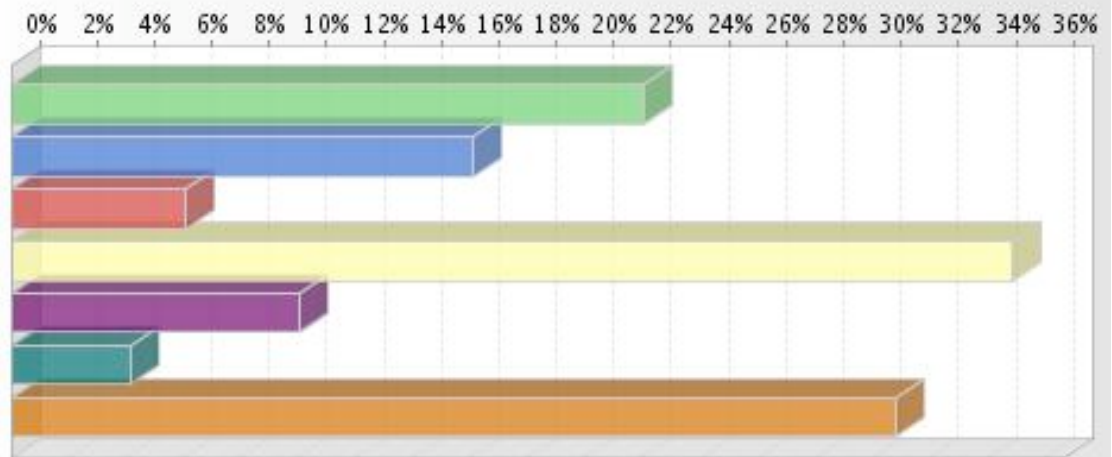


How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved? (Check one and comment if you like)



- Partially renovate the existing building with no addition to stay within the current budget
- Bond additional funds to partially renovate the existing building and add a new addition
- Bond additional funds to renovate 'as new' the existing building without a new addition
- Bond additional funds to renovate 'as new' the existing building and add a new addition
- Start the project over
- Don't do the project
- Comment

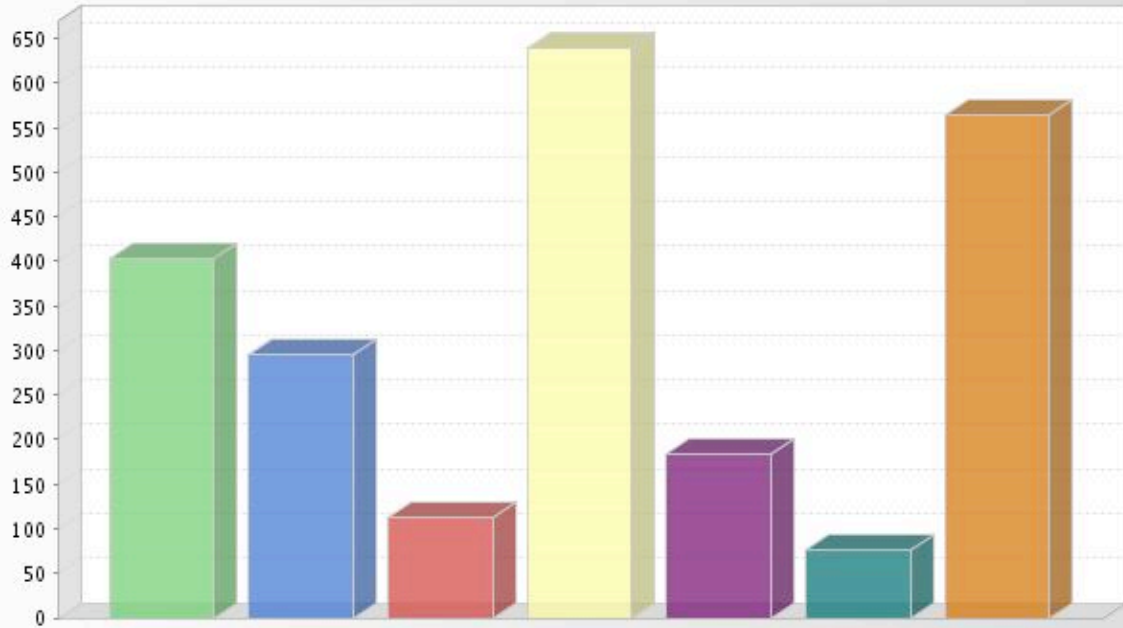
Total # of survey respondents **2032**

Statistics based on **1831** respondents to this particular question

0 filtered

201 skipped

How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved? (Check one and comment if you like)



