunities for outdoor learning and play. The study, to be conducted by a landscape architecture firm, will focus on the main playground, which is bounded by Chandler Street and Herbert Street.

Enrollment at the Hardy School has grown rapidly in recent years, and that growth has necessitated a six-classroom addition. This change to the building's footprint will significantly affect the playground, which is already inadequate for the current population. The outdoor space needs are urgent, and because the current surface of the playground will be damaged during construction, it would be most efficient to reconsider the Hardy campus in conjunction with the building project and implement changes immediately following construction. In addition to serving Hardy students, the playground is a heavily used community resource.

The School Department has worked closely with Finegold Alexander to arrive at a design concept for the addition that will accommodate the school's growing population, complement the existing building, take into account the social and emotional needs of students, and make the school more conducive to 21st century learning. This study would offer an exciting opportunity to engage in a thoughtful process that would ensure that Hardy's outdoor space is reimagined just as thoughtfully. Outdoor space—used for both recess and Physical Education—is an essential part of the overall success of this expansion project.

This final application represents a substantive change from our preliminary application. The CPA Committee has made it clear that this is an acceptable change. We appreciate this flexibility.

As part of the study, the selected firm would:

- Coordinate with Finegold Alexander, the designer of Hardy's six-room addition.
   Construction is slated to start in spring of 2018. The likely completion date is January 2019. Finegold Alexander completed a study of existing conditions at the site in August 2017 (see Appendix 1), which provides important information for the study.
- Document and analyze the state of current equipment, landscaping, surfaces, and fencing.
- Analyze how the Lake Street playground plan addresses outdoor needs and factor this into Chandler Street concepts.

- Assess existing drainage and identify opportunities to improve/accommodate additional runoff from the increased building footprint. Finegold Alexander has probably worked on this to some extent as it relates to the addition, so it will be important to coordinate with them.
- Assess current plantings and trees. Consult with the town's tree warden on guidelines for plantings in design.
- Prioritize use of materials and plantings that will mitigate the heat island effect and decrease stormwater runoff.
- Assess entrances and access points of the building and playground and evaluate flow/ circulation.
- Seek detailed input from school administrators, staff, and teachers, including PE teachers and the district's Director of Guidance and Social Emotional Learning.
- In collaboration with Hardy's School Council, facilitate a robust public input process that engages Hardy students, parents, abutters, and other community members. Public sessions should be held at several different stages of the process.
- Develop and present concept alternatives, including changes to configuration, equipment, and surfaces.
- Based on input, develop a preferred alternative concept.
- Ensure that architects have vetted all landscape plans with the designer of the overall campus and playground so work is not duplicated and the resulting design is cohesive.
- Develop preliminary estimated costs for design, engineering, construction, and project management and suggestions for project phasing. Work on the phasing plan in conjunction with Finegold Alexander.
- Assist with documentation required to secure project funding for implementation of the plan from potential sources (Town of Arlington Capital, CPA, state and/or federal grants).

#### COMMUNITY NEED:

Why is the project needed? Does it address needs identified in existing Town plans?

The existing Chandler Street playground was designed and installed as part of the 2001 renovation of the school. When the equipment was chosen and land use was determined, 270 students were enrolled. In the 2017-18 academic year, 457 students are enrolled. The school has experienced a population increase of 69% with no significant change in playground equipment or outdoor space configuration. In recent years, the increasing population has surpassed the limits of the playground. The 2015-16 school year was the last year all classes used the Chandler Street playground without safety concerns from teachers and administrators. The Hardy School is the only one of our seven elementary schools that is not adjacent to a town park or field. There is no field to play on during recess or PE, and no room for overflow. Enrollment forecasts predict continued growth during the next several years (Appendix 2).

In the fall of 2016, administrators and teachers tried using the small yard that runs along Lake Street for recess for half of kindergarten classes. However, the space became too muddy to use by late fall. As a result, kindergarten classes had to split outdoor recess blocks, reducing

outdoor recess time for kindergartners. In the fall of 2017, the town made improvements to the Lake Street yard, adding wood chips and installing a taller temporary fence. Two kindergarten classes at a time are currently able to use the space, but equipment is minimal. The town plans to design and build a permanent playground in the Lake Street yard. The amount of \$120,000 is allocated for the project in the FY2019 Capital Plan. The design process has not yet begun, but the relatively small yard is expected to accommodate two classes (about 40-50 students) at a time. The expected completion date is September 2018.

The building expansion will require the removal of the existing kindergarten play structure on the Chandler Street playground. The Lake Street playground will therefore *replace* the play area that will be lost to construction, but there is *no net gain* of play space, which means that changes must be made to the main playground, or other areas of the campus, in order to safely accommodate the current and projected student body.

The challenges of school enrollment growth are outlined in chapter nine of the Town of Arlington's Master Plan. The plan emphasizes the need to consider outdoor space when evaluating facilities: "In addition to looking at the physical layout of space, an assessment of the environmental quality, such as daylight and the availability of fresh air, and the adequacy of grounds that support municipal and school facilities, should be considered." (p. 169)

A substantial majority of the main playground is impervious blacktop surface, including a full basketball court, two half-courts, and a large open area. Half of the smaller area currently surfaced with wood chips will be lost to the building project. In chapter eight of the town's Master Plan, it is noted that "a significant portion of the town (41.4 percent) is covered with impervious surfaces—mainly buildings and pavement—which impede the land's ability to absorb and disperse rainwater." (p. 132) The town can lead on changing this with careful attention to its properties.

The Arlington Tree Committee recently undertook a tree inventory, and students at Boston University analyzed the data and generated maps showing surface temperature, population density, and tree canopy (Appendix 3). The Hardy School is part of a heat island in one of the most densely populated areas of town. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, "The term 'heat island' describes built up areas that are hotter than nearby rural areas. ...Heat islands can affect communities by increasing summertime peak energy demand, air conditioning costs, air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, heat-related illness and mortality, and water quality." Research published in the *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health* suggests that an increase in tree density is associated with a lower prevalence of early childhood asthma. One of the EPA's suggested strategies for heat island mitigation is tree planting. Careful evaluation of opportunities to develop the tree canopy at Hardy would improve the climate on the playground, inside the building, and in the neighborhood at large. In addition to plantings, the surfaces used on a redesigned Hardy campus could be carefully chosen to mitigate the heat island effect.

Finally, a number of parents have expressed concern that the current playground does not equally serve all students. Social, emotional, and wellness support is a central aspect of our district goals, and this support is important during recess as well as in the classroom. A study would help us explore how we might best serve all of our students in our playground design. The School Department and members of the Hardy community would like to investigate a more varied mix of surfaces, equipment, and thoughtfully designed play areas for the space. Outdoor play is an important part of our students' day, and it has tremendous benefits for cognitive function as well as social and emotional regulation.

Enrollment growth has created a sense of urgency for this study, but it's also important to note that outside of school hours, the Hardy playground is a heavily used resource in a densely populated part of town with limited park space. A reimagining of the playground would serve the wider community, in keeping with CPA goals.

#### **COMMUNITY SUPPORT:**

What is the nature and level of support for this project? Include letters of support and any petitions.

The Hardy community enthusiastically supports an outdoor space study. Teachers, parents, and administrators are in agreement that the current space is not adequate for the current population and would welcome the opportunity to give input in a redesign.

In June 2017, Hardy parents collected 201 signatures from parents on a petition (Appendix 4) they sent to the school department and School Committee voicing concerns about Hardy's outdoor space and asking that:

"Creative, forward-thinking ideas for the future of the Chandler Street play area...be considered as part of this construction project. ...We know that the playground space we have now is inadequate for this year's population of approximately 450 students. Projections indicate that Hardy will have about 40 additional students within three years. Simply replacing the already-crowded play structure that will be lost to construction with a new one on the Lake Street side will not sufficiently increase playground capacity, and it will do nothing to make the Chandler Street side a vibrant space with multiple play opportunities. Playground capacity and usability at Hardy have become an issue of parity.

With this in mind, we urge you to consider how the large blacktop area could be be reconfigured to keep a basketball court and space for other games but also offer space for other types of play. ...We request that multiple options be explored to make the most of the space we have, both during and after construction. As a parent community, we view the upcoming expansion as the appropriate time—for financial and programmatic reasons—to make needed improvements to the function of the whole school, which includes classrooms, common space, and outdoor space.

As we work toward meeting our enrollment challenges, we see the current moment as a chance to look holistically at the way our outdoor space contributes to our children's social learning and overall educational experience.

This application is supported by the Hardy School Council, which is made up of the school principal (Kristin DeFrancisco), three Hardy teachers, and four parents of Hardy students. The council has been involved in the building design process and is responsible for outreach to the school community about the addition.

This application is also supported by the Executive Board of the Hardy School Parent Teacher Association. The PTO plans to raise funds to eventually help in purchasing playground equipment (details are included in their letter).

In addition, this application is unanimously supported by the Arlington School Committee. Facilities Subcommittee Chair and former Hardy parent Jennifer Susse has also provided a personal letter of support. Joseph Curro, Jr. has also provided a letter of support.

All letters of support are included as Appendix 8.

#### PROJECT DOCUMENTATION:

Attach any applicable engineering plans, architectural drawings, site plans, photographs, any other renderings, relevant studies or material.

- In August of 2017, Nitsch Engineering completed an Existing Condition Survey of the entire Hardy property. This comprehensive study was completed for Finegold Alexander in preparation for designing the addition. It includes topography, boundary marks, and locations of utilities (Appendix 1).
- The executive board of the Hardy PTO has prepared a presentation to aid the committee in visually understanding Hardy's population growth, outdoor space, and current use and plans (Appendix 5). It includes many photographs of the campus.
- A press release with an illustration of the design concept for the addition from Finegold Alexander is included (Appendix 6).

