



Andrew J. Bott
Superintendent

The Public Schools of Brookline
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March 15, 2019

To the Families and Friends of the Public Schools of Brookline,

We are writing to update you about the proposed Brookline Early Education Program (BEEP) lease at the 127 Harvard Street site.

In the fall of 2017, the Town was approached by a donor interested in building an early childhood center at 127 Harvard Street, Brookline. The donor proposed that the building be leased to the Public Schools of Brookline for a period of twenty years. The School Committee and the Select Board negotiated in good faith with the donor and signed a 20-year lease agreement, provided by the donor, in November 2018.

The lease signed by the School Committee and the Select Board required that the Town pay annual rent of \$12.00 and all annual operating costs for the building, totaling approximately \$100,000 per year. Despite the signatures of the Town boards on the lease, the donor never signed it and in mid-January, 2019, we were informed that the donor was no longer interested in building a home for BEEP. Instead, the donor has plans to build and open a private pre-school at the 127 Harvard Street property.

The School Committee is pleased that the Newbury College Acquisition Advisory Committee is exploring whether a property on the Newbury College site could, if acquired, serve as a town-wide BEEP center. Siting a BEEP center there would eliminate the need to rent classrooms for the BEEP program, as we currently do. Creating a permanent home for the Brookline Early Education Program would also serve to demonstrate the importance of the program to our schools and our town.

Sincerely,



Andrew J. Bott
Superintendent



David Pollak
Chair, Brookline School Committee