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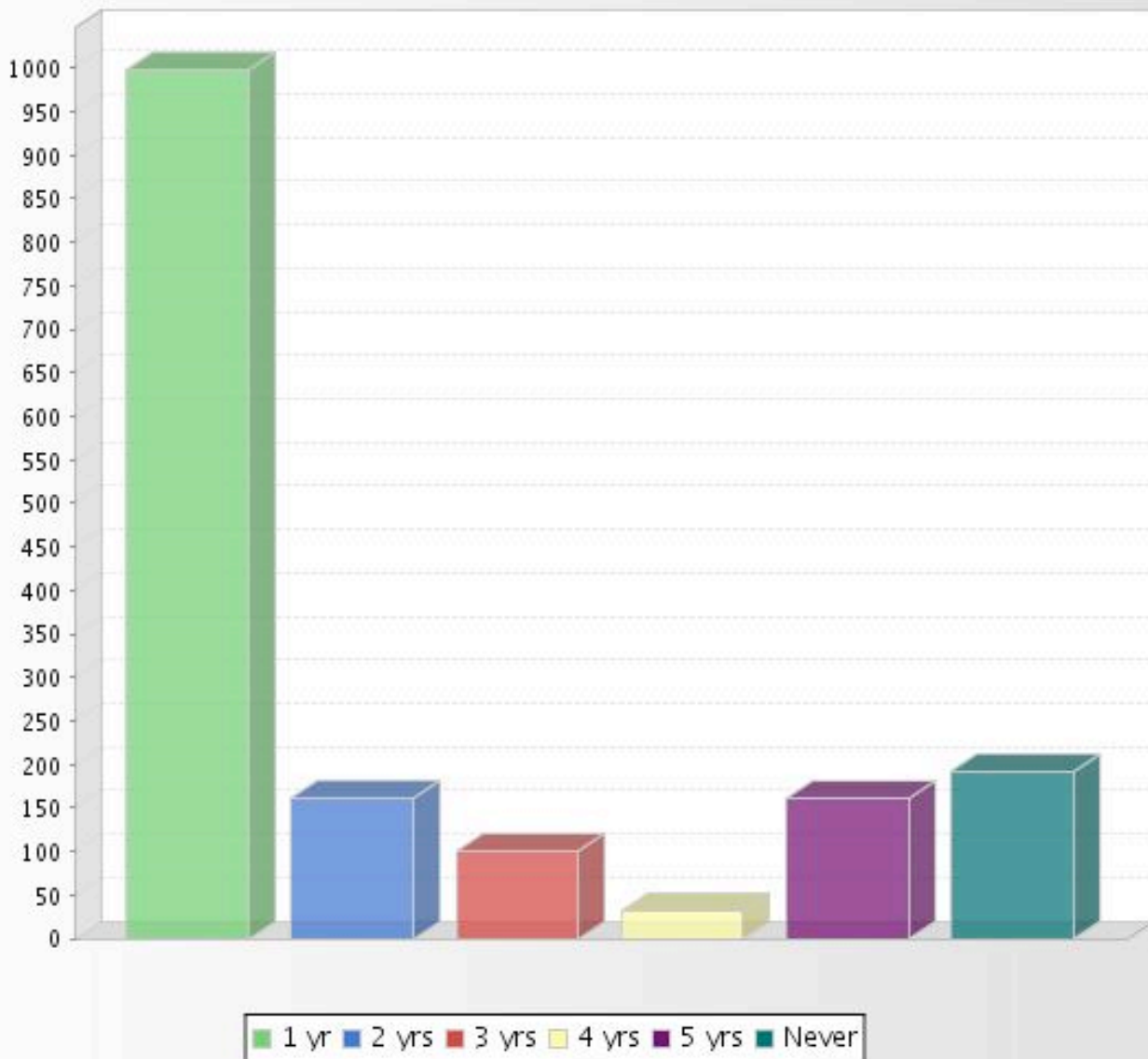
Which of the following would you like to see happen in Bethel in the next 5 years? (Check all that apply)

Responses to the High School building project by number of responses and by percentage of responses. Total responses to the question were 1642 out of 2032 survey respondents.

