6 Sumner Drive
Storrs, Connecticut 06268
March 6, 2012

Mansfield Town Council
Four South Eagleville Road
Storrs/Mansfield Connecticut 06268

Dear Council Members,

Thank you for holding the informative hearing last night! It has helped me come to a decision regarding construction, re-construction, costs and the advantages of various options.

I support a modified Option A Enhanced, so that the three upgraded schools will have library/media centers and could accommodate separate gymnasiums and cafeterias and enhanced security systems. I realize that such changes will require re-working the expected costs, but I think the benefits of such changes will bring the three elementary schools to where they should be.

I support preserving the three schools for most of the reasons cited last night. Further, I agree with the resident who noted that Oxford and Cambridge have not suffered from having been built in the 16th century. And it is true that in many European cities buildings have endured for 500 years or more.

In the event that elementary school populations continue to decline, would it be possible to close one school and accommodate the children in the other two? What about accepting elementary students from another town?

Thank you for considering my suggestions. I will continue to follow this issue closely.

Sincerely,

(Mrs. Joan Buck)

38 Hillyndale Road
Storrs, CT 06268

March 7, 2012

Town Council
4 South Eagleville Road
Storrs, CT 06268

Dear Council Members:

My name is Steve Lanza, I live at 38 Hillyndale Road with my wife, two boys and a puppy, and my boys go to Goodwin School.

I could support either remodeling all three schools or a two-school plan if it kept a school at the Goodwin site. But I wouldn't vote for a one-school plan or for two new schools at the other end of town.

This town embraced the idea of mixed-use development when it adopted the Storrs Center project. That's because a development like Storrs Center, with its mix of residential, retail, commercial and public uses, can improve the quality of life for residents and raise property values.
But schools are also important anchors in communities. Schools encourage families with young children to live in surrounding neighborhoods. These families bring life and energy to the community. They become engaged in local activities, and they demand housing which means higher property values and more tax revenue for the town.

We've all seen the promotional materials for Storrs Center, with artists' renderings of families and young children strolling down tree-lined streets while restaurant-goers sip cappuccinos at bistro tables. But without a school nearby we wouldn't have all these families within walking or biking distance of downtown. Without those families, we'd be left with a "collegetown" not a downtown. Why would other families drive across town and park their cars to stroll through a place like that with their young kids? After all these years of trying to strike a balance between the needs of the University and the needs of the town, why would we remove a linchpin of that relationship?

Having an elementary school in northern Mansfield is key to the mixed-use vision of our town. This is the area of town that can best support new residential and neighborhood mixed-use development, especially with plans for sewers at Four Corners. And with one school in the north and one in the south, we'd disperse bus and automobile traffic congestion, and minimize travel time for our kids. The added cost of acquiring the land needed amounts to a penny on the dollar and it pales beside the benefits that choosing this site would provide.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steven P. Lanza

Adele Lanza

2

Goodwin or Vinton
but please DO NOT
knock down Southeast
Thankyou

~Carly
H.
Schaefer

Just a note...

~~Carly~~

I protest that
you do Not knock
down Southeast
Elemantary school. If
it weren't for them
I wouldn't know
ANYTHING I know
now. go ahead and
knock down.

Just a note...

THE LAWRENCE ASSOCIATES
ARCHITECTS / PLANNERS, P.C.
1075 TOLLAND TURNPIKE · MANCHESTER, CONNECTICUT · 06040
TEL (860) 643-2161
FAX (860) 643-4373
LAWRENCE.ASSOC@SNET.NET

March 7, 2012

Members of the Town Council
Audrey Beck Municipal Building
Four South Eagleville Road
Mansfield, CT

RE: School Building Project
Mansfield, CT

MEMORANDUM

Since 2006 when the Town of Mansfield engaged our firm to provide professional design services it has been my policy and professional responsibility to submit drawings, data, estimates and scheduling information in a factual manner. We have assisted the Building Committee, Board of Education, Town Council and staff by using the most accurate and up-to-date statistics, design criteria and other factors available at every stage of the projects long history. Whenever we or the Town has made information public based on the designs and costs prepared by our office and that of Tom DiMauro's (Newfield Construction, Inc.) there has been a review of draft copies and the opportunity to modify and/or correct data or perceived inconsistencies.

At Monday evening's Public Hearing the "alternate PowerPoint proposal for Option 'A' Enhanced" was made public without such review or comment by Tom or me. I would like to take exception to what appeared to me and many in the audience that the preliminary recommendation by the Town Council to construct two new schools (Option "E") would result in a relatively equivalent physical teaching environment within the same time frame. This perception is not accurate.