#### TIMELINE:

What is the schedule for project implementation, including a timeline for all critical milestones?

The study would take approximately six months from the start date, in July 2018.

- If the application is successful, Town Meeting Approval May 2018
- Town issues RFP and selects landscape architecture firm May/June 2018
- CPA funds available 1 July 2018

- Coordination with the Department of Parks and Recreation in the development of the plan. – July 2018
- Coordination with Finegold Alexander and examination of existing plans and information
   July 2018
- Engagement with administrators and Hardy teachers (surveys, interviews) August 2018
- Public meeting (community visioning session) September 2018
- Development of concept alternatives and presentation and feedback at public meeting -October/November 2018
- Recommendations/cost estimates and phasing plan/public meeting December 2018

#### **CREDENTIALS:**

How will the experience of the applicant contribute to the success of this project?

The School Department has built and maintained many school playgrounds as the town has designed and executed rebuilds or renovations of all seven elementary schools during the past sixteen years. We have recently strengthened our relationship and collaboration with the town's Parks and Recreation Department so we can work together to evaluate and maintain all of our school playgrounds year round.

The School Department has extensive experience working with design firms to execute studies and designs for complex school building projects. We also coordinate with and draw on the expertise of other town employees and committees. An outdoor space study will be a natural extension of our work on school building projects.

#### **BUDGET:**

What is the total budget for the project and how will funds be sourced and spent? All items of expenditure must be clearly identified. Distinguish between hard and soft costs and contingencies. (NOTE: CPA funds may not be used for maintenance.)

Feasibility study - \$50,000

#### OTHER FUNDING:

What additional funding sources are available, committed, or under consideration? Include commitment letters, if available, and describe any other attempts to secure funding for this project.

There are no other designated funds for this project.

#### MAINTENANCE:

If ongoing maintenance is required for your project, how will it be funded?

Ongoing maintenance will be funded through the Facilities. Department budget.

#### IMPACT ON TOWN BUDGET:

What, if any, potential secondary effects will your proposed project have on the Town's Operating Budget? Are there any capital projects that rely on the successful completion of your project?

The School Department has submitted a request for a placeholder amount of \$200,000 to be added to the Capital Budget for FY2020. This funding has not been approved yet by the Capital Planning Committee. This placeholder allocation would allow the Town and School Department to plan for a final design and construction of a reimagined Chandler Street playground. The budget allocation amount would be updated after the results of the study proposed in this application. The Hardy PTO also plans to raise funds to make a contribution for some equipment, but it will be a relatively small percentage of the budget amount.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

#### CONTROL OF SITE:

The School Department controls the property. See property card (Appendix 7.)

DEED RESTRICTIONS: N/A

ACQUISITIONS: N/A

FEASIBILITY: N/A

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: N/A

PERMITTING: N/A

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS:**

Identify all known wetlands, floodplains, and/or any natural resource limitation that occur within the boundaries of your submission.

None.

#### PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS:

Evidence that appropriate professional standards will be followed if construction, restoration or rehabilitation is proposed. Evidence that the applicant and the project team have the proven or potential capacity to conduct the scope and scale of the proposed project, as evidenced by

project leaders with appropriate qualifications and technical experience or access to technical expertise.

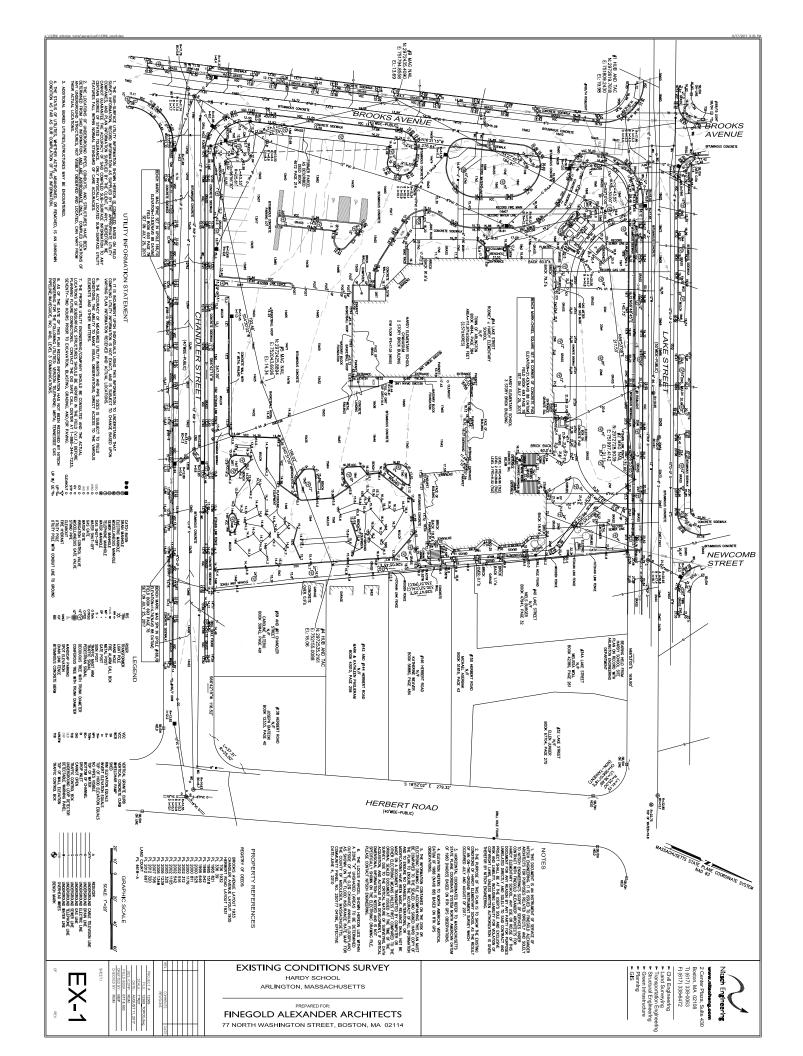
- The project will be managed by School Department CFO John Danizio, and the town's Director of Facilities. They will work closely with Department of Parks and Recreation Director Jon Marshall.
- The project will be awarded to a landscape architecture firm with appropriate capabilities.
- The study cost estimate was developed in consultation with Assistant Town Manager
  Jim Feeney, who has extensive experience with feasibility studies. The budget number
  has been verified by a volunteer who is a landscape designer and certified playground
  safety inspector who visited the site.

#### **FURTHER ATTACHMENTS:**

- Appendix 1: Existing Conditions Survey of Hardy School (p. 1)
- Appendix 2: Update to Enrollment Forecast, December 2015 (p. 3)
- Appendix 3: Heat Map with Hardy Pinpointed (p. 6)
- Appendix 4: Petition from Hardy Parents (p. 7)
- Appendix 5: Presentation from the Hardy PTO Executive Board (p. 26)
- Appendix 6: Press Release from Finegold Alexander on Hardy Addition Design (p. 43)
- Appendix 7: Assessor's Map and Property Card for Hardy School (p. 44)
- Appendix 8: Letters of Support (p. 47)

#### Appendix 1: Existing Conditions Survey of Hardy School

Prepared by Nitsch Engineering for Finegold Alexander, August 11, 2017



#### Appendix 2: Update to Enrollment Forecast, December 2015

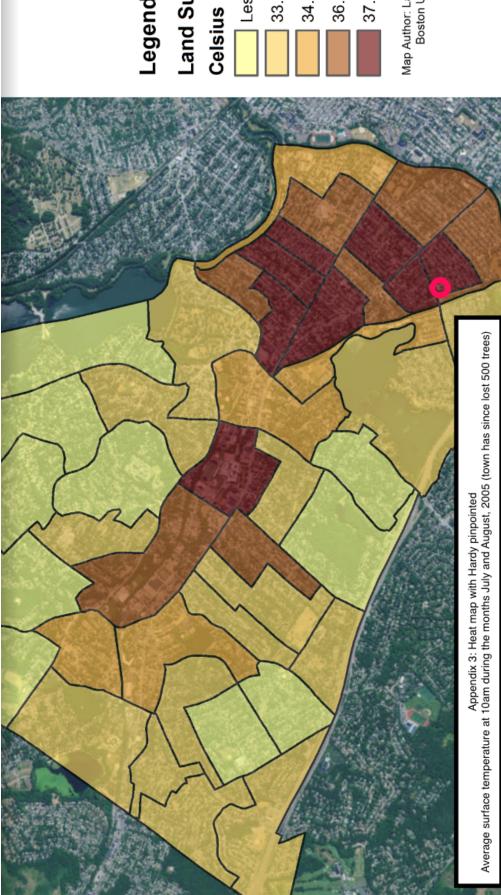
Prepared by: Jerome N. McKibben, Ph.D. McKibben Demographic Research Rock Hill, South Carolina

#### Hardy Elementary December 2015

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
к	42	64	67	65	82	85	84	84	83	82	81	80	79	78	77	79
1	65	46	62	67	69	81	87	88	87	86	85	84	82	81	80	79
2	57	65	47	71	68	67	80	86	87	86	85	86	85	83	82	81
3	69	58	59	49	68	61	66	78	84	85	84	86	87	86	84	83
4	56	64	55	58	46	71	59	64	76	81	82	82	84	85	84	82
5	40	56	60	53	59	48	69	57	62	74	79	80	80	82	83	82
Total K-5	329	353	350	363	392	413	445	457	479	494	496	498	497	495	490	486
Total K-5	329	353	350	363	392	413	445	457	479	494	496	498	497	495	490	486
Change		24	-3	13	29	21	32	12	22	15	2	2	-1	-2	-5	-4
% Change		7.3%	-0.8%	3.7%	8.0%	5.4%	7.7%	2.7%	4.8%	3.1%	0.4%	0.4%	-0.2%	-0.4%	-1.0%	-0.8%