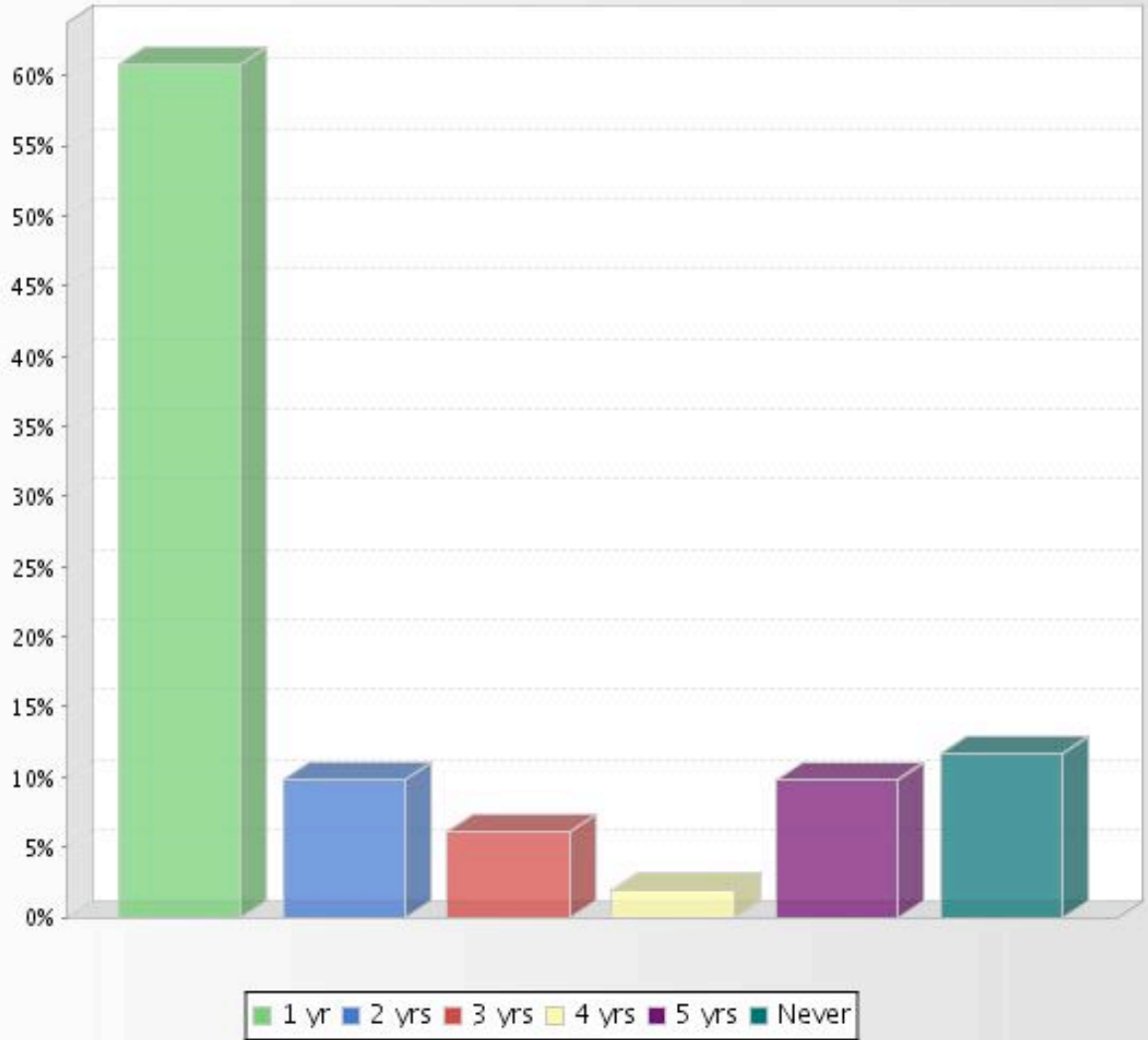
High School building project

60.8% (998)	1 Year
9.8% (161)	2 Years
6.1% (100)	3 Years
1.9% (31)	4 Years
9.7% (160)	5 Years
11.7% (192)	Never

High School building project



High School building project



Comments from “How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?”

