David Mindess School Building Committee

Christopher Lee, Community Member with Building Design and/or Construction Experience

Mr. Lee works for Worcester based Lamoureux Pagano Associates, Architects as a design professional. He is LEED accredited, has a MA Construction Supervisors License, and is nearing completion of his architect's licensing process. He has worked on 15 academic projects, 9 being public school projects with the MSBA. He holds a Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in architecture from Roger Williams University. Mr. Lee and his family moved to Ashland in the summer of 2017, and he has two boys, ages three and seven.

Nick DiGiovanni, Community Member with Building Design and/or Construction Experience

Mr. DiGiovanni is currently a Superintendent for Cranshaw Construction where he has worked on projects ranging from 50-100 million dollars. Mr. DiGiovanni has an Associate Degree from Vermont Technical College in Construction Management. Mr. DiGiovanni is a parent of 3 daughters, ages 16 months, and 7 and 9 years.

Ketan Joshi, Community Member with Building Design and/or Construction Experience

Mr. Joshi is currently the Vice-President of Preconstruction at EMJ Construction. Mr. Joshi holds a Bachelor's Degree in Architecture from University of Mumbai and a Master's in Construction Management from Virginia Tech. He is a LEED Green Associate and LEAN Practitioner. Mr. Joshi holds an unrestricted Construction Services License in MA, and has worked on numerous school building projects including Winthrop High School, Taconic Vocational School in Pittsfield and the Dearborn STEM Academy. He lives in Ashland with his wife and twin 7th grade students.

Tilak Subrahmanian, Community Member with Building Design and/or Construction Experience

Mr. Subrahmanian is an executive at Eversource, where he is responsible for the Energy Efficiency Business. His team works with Residents, Businesses, Municipalities, Schools and other stakeholders across MA to help them reduce their energy use. He holds a Masters Degree in Engineering from the University of Washington in Seattle and an MBA from the Ross School of Business at the University Of Michigan. He lives in Ashland with his wife and two children 14 and 9.

Tim MacKay, Community Member with Building Design and/or Construction Experience

Mr. MacKay is a member of the American Institute for Architects, Boston Society of Architects, and the Construction Managers Association of America. Mr. MacKay is a graduate of Ashland High School and has worked on local school renovation projects such as Westwood High School and Old Rochester High School and has experience working with the MSBA. Mr. MacKay has 3 children who will be coming through the system, ages, 6 months, and 3 and 6 years.

Mike Kane, Community Member with Facilities and MSBA Experience

Mr. Kane is the Interim Facilities Manager at J.P. Keefe Technical High School where he has been employed since 1999. Mr. Kane is a resident of Ashland, has an Associate's Degree in Hotel Restaurant Management and holds numerous technical certifications in maintenance of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning. Mr. Kane has extensive experience with the MSBA and while working at J.P. Keefe on a building roof project. Mr. Kane is an Ashland High School graduate, his wife Patricia is a teacher at the Warren School and they have three daughters. Abbie and Kate graduated from AHS and Olivia is currently a junior at AHS.

Melissa Mercon-Smith, Director of the Ashland Extended Day Program

Ms. Mercon-Smith has been the Director of the Extended Day Program for the Ashland Public Schools for the past 29 years. The Extended Day Program has students in three buildings and can assist with historical context as well as providing valuable input regarding programmatic needs.

Barbara Durand, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, MCPPO Certified

Ms. Durand is the Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations for the Ashland Public Schools, a role she has held for 10 years. Ms. Durand is MCPPO Certified (Massachusetts Certified Public Purchasing Official) and has worked on numerous projects with the MSBA.

Dr. Michael Caira, Principal of the David Mindess Elementary School

Dr. Caira is the Principal of the David Mindess Elementary School. Dr. Caira has been the principal of Mindess since 2016 and previously served as the principal of the Henry Warren School in Ashland since 2012.

Dr. Paul Vieira, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Dr. Paul Vieira has been the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment since 2016. Previously Dr. Viera was the high school principal of East Bridgewater High School for 10 years. Dr. Vieira has significant experience with school building projects as he was part of the team to build East Bridgewater and Silver Lake Regional High School.

Claudia Bennett, Assistant Principal David Mindess Elementary School

Ms. Claudia Bennett is the Assistant Principal of the David Mindess School. Ms. Bennett has worked in the Ashland Public Schools since 2007 and was named Assistant Principal of the David Mindess School in 2013. Ms. Bennett was part of the Ashland School Committee and participated in the MSBA building process of Ashland High School. Ms. Bennett as has significant experience teaching technology.

Joseph Richardson, Director of Facilities and Maintenance

Mr. Richardson is the Director of Facilities for the Town of Ashland and the Ashland Public Schools. Mr. Richardson has been the Director of Facilities since 2017. Mr. Richardson has a Bachelor's Degree in Occupational Safety and Health and spent 10 years serving in the United States Navy. Before coming to Ashland, Mr. Richardson was the Director of Facilities for the Fitchburg Public Schools where he worked with the MSBA on numerous school building projects. Mr. Richardson is an active member of the MFAA, Massachusetts Facilities Administrators Association.

James E. Adams, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Adams is the Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Adams was hired as Superintendent in 2014, after serving as Principal of Ashland High School from 2010-2014. Prior to his experience in Ashland, Mr. Adams was an assistant principal at Millbury High School for three years and taught accounting and history for seven years at Maynard High School and Nashoba Regional High School. Before transitioning into public education in 1999, Mr. Adams worked as a staff accountant for five years in the public accounting sector.

Paul Kendall, Ashland School Committee Member

Mr. Kendall is a senior technological engineer for State Street Bank and a member of the Ashland School Committee. Mr. Kendall and his wife have lived in Ashland for 13 years and have two children, ages 7 and 9.

Michael Herbert, Town Manager

Mr. Herbert was appointed the Town Manager of Ashland in 2016. Prior to being named Town Manager, he was the Assistant Town Manager & Finance Director for three years, working on two MSBA projects repairing the Warren and Middle Schools. Prior to coming to Ashland, he was the Director of Performance Management for the City of Newton and was the Management Analyst for the City of Lowell, creating its successful LowellStat program. Mr. Herbert has a BA in Community Planning and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Massachusetts Boston.

Paul Carpenter, Director of Technology Town of Ashland / Ashland Public Schools

Mr. Carpenter is the Director of Technology for the Town of Ashland, and the Ashland Public Schools. Mr. Carpenter has been the Director of Technology since 2012 and has worked in the Technology Department since 2004. Before entering into public education, Mr. Carpenter was a licensed construction supervisor.