#### Arlington Public Schools: Total District Enrollment December 2015

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
PK	57	48	54	55	57	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
K	448	450	454	471	516	483	487	481	483	479	476	476	471	464	459	468
1	441	455	460	472	482	520	509	513	510	511	507	502	494	487	480	473
2	433	427	446	474	465	479	513	502	506	503	504	507	502	494	488	481
3	395	429	418	458	477	456	475	507	497	501	498	505	508	503	495	489
4	427	390	424	428	459	471	466	484	515	505	508	500	508	511	506	498
5	360	415	386	423	428	459	464	462	479	509	500	507	499	507	510	505
Total: PK-5	2561	2614	2642	2781	2884	2924	2970	3005	3046	3064	3049	3053	3038	3022	2994	2970
6	344	349	374	352	397	409	436	436	441	439	450	478	470	477	469	477
7	347	331	328	385	341	382	403	429	429	434	435	446	473	465	472	464
8	360	346	326	317	369	336	371	391	416	416	423	424	435	461	453	460
Total: 6-8	1051	1026	1028	1054	1107	1127	1210	1256	1286	1289	1308	1348	1378	1403	1394	1401
9	297	300	313	280	306	344	312	345	364	387	387	391	392	402	426	419
10	318	297	298	313	289	313	347	315	348	368	391	389	393	394	404	428
11	286	331	296	303	310	278	305	338	307	339	359	379	377	381	382	392
12	295	290	326	289	312	318	281	308	341	310	342	361	381	379	383	384
Total: 9-12	1196	1218	1233	1185	1217	1253	1245	1306	1360	1404	1479	1520	1543	1556	1595	1623
Total: PK-12	4808	4858	4903	5020	5208	5304	5425	5567	5692	5757	5836	5921	5959	5981	5983	5994
Total: PK-12	4808	4858	4903	5020	5208	5304	5425	5567	5692	5757	5836	5921	5959	5981	5983	5994
Change	4000	4636 50	4903	117	188	96	121	142	125	65	79	85	38	22	2	11
%-Change		1.0%	0.9%	2.4%	3.7%	1.8%	2.3%	2.6%	2.2%	1.1%	1.4%	1.5%	0.6%	0.4%	0.0%	0.2%
70 Change		1.070	0.570	2.470	3.770	1.070	2.570	2.070	2.270	1.170	1.470	1.570	0.070	0.470	0.070	0.270
Total: PK-5	2561	2614	2642	2781	2884	2924	2970	3005	3046	3064	3049	3053	3038	3022	2994	2970
Change		53	28	139	103	40	46	35	41	18	-15	4	-15	-16	-28	-24
%-Change		2.1%	1.1%	5.3%	3.7%	1.4%	1.6%	1.2%	1.4%	0.6%	-0.5%	0.1%	-0.5%	-0.5%	-0.9%	-0.8%
Total: 6-8	1051	1026	1028	1054	1107	1127	1210	1256	1286	1289	1308	1348	1378	1403	1394	1401
Change	1001	-25	2	26	53	20	83	46	30	3	19	40	30	25	-9	7
%-Change		-2.4%	0.2%	2.5%	5.0%	1.8%	7.4%	3.8%	2.4%	0.2%	1.5%	3.1%	2.2%	1.8%	-0.6%	0.5%
Total: 9-12	1196	1218	1233	1185	1217	1253	1245	1306	1360	1404	1479	1520	1543	1556	1595	1623
Change	1130	22	15	-48	32	36	-8	61	54	44	75	41	23	1330	39	28
%-Change		1.8%	1.2%	-3.9%	2.7%	3.0%	-0.6%	4.9%	4.1%	3.2%	5.3%	2.8%	1.5%	0.8%	2.5%	1.8%
/o-Citatige		1.070	1.270	-3.570	2.770	3.0%	-0.0%	4.370	4.170	3.4/0	3.370	2.070	1.370	0.0%	2.370	1.070



## Legend

# Land Surface Temp

33.1 (91°F) - 34.5 (94°F) Less than 33.0 (91°F)

34.6 (94°F) - 36.0 (97°F) 36.1 (97°F) - 37.5 (100°F

37.6 (100°F) or greater

Map Author: Lauren Cabrera, Boston University



This petition has collected 201 signatures using the online tools at iPetitions.com

Printed on 2017-11-16

#### The Hardy School's Outdoor Space Needs

About this petition

Dear Dr. Bodie and members of the School Committee:

During the past year, the Hardy School parent community has watched with great interest as the sixclassroom addition process moves toward fall 2017 construction. We appreciate all the work that members of the School Department and other town leaders have done to ensure that Hardy receives this important addition. However, one issue that concerned us as we followed the planning was that the school's outdoor space did not appear to be receiving attention as a design and strategic priority—either during the construction or afterward. This issue is of paramount importance to our community, and it is directly connected to the enrollment challenges that necessitated the addition in the first place.

We have been pleased to note a recent uptick in administrative attention to the playground issues in Facilities Subcommittee meetings and through email communications. As the school year ends, we have come together to voice our support for a holistic, thoughtful approach to the future of our outdoor space—and to share our hopes for the eventual outcome of this important conversation.

#### Specifically:

- 1) During construction, when the small playground structure has been removed from the Chandler Street side of the school, we need a clear plan to enable all of our students to have the recess experience they need. We appreciate that this is currently under consideration and will be part of the design process.
- 2) We need short- and long-term solutions for the Lake Street side that will offer students a sustainable surface (like wood chips or other fiber material) and engaging materials (a small structure and loose-parts play equipment are options to be considered) to encourage the kind of collaborative, imaginative free play our children need at recess. We are pleased that the administration is looking into interim solutions for next year and has worked to have funds allocated to place a play structure on the Lake Street side during the summer of 2018.
- 3) Creative, forward-thinking ideas for the future of the Chandler Street play area should be considered as part of this construction project. With Hardy's enrollment growing so quickly, it is not appropriate to expect our students and teachers to wait until a multi-year, town-wide study is complete to make changes, which we understand is the current plan. We know that the playground space we have now is inadequate for this year's population of approximately 450 students. Projections indicate that Hardy will have about 40 additional students within three years. Simply replacing the already-crowded play structure that will be lost to construction with a new one on the Lake Street side will not sufficiently increase playground capacity, and it will do nothing to make the Chandler Street side a vibrant space with multiple play opportunities. Playground capacity and usability at Hardy have become an issue of parity.

With this in mind, we urge you to consider how the large blacktop area could be be reconfigured to keep a basketball court and space for other games but also offer space for other types of play. With thoughtful planning, there is room for an additional play structure if some blacktop is removed. It is

logical to plan to do this while heavy equipment is already on site. Further, the partial fence that runs parallel to the main Chandler Street fence could be removed to increase usable space. We request that multiple options be explored to make the most of the space we have, both during and after construction. As a parent community, we view the upcoming expansion as the appropriate time—for financial and programmatic reasons—to make needed improvements to the function of the whole school, which includes classrooms, common space, and outdoor space.

As we work toward meeting our enrollment challenges, we see the current moment as a chance to look holistically at the way our outdoor space contributes to our children's social learning and overall educational experience. We applaud your call for creating a Hardy Building Committee, and we look forward to participating in the conversation on this issue in the weeks and months to come. This petition is meant to communicate our hopes for the decisions that may be made in the interim regarding Hardy School's outdoor space.

Sincerely,

The Hardy Parent Community

#### Signatures

1.	Name: Kate Leary on 2017-06-18 17:17:42 Comments:
2.	Name: Holly Rossi on 2017-06-18 17:41:36 Comments:
3.	Name: Michele J Phelan on 2017-06-18 17:49:30 Comments:
4.	Name: Andrew Malone on 2017-06-18 18:01:55 Comments:
5.	Name: Rob Rossi on 2017-06-18 18:04:53 Comments:
6.	Name: Josh Smift on 2017-06-18 18:30:38 Comments:
7.	Name: Dina Berdieva on 2017-06-18 18:31:26 Comments:
8.	Name: Anne Clarke-Lauer on 2017-06-18 18:56:35 Comments:
9.	Name: Cédrine Bell on 2017-06-18 19:01:39 Comments:
10.	Name: Carol Zimmer on 2017-06-18 19:21:42 Comments:
11.	Name: Addie Dublin on 2017-06-18 19:36:43 Comments:
12.	Name: Chrissa Banner on 2017-06-18 20:03:20 Comments:
13.	Name: Daniel Jalkut on 2017-06-18 20:24:09 Comments:
14.	Name: Jen Regrut on 2017-06-18 22:03:03

#### Comments:

15.	Name: Brendan Sullivan on 2017-06-18 22:06:00 Comments:
16.	Name: Sarah Smith on 2017-06-18 22:27:50 Comments:
17.	Name: Parul Vakani on 2017-06-18 22:51:26 Comments:
18.	Name: Doris Pfaffinger on 2017-06-18 23:18:56 Comments:
19.	Name: Ginna Smith Reeder on 2017-06-18 23:38:15 Comments:
20.	Name: Kaitlin Longmire on 2017-06-19 00:31:20 Comments:
21.	Name: Lauren Killeen on 2017-06-19 00:49:29 Comments:
22.	Name: Alex Bilsky on 2017-06-19 00:56:55 Comments:
23.	Name: Samit Chhabra on 2017-06-19 01:12:22 Comments:
24.	Name: Allan Reeder on 2017-06-19 01:28:23 Comments:
25.	Name: William J Logan on 2017-06-19 02:25:56 Comments:
26.	Name: Marc Ruben on 2017-06-19 02:51:38 Comments:
27.	Name: Joanna Lydgate on 2017-06-19 02:52:05 Comments:
28.	Name: Dima Berdiev on 2017-06-19 03:03:04

Comments: Playground just like other components of school facilities should be well-thought out. I agree that this seems to be an afterthought for the administration and needs to change. If we can't find the money to do our schools and education right, what are we good for?