562 respondents made comments to the question regarding “How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?”

Below are all the comments (unedited, nor spell checked) from this question. The number represents the respondent number and is left here, for ease of discussing comments.

6 Bring in people that know what they are doing and can finish the BHS as voted upon by the taxpayers 5 years ago.

8 the solution has to be practical hence there will have to be some compromising

13 Just get going on the project! I am very supportive of the renovation of the high school. Given the current snail's pace that the project has progressed at, I am unwilling to fund any additional money at this point. Had the project progressed in a timely fashion, we would not be asked this question. What is the paralysis about?!

14 Money continues to be wasted on this project instead of simply getting the job done.

18 There is severe mismanagement in this project.

20 Don't Know

29 not familiar enough with the project to comment

33 An accredited high school is extremely important!

34 voluntary

36 We HAVE to get this high school updated and accredited. At the rate this is going, my children (who are pre-K) will be in high school before it's finished. I've never seen such ridiculous infighting about a vital town resource. FIX THE HIGH SCHOOL NOW.

40 It's difficult to provide an answer not knowing how much each solution costs.

43 The project was paid for and never started. Now everybody suffers.

45 You will not attract new businesses or have an increase in property value without great schools

49 Do the project in stages

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

51 Good luck!

52 With all the new construction, we will have more families, thus more students. It only makes sense to fix and enlarge our schools. But... Shouldnt that be looked at before permits are issued and that cost included in the cost of permits and taxes?

57 This issue is embarrassing to the town... We are not supporting the future of our kids and economic well-being of the town by delaying the High School renovation.

60 The fact that this project has not been completed is an emabarrassment to the town. The high school must be fully accredited period.

62 The quality of education is more important than the facility

63 I am not sure why it would matter what people 'think' about this project since the NEAS Accreditation recommendations are the driving force behind the changes...not public opinion.

65 I'm not familiar enough with the project to comment.

66 I cannot believe this project is not complete by now - what a disgrace

71 Thois is a project that is TOO imporatant to not be taking care of properly. The project should already be finished. The fact that it is not is pathetic!! We need for our students who attend BHS and the staff who works there, a safe handicapped, up to date facility!!!

73 High School Project should be a priority and should be done completely.

79 get it done already...

81 This project needs to be FINISHED - do it the right way and you won't have to revisit it in the near future.

82 The school needs major investment, far more than what has already been appropriated. Town needs to push this through over the complaints of the vocal (and shinking) minority. I have NO kids in the schools and will not have any kids in the schools but recognize the value of the educational system for both community character and property values

96 do the job right the first time so we don't have to do it again in 10 years

97 All mandatory code items should be done. Once they are priced, the balance of the approved funds should be prioritized and completed up to the amount of the approved referendum. There should be NO additional monies spent on the project.

99 If the town continues to grow at its current excessive rate, the added space will be needed.

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

109 I just want the project to begin so that the students, faculty and staff can benefit from all of their efforts. The education system is a clear reflection on the town's priorities and our town does not put their backing to the educational system.

111 the conditionsof a school speak more about the quality of life in a town than any other building

113 DON'T BUILD MORE THAN MAKES SENSE AND IS NOT PIE IN THE SKY
MENTALITY

115 The whole thing has been run by a small select few with little concern for the tax payerts of this town.

116 Enough is enough! Start the project NOW!

124 The high school needs to be renovated as the NEASC has specifically outlined.

130 If you look back at BHS history you will see a new building about every 30 yrs. its time to improve, the good news not to much land to build on in bethel . with good planning and zoning this could last long term if we can keep a check on multi dwelling buildings

134 do it right the first time and get it done! we have wasted so much time & money at this point by waiting

135 Not versed in the subject. Any renovations made should be done completely, so as not to have to redo them in the immediate future.