Option "A" was developed using a list of anticipated repair, refurbishment and maintenance items developed by Director of Facilities Bill Hammon. He used his best judgment to identify items that will need repairs/replacement over a **20 year span**. The vast majority of these items are classified as ALTERATIONS by the State Bureau of School Facilities (BSF) and therefore NOT ELIGIBLE for reimbursement. A select few, such as the roof replacement, a portion of the window replacement, code corrections and accessibility/ADA improvements would be eligible if the Town submits a Grant Application. The remaining items were to be administered by the Town's Facilities Department and might have to be rearranged in their order of completion based on repeated maintenance, damage or failures. When each of these repair items might be done over the **20 year span** could be dependent on such emergency conditions. Some work tasks might be done during the summer break or possibly vacations since they are of a more limited scope. If **ALL** these ALTERATIONS were to be considered to be done in the same 2-3 year time frame as is proposed for Option "E" the schools would have to be shut down and vacated by the students and staff. The costs for Option "A" do NOT include any funds for the necessary "swing space" that would be required if the schools were vacated temporarily nor do the cost estimates take into account constructing all the ALTERATIONS simultaneously.

Thus, what appears to me (and I believe many in the audience) the "alternate PowerPoint" gave the impression that ALL of the ALTERATIONS in Option "A" would be completed in the same time frame as Option "E". That is a complete distortion of the facts and information we presented. It should be made perfectly clear that Option "A" will NOT be completed for **20 years**. It is entirely possible that, as time passes and the age of the original equipment continues to increase, the costs may have to increase as a result of other related failures or non-functioning components. Furthermore, if the State changes its list of items eligible for reimbursement, the percentage allowed or the current methodology, the cost to Mansfield might increase even further.

Another concept that was not clarified relates to the BSF's specific terminology that describes "RENOVATION" as the total, comprehensive renovation of a school building by which "the entire facility must be brought into 100 percent compliance with all applicable codes (including handicapped accessibility) and that all elements of the building and site have a have a twenty year lifespan when the renovation project is complete. Partial renovations of an entire facility or complete renovations of a wing of a facility do not qualify." One way this is achieved is by vacating the building for the entire duration of construction and virtually "gutting" the building and all its systems and equipment down to its structural shell and then replacing all the components with materials construction and systems that will have a useful life of at least 20 years. Also called "RENOVATE LIKE NEW", we were asked by the School Building Committee to explore this option and the cost estimates were in the range of $95 million – an amount determined too excessive to consider further. After this Option was dismissed as not being viable there was no need to discuss all of the particular requirements and whether Mansfield's elementary schools would qualify.

Another perceived misconception is that the selection Option "A" will result in a higher reimbursement rate from the State. This is not true. The reimbursement rate for Option "A" Maintain and Repair is the same as for Option "E" Two New Schools, approximately 62.14%. However, with the vast majority of the work in Option "A" classified as not eligible for reimbursement, the Town of Mansfield must pay nearly 80% of the cost. Only the "RENOVATE LIKE NEW" status, for which Mansfield does not qualify, would yield the higher (72.14%) State reimbursement rate.

There are many items that are not included in the Option "A" ALTERATIONS that would be required in a RENOVATE LIKE NEW project and these should be specifically delineated to those who seem to feel the alternate Option "A" will result in a basically "new, refurbished" building. A partial listing is:

- No repainting
- No replacement of existing ceilings
- No replacement of existing lighting with more energy efficient light fixtures.
- No replacement of deteriorated shelving, cabinets, and delaminating countertops.
- No replacement of stall partitions (except for the few being altered for accessibility).
- No upgrade to all kitchen equipment.
- No new flooring or carpet replacement.
- No separate space for required or mandated programs such as Speech, Hearing, Psychologist, Title I/Resource, OT/PT, Accessible Nurses Office and Toilet.
- No upgraded play fields.
- No parking, driveway or traffic flow improvements.

Several citizens made note of buildings at UConn, Yale and Harvard that are quite old and the respective universities remodel them rather than demolish the structures. Comparisons of college buildings to municipal school buildings are not appropriate. Colleges typically spend much more per square foot on construction. The usual method for these buildings to be "re-cycled" is as described above – a total "gut" with the complete replacement of all systems, materials and equipment much like the BSF's RENOVATE LIKE NEW definition. Keep in mind that colleges can better afford these types of renovations as students pay to attend and many have large endowments. Mansfield has already decided such an option is far too costly and this comparison is not applicable.

For whatever school construction program the Town decides to pursue we will continue providing professional design services in a manner that is based on facts, data and calculations prepared with a level of high integrity. If information based on our services is disseminated we suggest we have the opportunity to first review it.

Sincerely,
THE LAWRENCE ASSOCIATES
Architects/Planners, P. C.

Richard S. Lawrence, AIA
President
cc: File; Tom DiMauro; Fred Baruzzi; Cherie Trahan

Re: Schools project (pasted and attached)

From: **council@mansfieldct.org** on behalf of **Arthur Wright** (wrightstuff62@sbcglobal.net)
Sent: Wed 3/07/12 12:05 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org
1 attachment
MANSFIELD SCHOOLS PROJECT March 2012.docx (31.1 KB)

March 7, 2012

To Mansfield Town Council Members:

I attended the hearing Monday evening but had to leave at 8 pm before I could have spoken. Congratulations to you and the Board of Ed for pulling together all the data and analysis, and for the presentation.