29.	Name: Alia Atlas on 2017-06-19 03:31:25 Comments:
30.	Name: Ethan Zimmer on 2017-06-19 03:38:50 Comments:
31.	Name: Yukari Hirano on 2017-06-19 03:50:14 Comments:
32.	Name: Ann Chhabra on 2017-06-19 04:15:41 Comments:
33.	Name: Sarah Endo on 2017-06-19 08:43:35 Comments:
34.	Name: Terry Holt on 2017-06-19 10:12:11 Comments: I look forward to the discussion and exchange of ideas regarding Hardy's outdoor play spaces. Thank you!
35.	Name: Allison Holt on 2017-06-19 11:00:44 Comments:
36.	Name: Frederick Robie on 2017-06-19 11:24:54 Comments:
37.	Name: Clarissa Rowe on 2017-06-19 12:40:23 Comments: I am signing as a neighbor and a landscape architect who commends the parents for thinking these issues through so carefully. Children's play is integral to their mental and physical growth.
38.	Name: Meghan Gocke on 2017-06-19 13:10:25 Comments:
39.	Name: Sarah Weintraub on 2017-06-19 13:20:03  Comments: Hardy playground outdoor space is an integral part of the school day, ensuring our children have space to expend energy and therefore concentrate better in class. Please consider prioritizing Hardy playground space.

40.	Name: John Ellis on 2017-06-19 13:21:15  Comments: Would love for town to be buyers next time a property on chandler becomes available and convert it into a play space.
41.	Name: Anil Shrestha on 2017-06-19 13:29:14 Comments:
42.	Name: Beau Tremblay on 2017-06-19 13:30:50 Comments:
43.	Name: Kezia Simister on 2017-06-19 13:37:09 Comments:
44.	Name: Britt McNiff on 2017-06-19 13:38:40 Comments:
45.	Name: Sara Vail on 2017-06-19 13:41:24 Comments:
46.	Name: Heather Phelps on 2017-06-19 13:41:59  Comments: I am concerned about the kids not having a adequate playground. Kids need to have outside time to move and climb. My son especially needs this to help develop his gross motor skills
47.	Name: Marnie Weinberg on 2017-06-19 13:42:17 Comments:
48.	Name: Sean P McNiff on 2017-06-19 13:45:24 Comments:
49.	Name: Courtney Rodland on 2017-06-19 13:46:05 Comments: Hardy 2nd and 4th grade parent.
50.	Name: Patsy O'Brien on 2017-06-19 13:47:02 Comments:
51.	Name: Niva Shrestha on 2017-06-19 13:48:34 Comments:
52.	Name: Lori Kennedy on 2017-06-19 13:49:27 Comments: Please don't miss this opportunity to meet Hardy student needs while achieving synergies and cost efficiencies with the expansion project.

53.	Name: Amy LeBow on 2017-06-19 13:54:44 Comments:
54.	Name: Hadley Johnson on 2017-06-19 13:58:20 Comments: Kids need space to run and play during recess in order to follow rules inside and learn well enough to meet the grade level standards that keep Arlington's school ratings high.
55.	Name: Beth Newhall on 2017-06-19 13:59:49 Comments:
56.	Name: Bonnie walah on 2017-06-19 14:03:53 Comments:
57.	Name: Manisha Sharma on 2017-06-19 14:05:54 Comments:
58.	Name: Max Dublin on 2017-06-19 14:19:44 Comments:
59.	Name: meran ellis on 2017-06-19 14:30:35 Comments:
60.	Name: Joe Marshall on 2017-06-19 14:34:20 Comments:
61.	Name: James Hopper on 2017-06-19 14:43:17 Comments:
62.	Name: Moya Charig on 2017-06-19 14:56:25 Comments:
63.	Name: Elizabeth Crowley on 2017-06-19 14:59:49 Comments:
64.	Name: Maria Bargallo Perea on 2017-06-19 15:14:31 Comments:
65.	Name: Eva on 2017-06-19 15:31:47 Comments: The blacktop is also used for soccer, kickball, football and other team games by the older kids. Please keep in mind that the older kids don't play on the structures as do the younger kids when considering reconfiguring the blacktop space.

66.	Name: Katie Clinton on 2017-06-19 15:32:03 Comments:
67.	Name: Amanda Keen on 2017-06-19 15:32:59 Comments:
68.	Name: Pete Gast on 2017-06-19 15:44:51 Comments:
69.	Name: Eileen Maher on 2017-06-19 15:44:55 Comments:
70.	Name: Clay Hopper on 2017-06-19 15:47:52 Comments:
71.	Name: Lani Savvidis on 2017-06-19 15:54:09 Comments:
72.	Name: Christian Pfluegl on 2017-06-19 16:06:56 Comments:
73.	Name: Ethan Gee on 2017-06-19 16:47:07 Comments:
74.	Name: Roslyn Fitzgerald on 2017-06-19 16:55:49 Comments:
75.	Name: Dean Regrut on 2017-06-19 16:56:39 Comments:
76.	Name: Joshua Ayares on 2017-06-19 17:04:20 Comments:
77.	Name: Chara Lee on 2017-06-19 17:17:11 Comments:
78.	Name: Shibani Joshi on 2017-06-19 17:32:26 Comments:
79.	Name: Sarah Boulet on 2017-06-19 17:32:41 Comments:

Comments: 81. Name: Kelly McDermott on 2017-06-19 17:39:34 Comments: Improve Hardy school playground and outdoor space! 82. Name: Enrica Dente on 2017-06-19 17:55:21 Comments: Space and time for free play at school (30 min in the morning, 1-2 hours in the aftrenoon) + space and time for the kids' daily nutrition needs (1 hour lunchtime) is what every child needs in order to learn well. I saw a HUGE difference in my first grader child's behavior in only three months of Italian public school. Not only he has learned to read to others and to write well in capital letters, lowercase printed letters and cursive (the detailed work can be seen in 9 large notebooks). He has also learned the multiplication tables very well, he has learned to analyse, summarize and solve story questions and maths problems. He has also learned to take care of his stuff (e.g. put all his pens and stationary stuff in the correct place and order, take home the correct books and notepads for his daily assignments). Last but not least, he has learned to work independently, without supervision, on his assignments. 83. Name: Rachel Krebs on 2017-06-19 18:12:46 Comments: Could the town consider permitting the surrounding streets for teacher parking from 7.30-9? Could we then make use of the parking lot surface as well? 84. Name: Lisa Cleary on 2017-06-19 18:15:55 Comments: 85. Name: Nancy Selander on 2017-06-19 18:39:01 Comments: 86. on 2017-06-19 19:01:45 Name: Wyndham Ayares Comments: All of our lives will be happier if the Hardy kids have more to do during recess. Thank you! 87. on 2017-06-19 19:09:36 Name: Joseph Antony Comments: 88. Name: Mary Elizabeth liggio on 2017-06-19 19:20:21 Comments: I strongly agree that hardy school play space needs improvement and should be done as part of the scheduled construction being done to the school if not sooner 89. on 2017-06-19 19:24:12 Name: Kym Goldsmith Comments: It is absolutely essential that the kids sill have ample space to play that is enjoyable, safe, and available daily. Please keep this a priority! Thank you.

on 2017-06-19 17:35:43

80.

Name: David Saff

90.	Name: Karen Petho on 2017-06-19 19:31:59 Comments:
91.	Name: Melissa McInerney on 2017-06-19 19:35:09 Comments:
92.	Name: Brian Davies on 2017-06-19 19:43:33 Comments:
93.	Name: Christina Roberts on 2017-06-19 19:50:25 Comments:
94.	Name: Diana Jeffrey on 2017-06-19 20:02:05 Comments:
95.	Name: Tim Cooper on 2017-06-19 20:26:43 Comments:
96.	Name: Isabella Roversi on 2017-06-19 20:33:38 Comments:
97.	Name: Stacie Smith on 2017-06-19 20:33:58 Comments:
98.	Name: Monika Musial-Siwek on 2017-06-19 20:56:33 Comments:
99.	Name: Suzanne Shoesmith on 2017-06-19 21:00:11 Comments:
100.	Name: Jillean Price on 2017-06-19 21:13:53 Comments:
101.	Name: Ellen Fitanides on 2017-06-19 22:59:33  Comments: As part of the plan, I would also like to express my concerns that the trees not be cut down to make play space available.
102.	Name: marci shapiro ide on 2017-06-19 23:52:02 Comments:
103.	Name: Pauline Gnamm on 2017-06-20 00:10:01 Comments:

104.	Name: Jessica Eisnor on 2017-06-20 01:17:44 Comments:
105.	Name: Sarah Graham on 2017-06-20 01:22:17 Comments:
106.	Name: Aimee Miller on 2017-06-20 01:30:50 Comments:
107.	Name: Mariana lobato benvenuti on 2017-06-20 01:32:39 Comments:
108.	Name: Rebecca Saff on 2017-06-20 01:39:19  Comments: Hardy Elementary School is more constrained by space limitations than other schools so we have to be more creative and forward-thinking to help our kids have space to play and run. Adding classrooms without any consideration for the outdoor space kids need does not take good care of our kids.
109.	Name: Cathy Suarez on 2017-06-20 01:43:45 Comments:
110.	Name: Daniel Goldsmith on 2017-06-20 01:46:18 Comments:
111.	Name: Joyce Longmire on 2017-06-20 01:50:57 Comments:
112.	Name: Richard Longmire on 2017-06-20 01:54:35  Comments: Please work to create a safe enjoyable recreation area for all of the children at Hardy School.
113.	Name: Olga Gusikhina on 2017-06-20 02:14:11 Comments:
114.	Name: Jennifer Burke on 2017-06-20 02:42:33 Comments:
115.	Name: Marcella Radano on 2017-06-20 03:00:12 Comments: Please support early and informed planning for Hardy outdoor/play spaces.
116.	Name: Leah on 2017-06-20 03:02:44