138 Bethel Town Government, including Mr. Burke and his predisessors Mrs. Hutchinson and Mrs. Novachek have been egregiously irresponsible. Mr. Burke is clearly beholden to the BAC, the pac that has been destructive and their anti-tax funding agenda has cost the town taxpayers MUCH MORE MONEY in the long run to fix neglected infrastructure. We need leadership in regard to this very important project. Bethel will never fully reach it's potential until we build a new high school. The current building is in a shambles. It's an embarrassment to the community at large. If we expect new families who value a standard of living and who value property we need to get that project done and done right!! I'm willing to pay my share.

141 Most people will not understand this question, the choices are not worded clearly.

143 I do not know enough about the current situation.

144 Something needs to be done quickly to resolve this issue. The people in Bethel were able to come together and approve the renovation and are now being asked for even more money which is completely unfair.

147 Do it right the first time and then we won't have to worry about it for years.

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

149 fire Dr. chealsey

152 GET IT DONE NOW

155 I think the students should be the priority

170 This needs to be a top priority and needs to be done now. Stop stalling.

173 do what ever needs to be done don't worry about cost

177 We need to add the extra \$ to do the project that was voted on. These categories are misleading and divisive!

181 this quest, should only be asked at a forum where options are discussed!!!

184 Work with what the taxpayers approved, the town sat on the project to long as material and labor prices increased. Now scale back the project and work within your means, NO MORE MONEY OR BONDING

189 Regional School

195 Get going and get it done. Tell the politicians to get off their butts.

201 Compared to other schools that I have visited all over state, we should be embarrassed as a communitih for t=letting this building decline and fall behind the times to the extent it has. There should be more tours open to the public to show the issues and let the all male building committee into the gilrs bathroom were the tile has fallen off the walls and the stench will never dissipate.

203 We are too new to Bethel to fullynderstand the complicated high school issue.

204 Bethel residents and students are becoming negative about their town and school. The hs needs to be redone. It is desgraceful. The funds need to be found to renovate and add to the school from top to bottom.

205 Don't understand issues sufficiently to make choice

219 if you want our chidlren to get into good colleges and become future leaders, they need a state of the art HS for accreditation

221 why expand when the expected kid population is not increasing (in general, just a blimp)

Comments from “How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?”

222 I think what is happening with the renovation is a disgrace. We voted two years ago and nothing is happening. The plans are substandard and did not include future rates knowing the project would not start on a timely basis.

225 The high school needs everything it can get!!!

227 School is not big enough for demand

234 a better school building helps to increase property values in town. Even those without school age children will benefit from the high school project.

238 tear down the entire building and start from scratch. Expand the building into the senior parking lot. It would be cheaper in the long run, and would last longer.

239 build a new school and build for the future

240 get on with it already

244 how is it possible they did not budget for inflation? start over and do it right.

246 This must be taken care of quickly. So many people are leaving the town as a result of fear for the education their children are getting there and the fear of loss of accreditation.

253 The longer we wait the more it will cost.

264 Build a new highschool in the parking lot and demolish the old highschool after completion

265 The High School is a focal point of the school system! What an example of community support for education and lack of leadership this shows for students, educators and potential investors in Bethel (home buyers and businesses)!

267 don't know the issues

268 I think the amount of time this project is taking is ridiculous. I think the high school needs to be renovated to bring it within code and keep the seams from busting. The growth of the town is making it harder and harder for those of us who have lived in town for our entire lives to support the town in all that they do. We are being priced out of the market by people who want to get away from the large cities and yet still want a small town atmosphere with large city amenities.

272 although i am not familiar with the options, I believe a new and modern high school is crucial to the success of a community!

273 I have not followed this issue.

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

- 279 Do Something! Everyone knows Bethel schools are a "sinking ship"
- 280 If we don't our children will be the ones to suffer in the crowded/out dated facilities.
- 281 do teh project once and do it right the school has major issues and is over 30 years old
- 293 I believe there was a lot of unnecessary work in the original proposal so that a cutback could be easily absorbed.
- 297 Don't know enough on the topic to comment. I think the Fed. Gov. needs to provide for schools.
- 307 Just do it!
- 310 Id love the chance to tour the building and see what everyone is really talking about
- 312 please hurry
- 315 it needs to be done right once, or property values will continue to fall
- 319 This should have been taken care of from the start.
- 322 get it done now, our children are suffering the consequences resulting from town poitics and naysayersto the budget
- 324 It is disgraceful that this job hasn't even begun, 3 years after voter approval? And they wonder why it's going to cost more now???
- 326 Do/start something!! The HS is in terrible shape!
- 330 build a new school
- 333 I strongly feel this project needs to get done properly in order to ensure accreditation
- 334 BOND PROJECT FOR NEW SCHOOL
- 335 REBUILD AND RENOVATE WITHIN THE BUDGET. RUN IT LIKE A REAL FOR PROFIT COMPANY.
- 336 I don't live in Bethel and am not familiar with the issue.