First, a minor note: The corrected version of the document in error in the original e-mail went zipping by in the Town Manager's presentation. I assume it is available online, although I'm not actually sure which document it is.

Second, I have three comments on substance and one on data presentation.

The Council's bona fides on "sustainability" are not in question, despite all the comments to the contrary. The term does NOT mean saving old things regardless of the cost. Many commenters neglected, or refused, to address the obvious fact (pointed out by one or two citizens) that replacing old buildings that leak heat may be the very essence of sustainability.

The spokeswoman for the Gang of Three claimed a difference in "cost" of $21.4 million between new construction and renovation. Left unstated was the implication that that figure (assuming it is correct) is the price the Town would be paying for having 23-year old school facilities instead of 70-75 year old facilities at the end of the payoff period. Would the price be worth it? I'm leaning towards answering yes. But it's not as though the Town would get nothing in return for the extra outlay.

The rant on debt service early in the public comments led me deep into the tables, which indeed show (on page 2 of each set), under Assumption 9, the time profile of debt service for the schools project. It would be well to point this out in the ensuing debate.

Which is a good segue to my final point, on data presentation. In current form, the useful information in all the tables is hidden under a bushel—in fact, under the proverbial haystack. I urge the Council, for the debate to come, to have someone (consultant or staff) do two things. One, highlight the key variables in the tables, making judicious use of some graphics to show variations across the tables. Two, write a short précis, placed at the beginning of each option section, of what exactly is being varied, and where the effects show up in the tables.

Many of the data in the tables are common across all of them. The "business end" of the tables for the schools project consists of only (a) the very first and last lines of "REVENUES AND TRANSFERS"; (b) the 6th, 10th and 11th lines of "EXPENDITURES AND TRANSFERS"; (c) the 3 lines about the mill rate under "SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION;

(d) the very last segment, in the box, on page 1; and (e) on the second page, the 1st, 3rd, 6th and 7th lines of the remainder of the table. It is not a trivial task to trace these key data through the tables and understand what is happening.

Thank you.

Signed,

Arthur W. Wright

147 Hillyndale Road
Storrs, CT 06268

860-429-9958 home and office
860-922-3838 mobile

To: Mansfield Town Council Members
From: Alison Hilding, 17 Southwood Road, Storrs
Date: March 6, 2012
RE: Comments in response to the March 5, 2012 Public Hearing "Proposed School Building Project"

At the March 5, 2012 public hearing proponents of building two new elementary schools represented that the elementary school age population is expected to dwindle and therefore one elementary school might need to close. Nevertheless, overcrowding and insufficient space for specialists to work with children was also presented as reason for building two new schools. If the student population is expected to shrink, wouldn't overcrowding be resolved by this enrollment decline? Could the specialists use classroom space that would become available as a consequence of lower enrollment to work with students individually? Could unused classrooms be divided to make for appropriate-sized workspace for individual instruction?

Likewise, if the Middle School population is expected to shrink, why would we continue to need portable classrooms? Why replace the portables if you anticipate that you will not need them in the very near future? Or, if you did replace them, why would it matter that their usable life is short if you will only need them for a few years?

If enrollment at the three elementary schools is expected to decline, and if, in contrast, there were to be continued overcrowding at the Middle School, why not return the fifth grade to the elementary school, where it originated, rather than build more portables at the Middle School? I think a ten or eleven year-old child is better served in the setting of an elementary school than he is with seventh and eighth graders anyway. Education is a fashion industry. Junior high school once comprised the seventh and eighth grade. Originally our three elementary schools educated a first grade through six grade population. A revision of the current fifth grade curriculum could accommodate the inclusion of fifth grade in the elementary school. It would surely be more cost effective to assign the fifth grade to the elementary schools than to build new schools. Please consider solving current space limitations by means other than new construction or more portable classrooms.

One of the speakers at Monday's public hearing brought up a good point: why were demolition costs and the expense of removing the debris of razed schools not factored into the total expense of new construction? A trip to the town dump to dispose of a used appliance reminds us that it is expensive to throw things away. What might the real cost of disposing so much solid building material be if two schools are demolished?

Another speaker raised an equally appropriate question: why do we believe that our schools need to be replaced, or heavily renovated, when the state does not view them as qualifying for "like new" renovation due to the fact that they have been renovated by more than 75% since the 1990's. The state's evaluation and view should give us pause,

particularly in uncertain financial times. School enhancements viewed as "ideal" when funds are abundant are often considered "excessive" when finances become tight.

It is my understanding that there are currently water purity problems at Vinton as well as possible septic problems. I believe that these matters should be considered in the context of new construction or renovation. Is there adequate space for a new septic field? Will a new well need to be drilled? What is the source of the current contamination? Likewise, I am told that there might problems at Southeast with regard to a new septic field in the event of new construction. Is there land capacity for a new septic field to accommodate a larger school population? Similarly, is there an available water source to accommodate a larger school population? If there are current, or anticipated, water or septic issues at Annie Vinton and Southeast schools, why were these problems not depicted in the Town Manager's presentation? Why were potential water and septic problems only listed with regard to Goodwin? The potential for public water and sewer service at Goodwin should be viewed as a positive.