#### Comments:

117.	Name: Kristin Davies on 2017-06-20 03:33:31 Comments:
118.	Name: Annmarie Stevenson on 2017-06-20 10:22:09 Comments:
119.	Name: Sarah McCarthy on 2017-06-20 11:01:36 Comments:
120.	Name: Jannine williams on 2017-06-20 11:13:00 Comments:
121.	Name: Sonia Almeida on 2017-06-20 11:23:01 Comments:
122.	Name: Michelle Marshall on 2017-06-20 11:28:06 Comments:
123.	Name: Laura Swan on 2017-06-20 12:48:14 Comments:
124.	Name: Debbie Jacob on 2017-06-20 12:54:51 Comments:
125.	Name: Courtney Horwitz on 2017-06-20 13:17:18 Comments:
126.	Name: Jessica Steytler on 2017-06-20 13:27:59 Comments:
127.	Name: Francis O'Donovan on 2017-06-20 13:55:23 Comments:
128.	Name: Jessica Xu on 2017-06-20 14:09:08 Comments:
129.	Name: Erin Freeburger on 2017-06-20 15:18:14 Comments:
130.	Name: Matt Clarke-Lauer on 2017-06-20 15:46:57

#### Comments:

131.	Name: Daniel Weinstock on 2017-06-20 16:14:14 Comments:
132.	Name: Ellen Pfeiffer on 2017-06-20 16:16:13 Comments: Mother of rising first grader and two other future students
133.	Name: Ryan Cleary on 2017-06-20 16:59:56 Comments:
134.	Name: Marga Varea on 2017-06-20 17:03:09 Comments:
135.	Name: Christian Farrar on 2017-06-20 18:01:55 Comments:
136.	Name: Heather carey on 2017-06-20 18:08:03  Comments: I have always been perplexed that Hardy, with the least amount of outdoor space, is being added onto versus redistricting to where we can accommodate students at Thompson or other schools. thanks for your work.
137.	Name: Elizabeth Hopper on 2017-06-20 22:14:27 Comments:
138.	Name: Larry Hardesty on 2017-06-20 22:20:09 Comments:
139.	Name: Debbie Hunter on 2017-06-21 00:31:16 Comments:
140.	Name: Susan Bailey on 2017-06-21 00:33:25 Comments:
141.	Name: Lauren Hague on 2017-06-21 00:34:32 Comments:
142.	Name: Linda carella on 2017-06-21 02:17:29 Comments:
143.	Name: Dilip Krishnan on 2017-06-21 03:00:48  Comments: Dad of first grader who loves the Hardy playground on weekdays and

144.	Name: Christine on 2017-06-21 03:11:41 Comments:
145.	Name: Paulomi Dave-Potter on 2017-06-21 03:51:35  Comments: Our kids deserve to have enough outdoor play space to manage the growing population in the Hardy district!
146.	Name: Elissa Jacobs on 2017-06-21 14:16:16 Comments: Hardy School children need room to play
147.	Name: Jennifer Worden on 2017-06-21 14:41:24 Comments:
148.	Name: Katherine Vogele-Bongiovanni on 2017-06-21 14:52:18 Comments:
149.	Name: Erik Price on 2017-06-21 14:54:17 Comments:
150.	Name: Tracy Manty on 2017-06-21 14:58:16 Comments: With an incoming Kstudent, I have six years that concern me if recess is affected!
	A plan needs to be in place right now as we are in the stage to enact change.
151.	Name: Josh Weinberg on 2017-06-21 15:12:46 Comments:
152.	Name: Martha Ingols on 2017-06-21 15:47:56 Comments:
153.	Name: Anne Coleman on 2017-06-21 22:59:15 Comments:
154.	Name: Carrie McKinnon on 2017-06-22 00:18:47 Comments:
155.	Name: Michele Bosso on 2017-06-22 00:31:13 Comments:

156.	Name: Rachel Applwbaum on 2017-06-22 01:41:40 Comments: Mother of a Hardy first grader
157.	Name: Ryan Jacobs on 2017-06-22 01:52:29 Comments: We live on Chandler St. Our 4 year old daughter is enrolling in Hardy in a year and a half. My family whole-heartedly supports EVERY component of this petition, and we intend to be highly vocal about our support.
158.	Name: Sylvia Elmer on 2017-06-22 09:43:29 Comments:
159.	Name: Matthew Crawford on 2017-06-22 12:27:08 Comments: Ideally with some grass to play on
160.	Name: Theodore Trevens on 2017-06-22 13:00:19 Comments:
161.	Name: Tanya Palmer on 2017-06-22 13:04:49 Comments:
162.	Name: Melissa Simmons on 2017-06-22 13:05:41 Comments:
163.	Name: Adam Burke on 2017-06-22 13:05:59 Comments:
164.	Name: Chris Charig on 2017-06-22 13:09:22 Comments:
165.	Name: Laura Fitch on 2017-06-22 13:14:45 Comments:
166.	Name: dan rosenblatt on 2017-06-22 13:21:11 Comments:
167.	Name: Lauren Kamerzel on 2017-06-22 13:21:31 Comments:
168.	Name: Ellen Robie on 2017-06-22 13:24:02 Comments:
169.	Name: Noemi Razso on 2017-06-22 13:37:50

#### Comments: 170. Name: JH on 2017-06-22 13:38:36 Comments: 171. Name: Birgit Swain on 2017-06-22 13:41:27 Comments: Please make space for kids to play. 172. Name: Jim Flanagan on 2017-06-22 13:42:55 Comments: 173. Name: Isabella Roversi-Legere on 2017-06-22 13:48:33 Comments: Kids need more green space to play on. Please make this a priority during the design process. Thank you! 174. Name: Matt Solomon on 2017-06-22 13:54:48 Comments: 175. Name: Kellyann Stewart on 2017-06-22 14:01:10 Comments: This is a must for our children! 176. Name: Christopher Legere on 2017-06-22 14:05:35 Comments: 177. Name: Ellen Kloss on 2017-06-22 14:20:24 Comments: 178. Name: Kelly Bennett on 2017-06-22 14:20:39 Comments: 179. Name: Antonia Kenney on 2017-06-22 14:25:11 Comments: 180. Name: John Savvidis on 2017-06-22 14:25:25 Comments:

182. Name: Max Cavallaro on 2017-06-22 14:40:50
Comments: Please let me know if you need volunteers

Name: Paul Kowert

Comments:

181.

on 2017-06-22 14:25:47

183.	Name: Sukrit Joshi on 2017-06-22 15:04:44 Comments:	
184.	Name: Victoria arthur on 2017-06-22 15:16:14 Comments:	
185.	Name: Hetal Verma on 2017-06-22 15:28:14 Comments:	
186.	Name: Amy Primmer on 2017-06-22 15:43:13 Comments:	
187.	Name: Marie Noneza on 2017-06-22 15:44:09 Comments:	
188.	Name: Laura Saylor on 2017-06-22 15:48:05 Comments: Kindergarten's play experience this year should not be repeated. It was unacceptable how the PTO offered to buy sand tables and they were never provided. Our children literally drew in the dirt with stickshaving nothing to play with on the Lake St. side.	
189.	Name: Sowmya Vijayakumar on 2017-06-22 15:56:24 Comments:	
190.	Name: Olga on 2017-06-22 15:56:53 Comments:	
191.	Name: Sarah Evans on 2017-06-22 16:01:17  Comments: Increased playground density can increase children's sedentary time and decrease their physical activity levels during recess. Physical activity has been linked to better academic performance. Free time helps kids develop communication skills and strengthen self-control. They learn to cooperate, negotiate, share, solve problems and cope with stress. In the short and long terms, the Hardy kids will be well-served by adults ensuring proper playground areas for growing population.	
192.	Name: R wilhelm on 2017-06-22 16:19:32 Comments:	
193.	Name: Madeleine Delpha McClure on 2017-06-22 17:23:49 Comments:	
194.	Name: Aya Amo on 2017-06-22 17:46:05 Comments:	

195.	Name: Sergio Sotelo on 2017-06-22 17:46:08 Comments:
196.	Name: Philip Saylor on 2017-06-22 18:30:13 Comments:
197.	Name: Danielle Sullivan on 2017-06-22 18:42:46 Comments:
198.	Name: Darla Hart on 2017-06-22 19:16:17 Comments:
199.	Name: Christian Peters on 2017-06-22 20:56:53 Comments:
200.	Name: Cheryl Fudge on 2017-06-22 23:14:07 Comments:
201.	Name: Eric Jacobson on 2017-06-22 23:25:23 Comments: Keep the full basketball court. Demolish the rest of the ugly blacktop and give the kids some grass to play on. The space looks like a school in the middle of New York city.

# HARDY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Visual Overview of Campus

Submitted by the Executive Board of the Hardy PTO

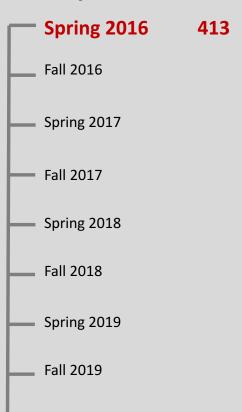


# Chandler Street Playground





GRADE	SECTIONS
K	4
1	4
2 3	3 3
3	3
4	3
5	2



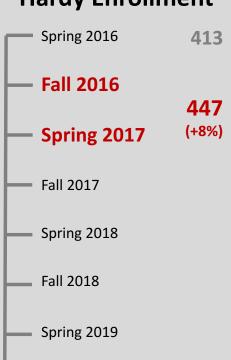
Spring 2020

#### **2015-16 SCHOOL YEAR**

The **last year** all classes used Chandler St. playground **without safety concerns** from teachers and administrators. Playground is at capacity.