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

341 The high school is old, and tired, the renovation project needs to be done right, not only for existing kids but for those in the future. Properly built buildings last longer and require less maintenance. Forget the natural turf football field and fix the school.

343 get it done now before the costs go up again. It will never be cheaper than it is right now!!!

344 no comment

345 Tired of my taxes going up to cover costs of educational issues. My salary doesn't go up and I must stay within a tight budget...so must the town.

348 GET THE HS DONE NOW!! ASK THE RESIDENTS FOR MORE MONEY, INCLUDE A/C FOR THE WHOLE BUILDING AND DO IT RIGHT!! ONE OF MY CHILDREN WILL MISS OUT TOTALLY AND I HAVE TO PAY FOR IT, I DON'T WANT THE OTHER ONE TO MISS OUT TOO - GET IT DONE !!!

349 The renovation of the High School must begin by October 1. Our High School is worse than Danbury High. I would like to see someone take pictures of surrounding schools, Harlem High and then take Bethel High. The capture should read "Bethel's Current High School resembles Harlem High not other Fairfield County high schools. Currently I pay 14,000 dollars in taxes. I continue to say, "I am paying Manhattan taxes and am about to send my son this fall to "Harlem High," because the building structure is repulsive. The only thing Bethel High is missing is rats in the hallways. Complete that project before I have spent \$28,000 in taxes and my second son is entering the Bethel (Harlem) High School.

351 I don't have kids and have no idea what all the fuss has been the last 4 years I've lived in Bethel. If a new school is needed for additional students then build it. If not, and the current school can handle the amount of students, then it is fine as is.

352 the high school is another embarrassment to this town

353 Take the politics out of this project and do what is right for the students and community, FINISH THIS PROJECT AS VOTED ON, and ask for further funds if needed

355 The revision of the project to its present state in order to stay within the approved funding has turned into a bad decision. Looking at how far from the original project that we are at present tells me that the money that we would be spending would not be a good value. We need to upgrade this school to meet the needs of the future and to provide a reasonable environment in which to learn and work. If a marginalized project is done, then we won't be meeting the educational needs of the students nor will we be getting a very good value for the money. Additional funds and properly completing the process is the only sensible approach in the long term.

359 WE NEED A BETTER HIGH SCHOOL

362 Start it now!!!

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

365 The old high school is large enough for the current and future enrollment figures, this whole building project has gotten out of hand. The citizens gave the town the ok for 24.5 million, scale back the project or renovate the old building. Either way, stay within the approved amount of funding, no additional burden should be placed on the citizens.

368 I think \$900.00 a square foot to build a steel and block building is too much money

369 Let's do it once and do it right!

370 In both the case of the Library and BHS, the voters were asked to bond a specific amount of money to build a specific project. The voters approved both projects. After spending 100% of the money, the voters received half of the promised library. Now it looks like the voters are going to have 100% of the bonded money spent on half of the promised improvements to the High School. Is it no wonder why the voters are cynical? The bonding votes are taken long before projects are designed and have firm prices. I supported both of these projects at the polls, but I now feel that I have been duped in both cases with a slick bait and switch.

376 Before the town spends another dime on any other project the HS project should be the number 1 priority. It's shameful that this project was allowed to linger this long and now has to be revisited because of the failure of our local government to provide the leadership necessary to push this forward.

379 It has gotten out of hand

380 I am a teacher at Weston High School, we partially renovated and added on, the results were chaotic. Please first study Joel Barlow and Weston projects to learn from their mistakes.

383 enough ! the parents are killing us. get control of them, will ya ?!

387 ONLY DO WHAT HELPS CERTIFICATION.

393 Please get this project started! It's a disgrace that my taxes went up after voting for this project and nothing is being done. Shame on the town for sitting on this project and waiting for building materials, etc. to increase and then asking the tax payers again to give more money. Whose pocket is MY money going in??