I believe that all children should have the shortest possible bus ride, as well as attend the school closest to their home. I was concerned to hear a Davis Road resident echo Paul Shapiro's recent statement that his child attends Annie Vinton which is further from his home than Goodwin. This is an easily remedied problem, particularly if enrollment dwindles as anticipated. Children who lived on Davis Road originally attended Storrs Grammar. When that school closed these children were sent to Northwest, now Goodwin. As I recall, when enrollment soared at Goodwin, yet was still low at Annie Vinton, the Davis Road children were re-districted to Annie Vinton. The anticipated reduction in student enrollment should relax overcrowding at the elementary schools and might enable a re-districting of children who currently attend a more distant school. A road-by-road review of current elementary school district assignments would be appropriate and fair, particularly if the three elementary schools are renovated.

It has been suggested by local tradesmen that renovation creates more local jobs than new construction. Many locals have suggested to me that new construction is typically given to large out-of-town firms. Has this been considered?

I believe that Wethersfield, Naugatuck, and Danbury have all recently chosen renovation over new construction. I understand that they qualified for the higher "like new" renovation reimbursement rate provided by the state. I wonder if their consultants were more helpful in identifying aspects which might qualify for waivers, such as boiler replacement, or waivers for higher per pupil square footage than the state recommends and Mansfield has. In this regard, are we married to the consultant or the construction firm presently engaged by the town? Are you familiar with the contracts? Could these firms be replaced?

Last night a number of Board of Education members spoke. Many, including all of the Republicans, appropriately identified themselves as School Board members speaking as private citizens. However, some Board of Education members did not identify their membership status. When an elected official is speaking before the town regarding a

project that he has participated in the development of, and therefore may be biased toward, it behooves him to identify his elected role, and to state that he is speaking on behalf of his respective board, or alternately, as a private citizen expressing his own opinion. This is common practice. If this convention is not being followed independently and appropriately by our elected officials, then the practice of acknowledging membership and identifying voice when speaking publically should be required by town policy.

A wild card in the school project consideration is the 550 acre Green farm in the Goodwin district. Should the Green family decide to develop part or all of the property, the population distribution of school age children could change dramatically.

Thank you for your consideration of my thoughts.

Kind regards,

Alison Hilding

School Building Project

From: **council@mansfieldct.org** on behalf of **KJPrandy** (kjp1199@sbcglobal.net)
Sent: Tue 3/06/12 4:16 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org (TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org)

Hello,

We want to thank everyone involved for all your hard work. We appreciate it.

Our **first choice is the 2 new school option**. However, while this is our first choice, we feel very strongly that the sites must not be on the same side of town (Vinton and Southeast). We feel this way NOT because we are a Goodwin family, but because it is what makes sense. The sites must be chosen before it is time to vote. If the sites are on the same side, or not chosen, we will vote no.

Our **second choice**, a very close second, is the 3 school renovation.

We do not support the one school option, and would wholeheartedly vote no.

As a side note, we would like to add our thoughts to another subject. The ***bus times***. These could change with moving to 2 schools rather than keeping 3. Some viewpoints were that it didn't matter, the children are fine on the bus for 45+ minutes. We disagree. We have children as young as 3 that ride our buses. These children are often newly potty trained, sacrificing nap times for afternoon preschool schedules, and everything is so new to them, that sometimes they are even scared. You have a child of 3 or 4 on a bus for 45 minutes or more, you risk soiling, increasing fear, exhaustion. Being a daycare owner in this town, we have often received young children off the bus who have had accidents after a half hour trip, leaving them sitting in their soiled pants for a period of time. Many have fallen asleep, or are in tears. **It absolutely does matter how long a bus ride is.**

Thank you for your time.

John and Karri Prandy
10 Ridge Road

School Building Project

From: **council@mansfieldct.org** on behalf of **robert bockholdt** (bockholdt@charter.net)
Sent: Tue 3/06/12 5:29 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

Robert Bockholdt

705 Middle Turnpike

Storrs, Ct. 06268

Town of Mansfield, Town Council Members:

Having been a resident for more than 30 years I am very concerned with the looming debt facing the town with all the projected expenditures we face.

This year, we are experiencing an increase in our state sales tax and state income tax. The inevitable increase in our property taxes will certainly bring hardship to many of the residents of Mansfield, especially those of us on fixed incomes.

Choosing the 2 school option over maintaining and renovating the existing 3 schools, (option A), places the town in a precarious situation by leading us down a slippery slope of uncertainty and budget shortfalls. If the town chooses option A, would it be necessary to do all the proposed renovations immediately or could some renovations be made on an "as needed basis"? If some work could be delayed, so could funding. I also could not help but detect some bias towards the 2 school option. For example, under "pros and cons" , "cannot predict emergency repairs" is <u>not</u> mentioned in the 2 school option.