GRADE	SECTIONS
K	4
1	4
2 3	4
3	3
4 5	3
5	3



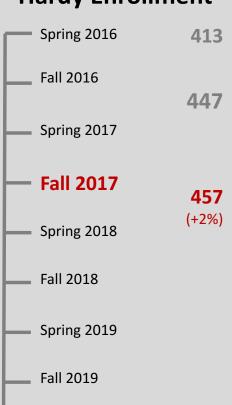
Fall 2019

# **2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR**

- Teachers deem it unsafe to have 4 large K classes on Chandler St. playground.
- Lake St. area used for half of K classes, until weather makes conditions untenable.
- By late fall, K classes split outdoor recess, reducing outdoor recess time to 15 minutes.



GRADE	SECTIONS
K	4
1	4
2 3	4
3	4
4	3
5	3



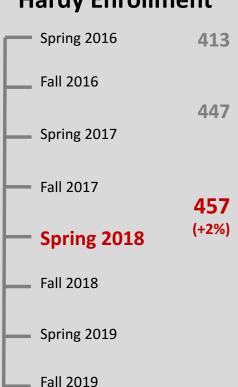
Spring 2020

# FALL 2017 (TODAY)

- Chandler St. playground and Lake St. area both in use.
- Temporary fence and wood chips installed on Lake St. Temporary equipment from school dept. has not yet arrived. PTO has provided sand tables and basketball hoops.
- Playground injuries expose safety issues due to deteriorating condition of Chandler St. play equipment. Repairs are made.



GRADE	SECTIONS
K	4
1	4
2 3	4
3	4
4	4
5	3



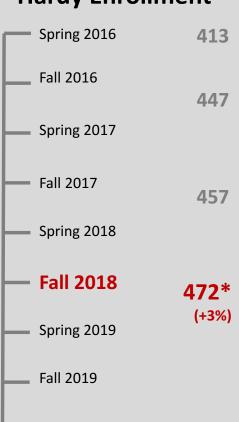
Spring 2020

# **SPRING 2018**

- Additional playground space will be lost due to construction for addition (based on architect presentation, up to 50% of the space may be off limits).
- Lake St. area will need to be used more consistently by many grade levels, with temporary equipment.



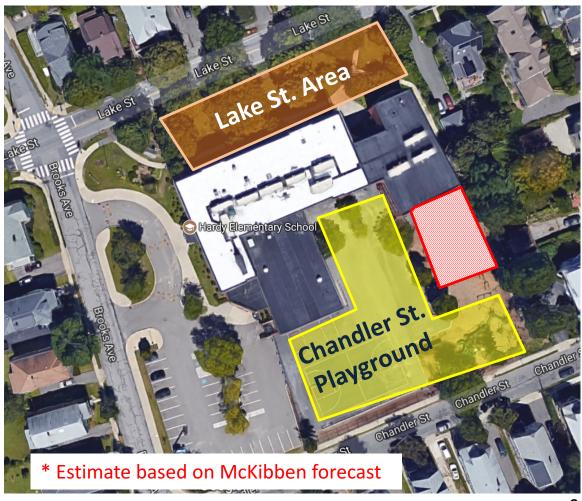
GRADE	SECTIONS
K	4
1	4
2 3	4
3	4
4	4
5	4



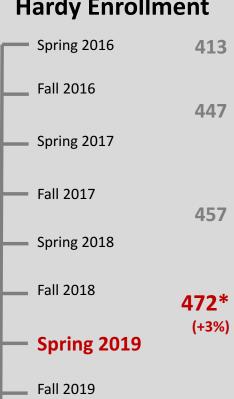
Spring 2020

# **FALL 2018**

- Ongoing construction will continue to limit space on Chandler St. playground.
- Lake St. area will need to be used consistently. Permanent playground may be installed (using \$120K from Capital Budget) but timeline is not yet clear.



GRADE	SECTIONS
K	4
1	4
2	4
3	4
4	4
5	4



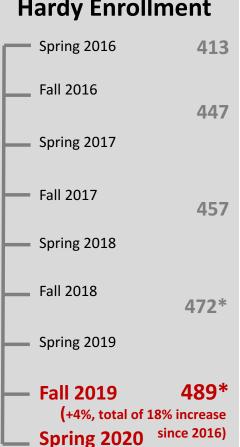
Spring 2020

# **SPRING 2019**

- Addition completed; Chandler Street playground will be permanently reduced in size.
- School enrollment will have increased by at least 60 students and 5 classes since 2016 (when pre-construction playground was at capacity)



GRADE	SECTIONS
K	4
1	4
2	4
3	4
4	4
5	4



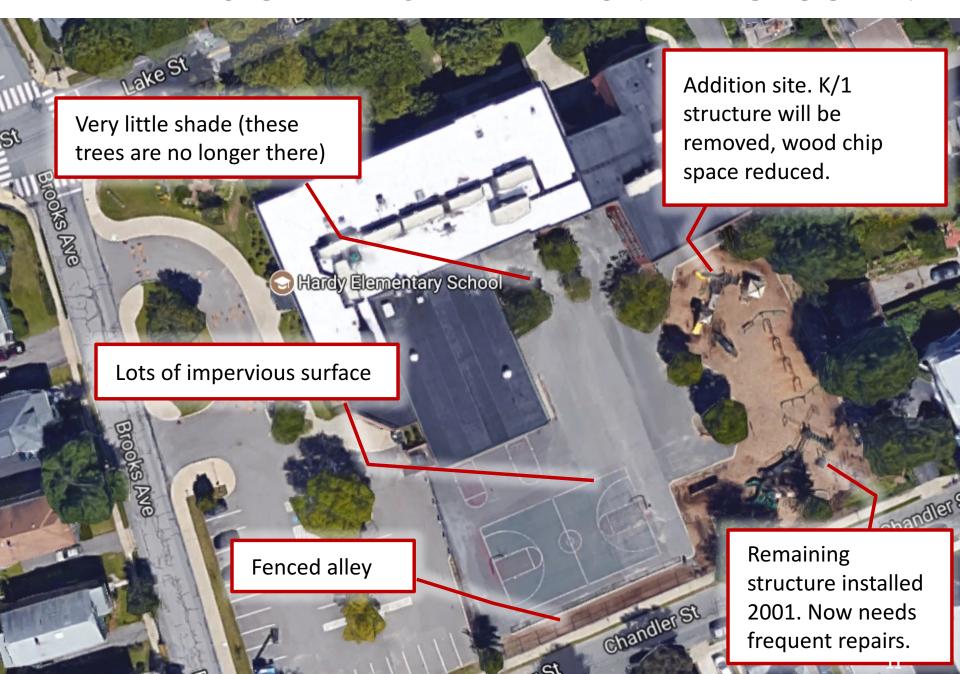
#### **2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR**

Hardy's population will have grown 18% since 2016.

This is the time to overhaul the Chandler St playground, too!



