

RSD13 Public Schools

School Utilization Study Community Workshop

Number 1 of 3

Tuesday -- OCTOBER 29, 2013
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
Coginchaug Regional High School Cafeteria
Durham, CT

The RSD13 Board of Education invites you to participate in a series of community workshops regarding the development of a utilization plan for our District's schools. The first workshop will be held on **Tuesday, October 29, 2013** in the cafeteria at Coginchaug Regional High School from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

The Board has selected Drummey Rosane Anderson, Inc. ("DRA") to develop the Facilities Utilization Study. DRA has already conducted building evaluations prior to meeting with town residents at the community workshops. They will be meeting with school staff to conduct programming and educational planning meetings throughout the fall. The first workshop will focus on gathering community input. DRA will hold subsequent workshops to identify possible alternatives for the District and will then shape specific recommendations for Board of Education consideration. The workshop schedule is:

Tuesday, October 29 –	LISTENING: Gathering community input
Wednesday, December 11 -	ALTERNATIVES: Understanding the options
January 2014, TBD	SHAPING RECOMMENDATIONS for Board consideration

DRA's study will consider the broadest range of options and possibilities to address the needs of the RSD13 school system.

At the first of three proposed workshops, we are seeking your attendance and participation. You are invited to join us, along with your thoughts, ideas and suggestions.

WORKSHOP AGENDA

7:00 - 7:10	Informational Displays
7:10 - 7:15	Welcome
7:15 - 7:20	Study Overview
7:20 - 7:35	Workshop Overview
7:35 - 8:10	Breakout Sessions
8:10 - 8:25	Re-Group / Re-Cap
8:25 - 8:30	Concluding Comments

Children age three and above are welcome. Age-appropriate activities will be provided. Current or former students are encouraged to attend and participate in workshop activities.

Frequently Asked Questions

Has the Board of Education made any decisions about the future of the schools?

The Board of Education has made no decisions about the utilization plan for the schools. All options and ideas are being considered.

I've attended previous Board of Education meetings about our school system. Why do I need to attend this meeting?

Your knowledge, understanding, and input are welcome and needed in this process. This is one of the key issues facing our community; there are many issues and options to explore. We hope that you will choose to continue to participate in this process.

I see there are three different community workshops being scheduled over the next few months. Should I attend all three workshops?

*Yes. The focus of each workshop is different. The purpose of the October 29th workshop will be to **listen** to citizens and obtain community input. In December, the focus will be on taking information from the previous workshop and developing possible **alternatives** for the utilization study. Finally, the workshop in January will focus on the specific **recommendations** that may be proposed to the Board of Education. Workshops will build on each other.*

What specific topic will be discussed at this first community workshop?

Concurrent breakout sessions will collect community input on the topics of:

- “Containers” – the physical facilities
- “Contents” – education programming
- “Currents” – RSD13's trends, including demographics and enrollments
- “Children/students” – focusing on the issues and needs of students

I have ideas about what's important for our schools. How can I share those ideas with DRA and the Board of Education?

Attend the October 29th community workshop! If you are unable to attend in person, please send your comments to survey@rsd13.org.

What will be done with the results of this workshop?

DRA will use community input to shape options and recommendations that they will present to the Board of Education.

When will the Board of Education act on DRA's utilization plan recommendations?

The current timeline calls for DRA's recommendations to be presented to the Board of Education following the study conclusion early in 2014.

More questions?

Please call the Board of Education at 860-349-7200