Bob Bockholdt

school project choice from 29 Hillpond dr.

From: **council@mansfieldct.org** on behalf of **carol jensen** (jensenkeel1182@att.net)
Sent: Tue 3/06/12 4:40 PM
To: towncouncil@mansfieldct.org

Renovation- not new schools, is the best choice for Mansfields children!

67 Edgemont Road
Katonah, New York 10536

March 7, 2012

Mansfield Town Council
4 South Eagleville Road
Storrs, CT 06268

Dear Members of the Mansfield Town Council:

News of potential school change in Mansfield has reached all the way to Katonah, New York! I am Dorothy C. Goodwin's niece and I write in support of renovating the three elementary schools, including Goodwin. My aunt was honored and pleased that Mansfield named a school after her. She loved to go hear the children sing or watch them perform a play. She enjoyed interacting with the students in the classroom. Public education was her passion during her service to Mansfield in the Connecticut legislature.

Despite my aunt's means and generosity to others, including the Town of Mansfield, she herself lived frugally. She never threw anything away that could be repaired and re-used. She glued broken dishes and filed chipped crystal glasses. She always bought used cars, never new, and she drove her last car with many dents. It was good enough for her and she certainly didn't want to throw something out before it outlived its usefulness. She was a committed recycler regularly filling her blue bin.

Dorothy Goodwin had an environmental consciousness as well as a sense of financial responsibility. I believe she would have enthusiastically encouraged Mansfield to renovate its three elementary schools rather than to build new. Furthermore, I believe she would be greatly concerned about the higher tax burden that new construction will place on those with fixed or lower income.

Her own school was a source of pleasure and pride to her. It is a fitting tribute to her years of service to Mansfield, and to the State of Connecticut, as well as to her generosity to the town that she loved. I hope that Goodwin School will remain a lasting tribute to my aunt and to the community it serves.

Sincerely,

Martha Dewing

March 1, 2012

Dear Mansfield Town Council Members:

The Goodwin Elementary PTO supports the choice of ***Goodwin Elementary School*** as a site for one of two new elementary schools proposed for Mansfield, CT.

While we appreciate the town's effort to build two new schools in order to provide our children with educational facilities that are second to none, the location of these schools will greatly affect the quality of life of all our families and the town's overall appeal as a place to live and work. The feedback and opinions we have received from our families is overwhelmingly in support of Goodwin Elementary being one of the sites chosen to build a new school.

We believe that choosing Goodwin simply makes sense because:

- It is easily accessed by road and by pedestrian/bikeways.
- It maximizes accessibility by area residents and minimizes the travel time for students and parents.
- It is centrally located. It encourages families to be more engaged and involved in school activities.
- It, together with a second school at the south end of town, helps disperse school-related bus and automobile traffic congestion.
- It is close to areas of Mansfield that can best support new residential and neighborhood/business mixed-use development, particularly in light of the proposed Four Corners Sewer project.
- Its proximity to developable properties would make that development more valuable and more likely and it would encourage young families to take up residence in this area of town.

As you know, schools provide important anchors for communities. By preserving a school at the Goodwin site, healthy, stable neighborhoods will continue to thrive even in the shadow of the University.

Last fall, Storrs Center finally began to take life. Clearly, you recognize the value of a mixed use development for the economic and social wellbeing of our community. Our families in nearby neighborhoods are an integral part of that mixed-use vision. Please consider this in your deliberations.

Please keep an elementary school at the Goodwin site.

Goodwin PTO Board and Supporters

Signed Jennifer Smith 3/3/12

Additional Comments: 102 MOULTON RD
STORRS CT 06268.

Goodwin School has a very strong connection to UConn - something that is worth preserving and growing in the future.

March 1, 2012

Dear Mansfield Town Council Members:

The Goodwin Elementary PTO supports the choice of ***Goodwin Elementary School*** as a site for one of two new elementary schools proposed for Mansfield, CT.

While we appreciate the town's effort to build two new schools in order to provide our children with educational facilities that are second to none, the location of these schools will greatly affect the quality of life of all our families and the town's overall appeal as a place to live and work. The feedback and opinions we have received from our families is overwhelmingly in support of Goodwin Elementary being one of the sites chosen to build a new school.