# WHY REDESIGN THE CHANDLER ST. PLAYGROUND?

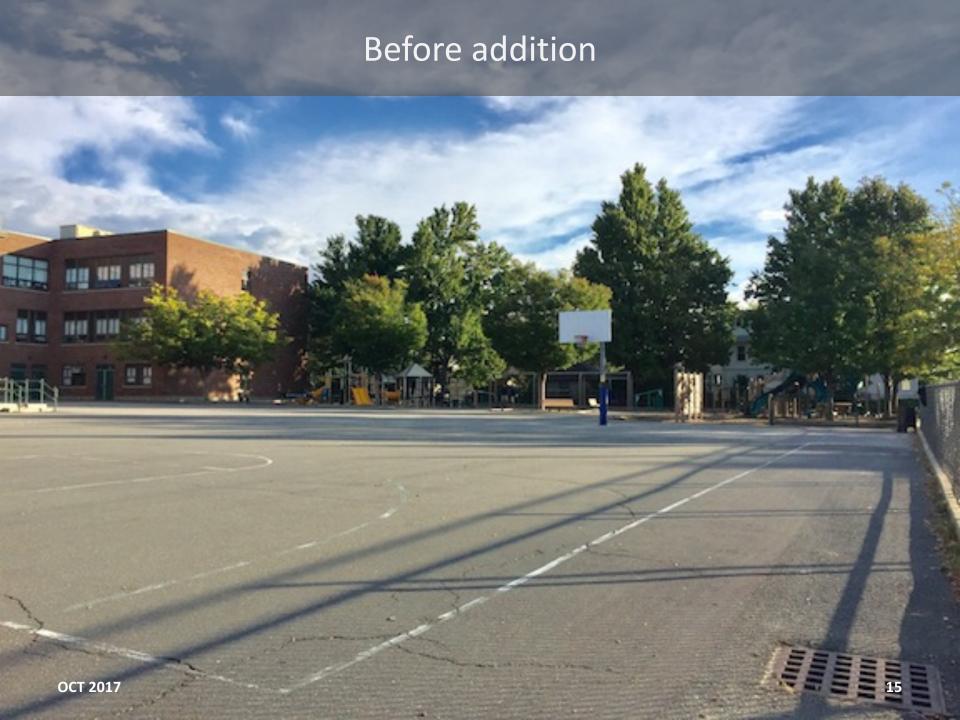




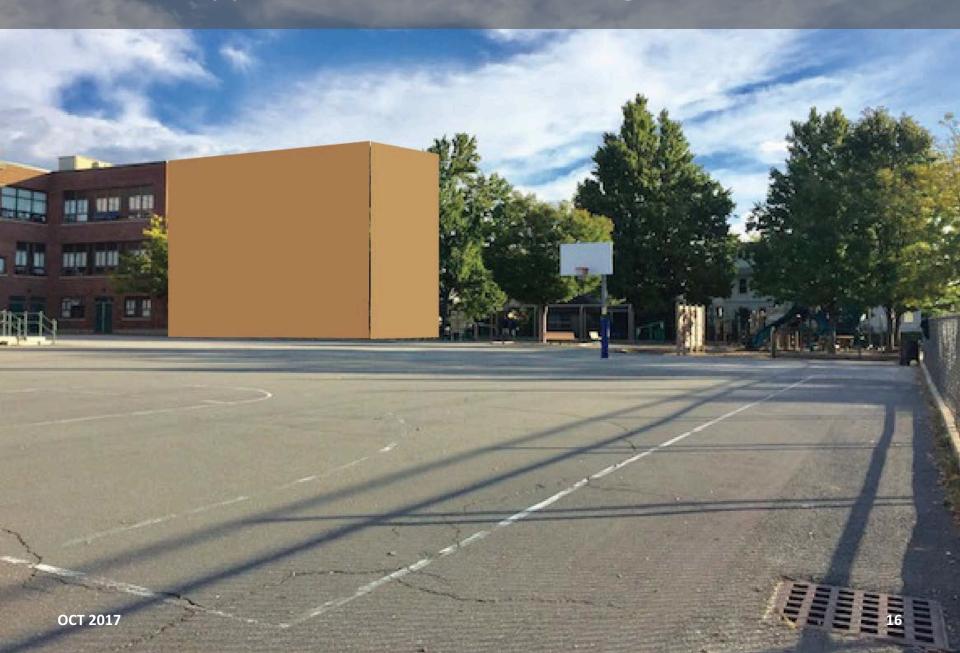
# Fenced alley filled with wood chips serves no purpose **OCT 2017** 13

# Blacktop courtyard





# After: approximate scale of building volume added



# Thank You

Thank you for your attention to this presentation and your service in town government. We hope you will consider funding this study application to help make the Hardy project a holistic expansion with adequate outdoor play opportunities.

#### -The Hardy PTO Executive Board

Terry Holt, President
Kate Leary, VP of Fundraising
Patsy O'Brien, VP of Fundraising
Roslyn Fitzgerald, Secretary

Please contact Kate with any questions.

kleary@gmail.com (781) 266-6497



New addition to the existing Hardy Elementary School building

Arlington, MA – Finegold Alexander Architects and the town of Arlington announce the design of a new addition to the existing Hardy Elementary School building, the next in a series of school building projects for the town. The project team, including Jones Lang LaSalle as the owner's project manager, have been working closely with the superintendent, Kathleen Bodie, and principal, Kristin DeFrancisco, to develop the design to suit the needs of the growing student population.

The addition is a three-story structure with two classrooms at each level and will be fully integrated with the exiting building. The exterior envelope will have a brick façade and will feature large projected window with interior seat nooks in each classroom. Each classroom will have a teaching wall with projectors and whiteboards as well as storage cubbies for students. The adjacent playground equipment will be reconfigured to allow for the new addition and landscape improvements to the site will be made.

The project is currently in design and will start construction in March 2018. Safety is of paramount importance, and the design incorporates elements to ensure the building and site are well controlled throughout the project. A separate playground project along Lake Street will take place in parallel to the building project.

#### -more-

In the past 10 to 15 years, the Town of Arlington has seen significant population growth with numerous projects underway including the renovation of the Gibbs Building into a new Middle School, expansion of new Thompson School, and the highly anticipated high school project due to begin later in the Fall.

"Our goal in developing the expansion concept was to create a compatible addition to complement the existing building fabric and one that would be on par with projects being completed at peer schools in town," said Regan Shields Ives, Principal, Finegold Alexander.



Tags: <u>EDU</u>, <u>p1217</u>

Category: All, Education

#### Subscribe

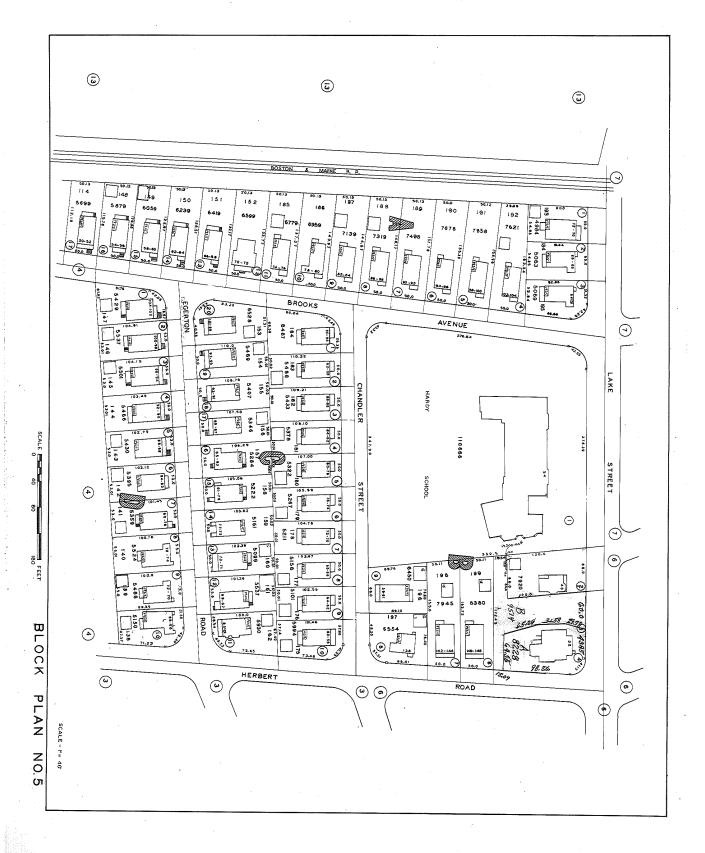
If you enjoyed this article, subscribe to receive more just like it.



« Nauset Completes Hancock Estates Erland Receives AGC MA Build New England Award »

#### **Follow High-Profile Monthly:**

#### November 2017



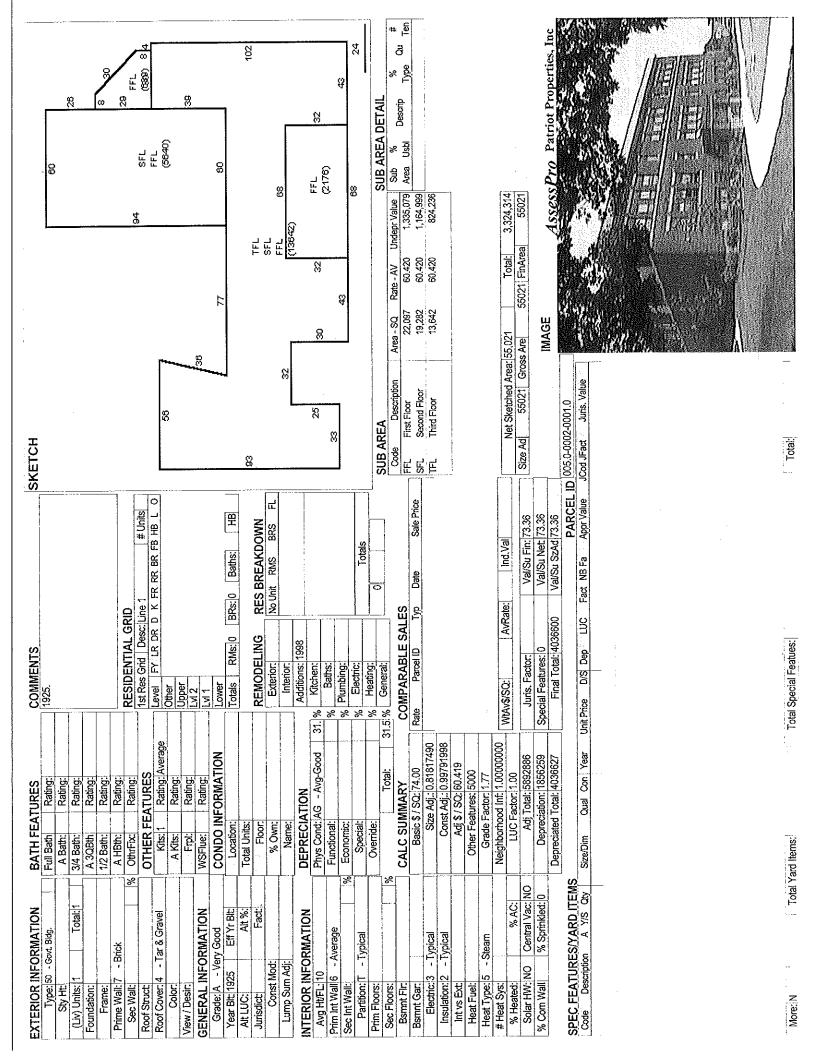
67,200	/									USER DEFINED	Prior 1d # 1:4765	Prior Id # 2:	7.107.1d # 55	Prior 1d # 7.	Prior 1d # 3:	<u>. L</u>	<u></u>	Prior Id # 3:	ASR Map:	Fact Dist	Reval Dist	Year.	LandReason:	BidReason:					By Name										Use Value Notes	3,430,600	
TOTAL ASSESSED: 7,467,200			User Acct	4765	GIS Ret	30 O O	CID Lei	Inen Data	IIISP Date			PRINT	Date Time	-	LAST REV	Date Time	1	mmcmakin	507	Notes		:					S		Result	ਲ							***	Castronio estre se casa	Spec J Code Fact Us		
TOTAL	NO.		Legal Description			. :	Entered Lot Size	Total Land:	Land Unit Type:	0001.0	Notes Date			oil 12/11/2014		12/27/2011	12/27/2011	12/14/2009	PAT ACCT.	Assoc PCL Value	Z							ACTIVITY INFORMATION	Date	6/1/1983	<u></u>						Sign:		Appraised Att % SI	746	
Commercial	ARLINGTON			7,467,200			Total Control of the	ਨੀ	/Parcel: 135.7 Land	Parcel ID 005.0-0002-0001.0	Asses'd Value N	7,024,600 Year End Roll	6,581,900 Year End	6,526,600 Year End Roll	5 984 300			5,807,300		V Tst Verif	1 No No								crip Comment	REMODEL/ADDITION									infi 2 % infi 3 %		
1 of 1 Co	CARD		Lanc	3,430,600	:		A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	3,430,600	nit /Card: 135.72		Land Value Total Value			2,490,000 6,526,600			÷	1,770,700 5,807,300	TAX DISTRICT	Sale Code Sale Price									sit Fed Code F. Descrip										Neigh Infi 1 % Inf		
		MARY	ŗ	110666.000	1		2.541	2.541	Total Value per SQ unit /Card: 135.72		Yrd flems Land Size L	110,666.	`	0 110,666.			ľ	0 110,666.	TAX DI	Type Date Sa	1/1/1901								Amount C/O Last Visit	5,160,000									Adj Neigh Neigh N	ĺ	
		IN PROCESS APPRAISAL SUMMARY	Building Value Yan	4,036,600			4,036,600	4,036,600	Source: Market Adj Cost	THEMSSESS SHOP GOOD		4,036,600		FV 4,036,600	FV 4,U36,600				RMATION	Legal Ref	130-309							ERMITS	Number Descrip	Addition									LT Base Value Unit Price	[	
0001.0	Lot	IN PROCESS	Use Code	934			Total Card	Total Parcel	Source: N		Tax Yr Use	934	İ		2014 903		1	2010 903	SALES INFORMATION	F	8							BUILDING PERMITS	Date	7/29/1998 50			Ţ		- T				Land Type Fadin	Site	
0002 000	Block		Direction/Street/City	LAKE ST, ARLINGTON	TON SOLLOON	ON SCHOOL			ALLEGATION TO A PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF TH		try Own Occ: N							try.		ON To the officer mointy placestor	This Parcel Contains Tho, ood Sq. Pt. Orland mainly classified as fmoroved-Edit with a(n) Govt. Bldn. Brillding Brill about 1925.	and Tar & Gravel Roof Cover.	with 1 Units, 0 Baths, 0 HalfBaths, 0 3/4 Baths, 0 Rooms Total		-	Altodit					70 Item Code Descrip	igapha	-	Exmpt	C C C	1000	Traffic	lines only)	No of Units Depth / Unit Type	110566 Sq. Ft.	
002.0	Map	PROPERTY LOCATION	No Alt No	54 LAKE S	OWNERSHIP CONTRACTOR SOLLON	Owner 1: TOWN OF ARLING	Owner 2: HARDY SCHOOL	Owner 5.	Street 1: 730 WASS AVE	Twn/City: ARI INGTON	St/Prov: MA Cntry	76	PREVIOUS OWNER	Owner 1:	Owner 2:	Street 1:		StProv:	Postal:	THE DESCRIPTION	Improved-Edu with a(n) Govt 1	Having Primarily Brick Exterior and Tar & Gravel Roof Cover.	with 1 Units, 0 Baths, 0 HalfBar	and 0 Bdrms.	K A	ONI/dinear near	_			PERTY EA	7 P4 SING FEA	1000	u	Census:	Flood Haz:	מ	A	I AND SECTION (First 7 lines only)	Use Description LUC No	Improved-Edu	