395 this town does not have the corporate tax base to pay for a large project like Ridgefield median home price is 899,000.00

400 this needed to get done years ago!!!!

406 just do it already

408 Your choices are confusing. ie: The first one should read "stick to the current approved budget and partially renovate the existing building without any additions to the current structure".

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

416 the project needs an accurate estimate to be brought before a town vote to approve the funds as opposed to Bethel's bad habit of approving a specific amount of funds and then trying to scale a plan back to fit into the allotted budget.

423 Bethel's school system is a huge weakness vs. neighboring towns. We all need this fixed to raise Property values.

430 Get the monies from where ever possible and bring the school up to current code and stop all the crap about just doing what is minimal.

432 it is important to add to the existing building to meet education concerns, the gym should not be a concern at this time.

435 I believe that this project has been 'looked at' far too long and as a result we now don't have the dollars to cover what was originally planned. Our town government/leaders are to blame for this lack of action.

439 decide already and get the project DONE

444 Mismangement is the biggest problem. Waiting to long has cost us all more money. Get the project moving fast then a snails pace.

445 don't know enough about the project to comment

450 not a town resident

451 It is extremely important that we complete this project in a timely and well-done manner. It should not be a political football. The high school should be a flagship school of which we are all proud.

458 This project should have been done before Berry was done. A town is judged by the quality of the High School. This should have been a priority.

465 I have voted to pass each time - I don't have children - but want a strong school system

466 use the contractor that did the renovation to Berry School they did a great job and stayed within the budget and finished on time

472 This project needs to be done as quickly as possible with the best quality possible. I'm not sure where that falls financially but it needs to be done. Cost should not be an issue.

475 improving school system is improvement for whole town

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

476 This project is flawed, PERIOD. It is bad enough that the expansion plans looked desperate at best not very attractive and on top of that lets throw a big police station right on the nicest open field near the school... I recently went to Bethel High (class of 2004) and I currently still live in Bethel and own a business in Bethel, I dont think there was much wrong with that school except problems caused either on purpose or because of neglect. Lets get serious blocking a door in the front office with a desk is just makes it more obvious of the ongoing "scam" type situation the remodeling was turning into... Start over with new people in charge and get it done right and fair, dont let this come back and haunt the town like the shortcuts in the middle school did...

478 do anything you have to do to get started!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

485 Not familiar with the issue

488 the high school needs to be off probation at whatever cost that takes

489 we didn't do it right in the early 70's, do it right now

494 it needs to be bigger to accomodate the growing town but do it already before costs keep going up

495 sick and tired of poor results on this

502 Do what's needed to get it off the probation-

507 Get experts.

510 institute a REALISTIC plan within budget -- don't be greedy

511 The high school has been overlooked for so many years, why is it an issue. bonds and grants need to be applied for, gov't aid whatever is necessary to bring the building up to code. What does it say about Bethel when we can't maintain a school? The conditions of the school are horrible. We have outgrown the school and it is in serious need of repair and expansion. Now the project needs to be bid on again? We must be the laughing stock of CT. Why would anyone move to the town:business or residential, when we can't pass a budget or start on a project without several "redos". It is embarrassing.

515 live in redding, don't know about this

522 We should get this project started as soon as possible to get the High School off of probation. Delays have cost us. Further delays will only cost us more. Once we begin the project, we can then decide about other additions. The plans as they exist fall far short of making the Bethel High School a facility that is adequate for a community that is as well off as our town. Please note: If I thought we could move forward quickly enough by bonding additional funds and renovating the building with additional items, I would be in favor of that. However, I have no confidence in our ability to do that in a timely fashion and would like to see at least some forward progress made.