We believe that choosing Goodwin simply makes sense because:

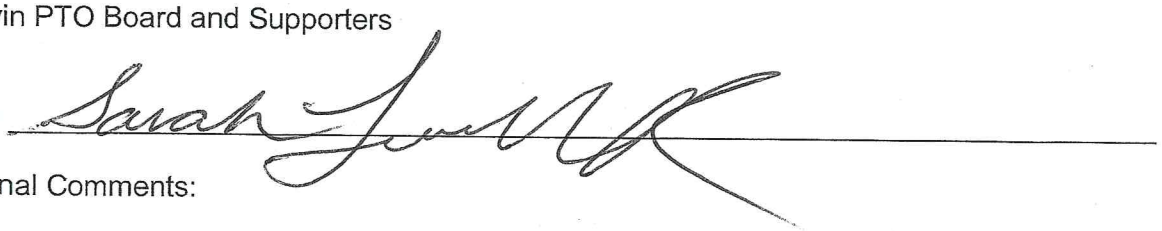
- It is easily accessed by road and by pedestrian/bikeways.
- It maximizes accessibility by area residents and minimizes the travel time for students and parents.
- It is centrally located. It encourages families to be more engaged and involved in school activities.
- It, together with a second school at the south end of town, helps disperse school-related bus and automobile traffic congestion.
- It is close to areas of Mansfield that can best support new residential and neighborhood/business mixed-use development, particularly in light of the proposed Four Corners Sewer project.
- Its proximity to developable properties would make that development more valuable and more likely and it would encourage young families to take up residence in this area of town.

As you know, schools provide important anchors for communities. By preserving a school at the Goodwin site, healthy, stable neighborhoods will continue to thrive even in the shadow of the University.

Last fall, Storrs Center finally began to take life. Clearly, you recognize the value of a mixed use development for the economic and social wellbeing of our community. Our families in nearby neighborhoods are an integral part of that mixed-use vision. Please consider this in your deliberations.

Please keep an elementary school at the Goodwin site.

Goodwin PTO Board and Supporters

Signed 

Additional Comments:

March 1, 2012

Dear Mansfield Town Council Members:

The Goodwin Elementary PTO supports the choice of ***Goodwin Elementary School*** as a site for one of two new elementary schools proposed for Mansfield, CT.

While we appreciate the town's effort to build two new schools in order to provide our children with educational facilities that are second to none, the location of these schools will greatly affect the quality of life of all our families and the town's overall appeal as a place to live and work. The feedback and opinions we have received from our families is overwhelmingly in support of Goodwin Elementary being one of the sites chosen to build a new school.

We believe that choosing Goodwin simply makes sense because:

- It is easily accessed by road and by pedestrian/bikeways.
- It maximizes accessibility by area residents and minimizes the travel time for students and parents.
- It is centrally located. It encourages families to be more engaged and involved in school activities.
- It, together with a second school at the south end of town, helps disperse school-related bus and automobile traffic congestion.
- It is close to areas of Mansfield that can best support new residential and neighborhood/business mixed-use development, particularly in light of the proposed Four Corners Sewer project.
- Its proximity to developable properties would make that development more valuable and more likely and it would encourage young families to take up residence in this area of town.

As you know, schools provide important anchors for communities. By preserving a school at the Goodwin site, healthy, stable neighborhoods will continue to thrive even in the shadow of the University.

Last fall, Storrs Center finally began to take life. Clearly, you recognize the value of a mixed use development for the economic and social wellbeing of our community. Our families in nearby neighborhoods are an integral part of that mixed-use vision. Please consider this in your deliberations.

Please keep an elementary school at the Goodwin site.

Goodwin PTO Board and Supporters

Signed Maria Kapinos

Additional Comments:

March 1, 2012

Dear Mansfield Town Council Members:

The Goodwin Elementary PTO supports the choice of ***Goodwin Elementary School*** as a site for one of two new elementary schools proposed for Mansfield, CT.

While we appreciate the town's effort to build two new schools in order to provide our children with educational facilities that are second to none, the location of these schools will greatly affect the quality of life of all our families and the town's overall appeal as a place to live and work. The feedback and opinions we have received from our families is overwhelmingly in support of Goodwin Elementary being one of the sites chosen to build a new school.

We believe that choosing Goodwin simply makes sense because:

- It is easily accessed by road and by pedestrian/bikeways.
- It maximizes accessibility by area residents and minimizes the travel time for students and parents.
- It is centrally located. It encourages families to be more engaged and involved in school activities.
- It, together with a second school at the south end of town, helps disperse school-related bus and automobile traffic congestion.
- It is close to areas of Mansfield that can best support new residential and neighborhood/business mixed-use development, particularly in light of the proposed Four Corners Sewer project.
- Its proximity to developable properties would make that development more valuable and more likely and it would encourage young families to take up residence in this area of town.

As you know, schools provide important anchors for communities. By preserving a school at the Goodwin site, healthy, stable neighborhoods will continue to thrive even in the shadow of the University.

Last fall, Storrs Center finally began to take life. Clearly, you recognize the value of a mixed use development for the economic and social wellbeing of our community. Our families in nearby neighborhoods are an integral part of that mixed-use vision. Please consider this in your deliberations.

Please keep an elementary school at the Goodwin site.

Goodwin PTO Board and Supporters

Signed

Additional Comments:

March 1, 2012

Dear Mansfield Town Council Members:

The Goodwin Elementary PTO supports the choice of ***Goodwin Elementary School*** as a site for one of two new elementary schools proposed for Mansfield, CT.