ekelly Disclaimer: This Information is believed to be correct but is subject to change and is not warranteed. Database: AssessPro Total SF/SM: 110666.00 Parcel LUC 934 Improved-Edu Prime NB Desc: ARLINGTON

Total AC/HA: 2.54054

Total: 3,430,600 Total: 3,430,646 Spi Credit

2018



#### Appendix 8: Letters of Support

- Hardy PTO Executive Board
- Town of Arlington School Committee
- Jennifer Susse
- Joseph Curro, Jr.
- Hardy School Council



November 28, 2017

#### Dear Community Preservation Committee:

We are pleased to have the opportunity to voice our wholehearted support for the School Department's CPA application. The population of the Hardy School has grown nearly 30% in the past five years, and we expect that number to rise to 35% by the 2018-19 school year, when the much-needed six-classroom addition is complete. We can't expand Hardy's small parcel of land, so we must make sure all the land we have is used thoughtfully. Developing the area that runs along Lake Street is a good start, but it does not address all of Hardy's outdoor space needs. Our limited space will soon need to serve a population of about 500 students. We have submitted a presentation, included in this application as appendix 5, that conveys the problem visually.

A landscape architect can analyze the space we have and make recommendations. Good design will be a worthwhile investment in the future of the Hardy School. Adequate outdoor space is an essential part of a functional school.

We understand enrollment growth has placed enormous pressure on town budgets and taxpayers. We plan to make raising money for equipment for the Chandler St. playground the focus of our silent auction this year, and we will consider other options, too. We know the funds we raise will be a relatively small percentage of the total budget for the eventual build, but we want to contribute. Realizing the full potential of Hardy's outdoor space will help our own children, but it's also important to us to help build a resource that will serve our community for years to come. It's important to begin with a thoughtful study, and we thank you for your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

The Hardy PTO Executive Board

Terry Holt, President Patsy O'Brien, VP of Fundraising Kate Leary, VP of Fundraising Roslyn Fitzgerald, Secretary

#### **Dear Community Preservation Committee:**

The Arlington School Committee is pleased to support the Arlington Public School's grant application to the Community Preservation Committee (CPA) for a study of the Chandler Street Playground at Hardy. The current plan to build a six-classroom addition at Hardy reduces the existing play-space area, and, importantly, reduces the non-blacktop surface area. We are confident that a comprehensive study of the Chandler Street Playground will produce a plan that better utilizes that space and works for all students.

Sincerely,

Jeff Thielman, Chair Arlington School Committee

#### Jennifer Susse, Arlington School Committee

45 Teel Street, Arlington, MA 02474 • (781) 643-2564 • jsusse@arlington.k12.ma.us

November 15, 2017

#### **Dear Community Preservation Committee:**

I write in enthusiastic support of the Arlington Public School's grant application to the Community Preservation Committee (CPA) requesting \$50,000 for a site analysis and feasibility study of Hardy Elementary School's outdoor space. The study, to be conducted by a landscape architecture firm, would focus on the main playground, which is bounded by Chandler and Herbert Streets.

As chair of the Arlington School Committee's Facilities subcommittee I have had several opportunities to meet with Hardy parents over the last several months to hear their concerns about the current outdoor play space at Hardy. I have also had the opportunity to meet with, or talk by phone with, the current Hardy principal, Kristin DeFrancisco, Superintendent Dr. Kathleen Bodie, as well as several town officials and engaged community members. Furthermore, as a once Hardy parent I am personally familiar with the deficits of the current Hardy play space.

The existing Chandler Street playground was designed and installed as part of the 2001 renovation of the school. At the time that the equipment was chosen and the land use was determined, there were 270 students enrolled at Hardy. This year there are 457 students (a 69% increase). Furthermore, APS is projecting additional enrollment increases over the next several years at Hardy, necessitating a planned six-classroom addition that will further reduce the non-blacktop play-space area.

Hardy is the only elementary school in Arlington that is not adjacent to a park. Furthermore, the current playground is mostly blacktop, and while this space is frequently in use, it is not used equally by all students. I remember my daughter petitioning the Principal when she was in fifth grade to set aside one day a week for non-sporty girls to use the blacktop space. The petition was only partially successful.

The current plan to build a six-classroom addition at Hardy reduces the existing playspace area, but more significantly it reduces the non-blacktop surface area. While it would be difficult to make the playground larger, I am confident that a comprehensive study of the Chandler Street Playground will produce a plan that better utilizes the existing space and, importantly, better works for all of Hardy's students.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Susse, Chair of Facilities Subcommittee Arlington School Committee 21 Millett Street Arlington, MA 02474-2113 November 30, 2017

Eric Helmuth, Chair Community Preservation Committee Town of Arlington 730 Massachusetts Avenue Arlington, MA 02476

Dear Chairman Helmuth,

As the Community Preservation Committee takes up its consideration of applications for CPA funding and develops recommendations to the 2018 Annual Town Meeting, I would like to commend to you and the committee two projects: one in the historical preservation category and one in the outdoor recreation category.

The Arlington Historical Society has applied for funding to help them to complete vital restoration work and to make safety improvements to the Jason Russell House. This funding will leverage previous CPA funding, as well as State funds and private donations, to ensure that this most valued of Arlington's historical assets endures into the future. The Jason Russell House has played an important role in educating our students and has been at the center of our tourism promotion efforts. As a member of the Board of Selectmen, I was privileged to hear a presentation by Society representatives of work performed to date on the structure, and I look forward to the full realization of this project with CPA support.

The School Department has applied for CPA funds to assist in its planning of outdoor spaces at the Hardy School. This work is necessitated by the exploding enrollment at the school. As a member of the School Enrollment Task Force, I was party to the decision to recommend the construction of an addition to the Hardy School to accommodate projected large increases in the number of students there. While our discussions centered on the provision of adequate classroom space and some of the common area needs of the building itself, it is essential that attention be paid to outdoor play areas, too. This need is exacerbated by the fact that a planned building addition will encroach on existing play space. CPA support for this project will benefit not only the school, but also the surrounding community. As a rare example of a school building which does not abut Park and Recreation property, I see this expenditure of funds as highly appropriate.

Thank you very much for the work that you and your colleagues do to make the Community Preservation Act such a success in Arlington. As the former co-chair of the ballot initiative that led to its adoption, I can say with great confidence that you have exceeded the expectations for this program, and I wish you all the best for future successes.

Respectfully,

JOSEPH A. CURRO, JR.

seph Humo Z