



Community Engagement for Harrisonburg City Public Schools

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What Is Community Engagement?

- Provides a wider participation of diverse stakeholders through a structured process to capture feedback
- Helps the School Board make a more informed and better decision
- Creates ambassadors among stakeholders who better understand the issue and can speak with expertise about the issue
- Promotes trust and confidence in the decision-making process



Ensuring Successful Engagement

- **Make sure expectations and outcomes of the process are clear for Stakeholder Committee**
 - *Stakeholder Committee serves in an advisory role to the School Board*
 - *Will conduct a comprehensive review of the capacity issue and generate ideas for solving the capacity issue for the School Board to consider*
 - *Will serve as community ambassadors on the issue of high school capacity*
- **Provide public transparency in all aspects of the community engagement process**

HCPS Community Engagement Three-Phase Process

Phase 1 – Awareness and Understanding of the High School Capacity Issue

- Community stakeholder group convenes, studies, and verifies capacity issue.
- Self-directed but directly supported by the HCPS superintendent and facilities staff.

Outcome: Committee reaches agreement about a capacity issue and understands the complexities of student growth.

HCPS Community Engagement Three-Phase Process

Phase 2 – Exploration of Ways to Solve the Capacity Issue

- Stakeholder Committee explores options (including pros and cons, costs of each) to solve capacity issue.
- Conducts research by meeting with HCPS architect, queries other school divisions facing similar capacity challenges.
- Committee reaches consensus on viable options by May 8.

Outcome: Committee recommends options to School Board.

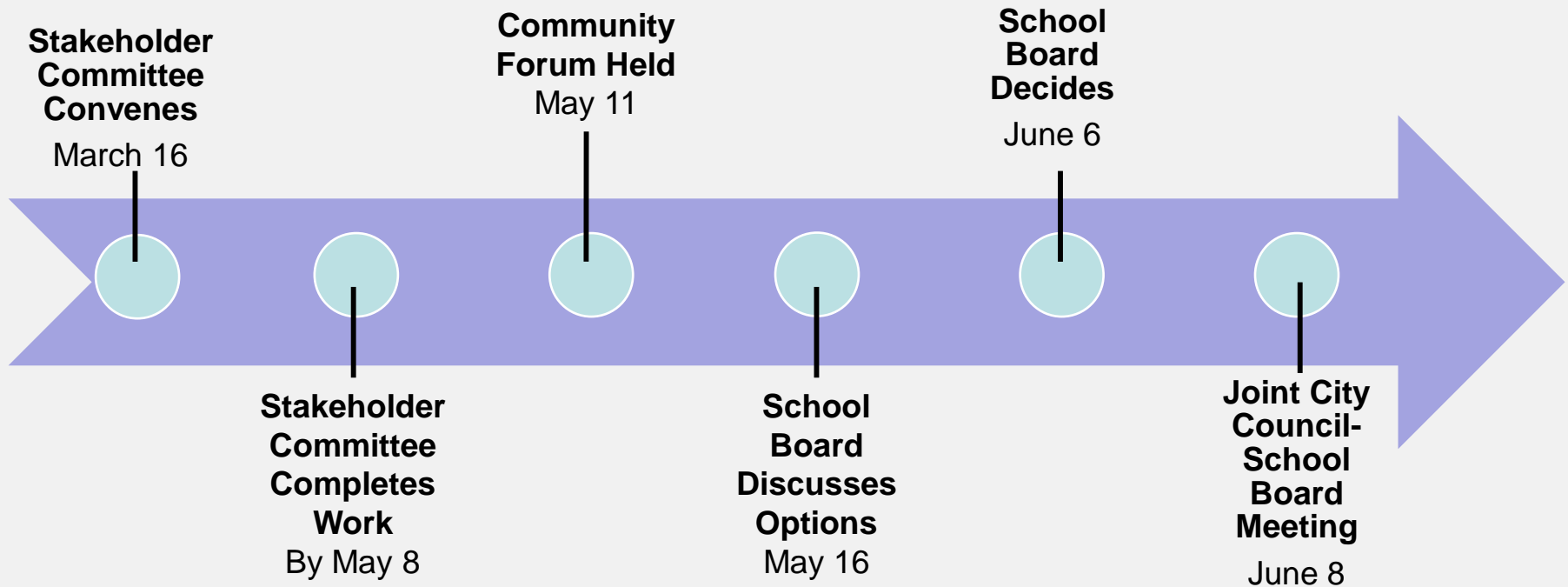
HCPS Community Engagement Three-Phase Process

Phase 3 – Broader Community Forum on Options

- Recommended options are presented to citizens at a community forum on May 11.
- All options along with the pros, cons and costs will be posted on HCPS website.
- School Board discusses options on May 16.
- School Board to decide on preferred option on June 6.
- School Board and City Council to meet to discuss preferred option on June 8.

Outcome: School Board hears from a wider group and makes decision on preferred option.

2017 HCPS Community Engagement Timeline





Q/A

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