While we appreciate the town's effort to build two new schools in order to provide our children with educational facilities that are second to none, the location of these schools will greatly affect the quality of life of all our families and the town's overall appeal as a place to live and work. The feedback and opinions we have received from our families is overwhelmingly in support of Goodwin Elementary being one of the sites chosen to build a new school.

We believe that choosing Goodwin simply makes sense because:

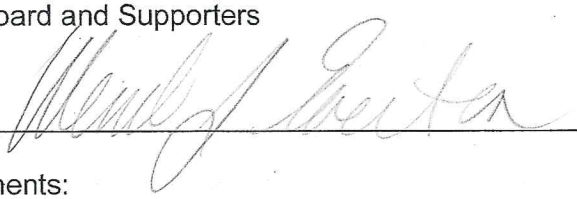
- It is easily accessed by road and by pedestrian/bikeways.
- It maximizes accessibility by area residents and minimizes the travel time for students and parents.
- It is centrally located. It encourages families to be more engaged and involved in school activities.
- It, together with a second school at the south end of town, helps disperse school-related bus and automobile traffic congestion.
- It is close to areas of Mansfield that can best support new residential and neighborhood/business mixed-use development, particularly in light of the proposed Four Corners Sewer project.
- Its proximity to developable properties would make that development more valuable and more likely and it would encourage young families to take up residence in this area of town.

As you know, schools provide important anchors for communities. By preserving a school at the Goodwin site, healthy, stable neighborhoods will continue to thrive even in the shadow of the University.

Last fall, Storrs Center finally began to take life. Clearly, you recognize the value of a mixed use development for the economic and social wellbeing of our community. Our families in nearby neighborhoods are an integral part of that mixed-use vision. Please consider this in your deliberations.

Please keep an elementary school at the Goodwin site.

Goodwin PTO Board and Supporters

Signed 

Additional Comments:

March 1, 2012

Dear Mansfield Town Council Members:

The Goodwin Elementary PTO supports the choice of ***Goodwin Elementary School*** as a site for one of two new elementary schools proposed for Mansfield, CT.

While we appreciate the town's effort to build two new schools in order to provide our children with educational facilities that are second to none, the location of these schools will greatly affect the quality of life of all our families and the town's overall appeal as a place to live and work. The feedback and opinions we have received from our families is overwhelmingly in support of Goodwin Elementary being one of the sites chosen to build a new school.

We believe that choosing Goodwin simply makes sense because:

- It is easily accessed by road and by pedestrian/bikeways.
- It maximizes accessibility by area residents and minimizes the travel time for students and parents.
- It is centrally located. It encourages families to be more engaged and involved in school activities.
- It, together with a second school at the south end of town, helps disperse school-related bus and automobile traffic congestion.
- It is close to areas of Mansfield that can best support new residential and neighborhood/business mixed-use development, particularly in light of the proposed Four Corners Sewer project.
- Its proximity to developable properties would make that development more valuable and more likely and it would encourage young families to take up residence in this area of town.

As you know, schools provide important anchors for communities. By preserving a school at the Goodwin site, healthy, stable neighborhoods will continue to thrive even in the shadow of the University.

Last fall, Storrs Center finally began to take life. Clearly, you recognize the value of a mixed use development for the economic and social wellbeing of our community. Our families in nearby neighborhoods are an integral part of that mixed-use vision. Please consider this in your deliberations.

Please keep an elementary school at the Goodwin site.

Goodwin PTO Board and Supporters

Signed Karen N. Burnett

Additional Comments:

March 1, 2012

Dear Mansfield Town Council Members:

The Goodwin Elementary PTO supports the choice of ***Goodwin Elementary School*** as a site for one of two new elementary schools proposed for Mansfield, CT.

While we appreciate the town's effort to build two new schools in order to provide our children with educational facilities that are second to none, the location of these schools will greatly affect the quality of life of all our families and the town's overall appeal as a place to live and work. The feedback and opinions we have received from our families is overwhelmingly in support of Goodwin Elementary being one of the sites chosen to build a new school.

We believe that choosing Goodwin simply makes sense because:

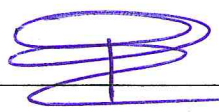
- It is easily accessed by road and by pedestrian/bikeways.
- It maximizes accessibility by area residents and minimizes the travel time for students and parents.
- It is centrally located. It encourages families to be more engaged and involved in school activities.
- It, together with a second school at the south end of town, helps disperse school-related bus and automobile traffic congestion.
- It is close to areas of Mansfield that can best support new residential and neighborhood/business mixed-use development, particularly in light of the proposed Four Corners Sewer project.
- Its proximity to developable properties would make that development more valuable and more likely and it would encourage young families to take up residence in this area of town.

As you know, schools provide important anchors for communities. By preserving a school at the Goodwin site, healthy, stable neighborhoods will continue to thrive even in the shadow of the University.

