



January 18, 2017

Kevin J. Murphy
City Manager
Michael McGovern
Assistant City Manager

Mayor Edward J. Kennedy, Jr.
and
Members of the City Council

REFERENCE: C. Samaras/C. Rourke - Req. City Mgr. meet with the administration of UMass-Lowell, Middlesex Community College and the Lowell School Department to discuss their role in the educational planning of the new Lowell High.

Dear Mayor Kennedy and Members of the City Council:

I am writing in response to the above motion made by Councilors William Samaras and Daniel Rourke. Representatives from Perkins/Eastman, Skanska, and school officials both from central administration and the high school have been involved with writing the Education Program. This group is referred to as the Educational Leadership Team (ELT). The narrative is part of the feasibility study being conducted for a new high school as required by MSBA.

The MSBA considers the Ed-Program the basis for design. Numerous visioning sessions and focus groups have been held throughout the past couple months. Participants include faculty, community stakeholders, students, and members of the Educational Leadership Team. The narrative sets a blueprint for the District's educational practices, its goals and objectives for the future, including curriculum, organizational models, grade structures, teaming and teaching/learning methods.

Included in the visioning sessions were Professor Patricia Fontaine of UML and MCC Program Director Colleen Winn. Also, the ELT met with MCC's Trio program including Upward Bound, Talent Search, and Gear Up. Dual enrollment programs occur within classrooms, rather than dedicated space. Included in the draft Education Program is the reference, acknowledging the important partnerships with UML and MCC.

MCC/UMass Programs-provide intensive academic support and college/career support for 1st generation college and underserved populations. These programs require office spaces and a classroom (TRIO; Gear-Up / Talent Search / UpwardBound).

I will stress to Perkins/Eastman and Skanska of the utmost importance that lines of communication remain open between UML, MCC, Lowell Public Schools, and the City throughout the LHS project. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Murphy
City Manager