Last fall, Storrs Center finally began to take life. Clearly, you recognize the value of a mixed use development for the economic and social wellbeing of our community. Our families in nearby neighborhoods are an integral part of that mixed-use vision. Please consider this in your deliberations.

Please keep an elementary school at the Goodwin site.

Goodwin PTO Board and Supporters

Signed  Reyberto Lopez

Additional Comments: 54 Homestead Dr
Storrs CT 06268

March 1, 2012

Dear Mansfield Town Council Members:

The Goodwin Elementary PTO supports the choice of ***Goodwin Elementary School*** as a site for one of two new elementary schools proposed for Mansfield, CT.

While we appreciate the town's effort to build two new schools in order to provide our children with educational facilities that are second to none, the location of these schools will greatly affect the quality of life of all our families and the town's overall appeal as a place to live and work. The feedback and opinions we have received from our families is overwhelmingly in support of Goodwin Elementary being one of the sites chosen to build a new school.

We believe that choosing Goodwin simply makes sense because:

- It is easily accessed by road and by pedestrian/bikeways.
- It maximizes accessibility by area residents and minimizes the travel time for students and parents.
- It is centrally located. It encourages families to be more engaged and involved in school activities.
- It, together with a second school at the south end of town, helps disperse school-related bus and automobile traffic congestion.
- It is close to areas of Mansfield that can best support new residential and neighborhood/business mixed-use development, particularly in light of the proposed Four Corners Sewer project.
- Its proximity to developable properties would make that development more valuable and more likely and it would encourage young families to take up residence in this area of town.

As you know, schools provide important anchors for communities. By preserving a school at the Goodwin site, healthy, stable neighborhoods will continue to thrive even in the shadow of the University.

Last fall, Storrs Center finally began to take life. Clearly, you recognize the value of a mixed use development for the economic and social wellbeing of our community. Our families in nearby neighborhoods are an integral part of that mixed-use vision. Please consider this in your deliberations.

Please keep an elementary school at the Goodwin site.

Goodwin PTO Board and Supporters

Signed _____

Additional Comments:

March 1, 2012

Dear Mansfield Town Council Members:

The Goodwin Elementary PTO supports the choice of ***Goodwin Elementary School*** as a site for one of two new elementary schools proposed for Mansfield, CT.

While we appreciate the town's effort to build two new schools in order to provide our children with educational facilities that are second to none, the location of these schools will greatly affect the quality of life of all our families and the town's overall appeal as a place to live and work. The feedback and opinions we have received from our families is overwhelmingly in support of Goodwin Elementary being one of the sites chosen to build a new school.

We believe that choosing Goodwin simply makes sense because:

- It is easily accessed by road and by pedestrian/bikeways.
- It maximizes accessibility by area residents and minimizes the travel time for students and parents.
- It is centrally located. It encourages families to be more engaged and involved in school activities.
- It, together with a second school at the south end of town, helps disperse school-related bus and automobile traffic congestion.
- It is close to areas of Mansfield that can best support new residential and neighborhood/business mixed-use development, particularly in light of the proposed Four Corners Sewer project.
- Its proximity to developable properties would make that development more valuable and more likely and it would encourage young families to take up residence in this area of town.

As you know, schools provide important anchors for communities. By preserving a school at the Goodwin site, healthy, stable neighborhoods will continue to thrive even in the shadow of the University.

Last fall, Storrs Center finally began to take life. Clearly, you recognize the value of a mixed use development for the economic and social wellbeing of our community. Our families in nearby neighborhoods are an integral part of that mixed-use vision. Please consider this in your deliberations.

Please ~~k~~keep an elementary school at the Goodwin site.

Goodwin PTO Board and Supporters

Signed Kristi A. Jadrit

Additional Comments:

Mary L. Stanton

From: SBCinfo
Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 11:56 AM
To: SBCinfo
Subject: School Building Project Question via Website Question Form

name:
email: dlefevre@earthlink.net
notes: Does the building project include deconstruction costs?

Sent from IP Address: 72.10.101.97
Date/Time: 3/6/2012 11:55 AM

Mary L. Stanton

From: SBCinfo
Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 12:06 PM
To: SBCinfo
Subject: School Building Project Comment via Website Comment Form

name:
email: dlefevre@earthlink.net
notes: New buildings/the "latest greatest" facility do not educate children; families, dedicated staff, and effective staffing levels do. I am for renovation.

Sent from IP Address: 72.10.101.97
Date/Time: 3/6/2012 12:05 PM

Mary L. Stanton

From: SBCinfo
Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2012 11:59 AM
To: SBCinfo
Subject: School Building Project Question via Website Question Form

name:
email: dlefevre@earthlink.net
notes: Will the 2 school project include bathrooms in every classroom? Currently that is the case across the 3 schools and is an ENORMOUS time saver for teachers and increases teacher/kid contact/instruction time dramatically. Consider this cost...

Sent from IP Address: 72.10.101.97
Date/Time: 3/6/2012 11:59 AM