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

- 523 Project has been mismanaged - stakeholders have no effective input.
- 525 the school system affects the towns property values
- 526 BHS is never going to Danbury HS - so why to compete. BHS won't use all the space & we will have another (BPL) on our hands
- 533 Have The State Government Step in. The Bethel High School should be renovated COMPLETELY.
- 536 too much time has gone by. just do it already!!!
- 542 GET GOING!!!
- 543 haven't kept up with it; no kids in school
- 545 Let the committee do the job they were assigned to do. Don't do it half-assed.
- 546 the voters approved a partial renovation and new gym.
- 550 anyone who has been inside will see immediately what bad shape it's in. it needs major work to be done. it is a disgrace !!!
- 552 don't know enough about the project
- 554 It must be done for the good of Bethel or educated families will be leaving!!
- 560 Our school system is what is going to draw the kind of families to our town that will help to make Bethel the town we want it to be.
- 562 to attract new families this absolutely needs to be completed. This needs to become a priority so it can be finally put to rest.
- 564 We need to find a way to renovate and add new space while staying within the existing allocated funding. Corporate sponsorships, community involvement, volunteer assistance where possible are options that should be explored.
- 567 I feel that the building will be pandora's box and open up a whole new area of concern since the maintainance was not achieved over the last 25 years. We need a new building that is more cost effective . Haven't we spent a million on incomplete plans and another 350,000 on asbestos. Have you seen the black mold on the air vents in the Middle school? What is that?

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

579 I have great concern over this project. The current building is not maintained or even cleaned well and hasn't been since my children started there 10 years ago thru several administrations. It was in disrepair then and is in disrepair and filthy now. How can i be assured that a new or renovated building will be maintained!

584 look at what taxpayers can afford, come up with a plan & budget to enhance/correct the HS on an as needed basis: not all at one time, thereby overburdening the taxpayers and setting unrealistic and somewhat unnecessary goals

590 This project was totally mismanaged. We had approval and money yet NOTHING was begun!

593 Costs will continue to rise . . . work in the budget, I have to

600 renovate the building and stay within current budget

601 With the handicap access and asbestos adding additional costs, it almost seems as this should be re-visited. Instead of reacting to problems, we should be able to be pro-active and control the situation.

603 start from scratch and get new bids

611 Not sure what the best plan is...something needed to be done YEARS ago...too much time has passed already.

619 this school really needs improvement

620 I don't have an opinion. My children were educated privately and I have not followed this.

623 I graduated from BHS in 78, its time for an upgrade.

632 The high school is a wreck. In this day and age we need to provide the students, our future leaders, with the best we can to prepare them for what they will have to do in the future to make the world a better place.

634 leave it as is, the parents don't HAVE to send their children to Bethel..Bethel needs to get in on the magnet school as well

636 or build a brand new school!

640 Forget the fluff and build a simple useful addition and renovate the existing where needed only.

641 Do it and do it right no matter what the cost!!!!

Comments from “How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?”

644 Has no idea about the project since I gave up on Bethel schools several years ago and sent child to private school.

646 reevaluate the project has taken too long and needs to be looked at again...PLEASE CONSIDER AIR CONDITIONING/PROPER VENTILATION AND PRPER HEATING..IT IS A MATTER OF HEALTH AND PROPER EDUCATION ..

647 It is ridiculous that this project has not been started yet, what are we waiting on? Lets get the right people in there and do the job right. Our children need a safe and productive place to attend school and develop themselves. We are just putting off the inevitable. What is the problem? Who are the slow movers? What is making this such a difficult project. The incompetence is unbelievable. Doing this project right could offer the town a center piece for the community for sports and cultural activities. Do this right, do it once, do it now! Stop the political nonsense and do what is right for Bethel.

654 Think long term benefits of a new, bigger facility

655 It is pathetic that it has been allowed to get to this point - it is an embarrassment to our town to have such a dilapitated school.

661 Fix the whole building, and worry about an unneeded addition later

663 not familiar with project

664 Build a new building if that would be the smartest thing to do . My son came here as a kindergartner and just graduated High school! All this continued blah blah about the HS is ridiculous, there is no leadership just arguments and the kids and my home value suffer.

666 Addition should be scaled back to minimize additional funding, given other town needs.

673 The school is crap, and it NEEDS to change, and SOON

674 Complete the project based on the origianal referendum

675 It should be finished using green building methods, some of which are more inexpensive and energy efficient than traditional methods, saving money and natural resources in the long run.

681 start with a new committee, the current one has had enough time and has done nothing but watch costs rise

686 get it done

687 When I was at BHS 10 years ago it needed to be fixed- We need to stop talking about it and get it done. It's a joke how little support the educational system gets from this town.

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

691 This was a project was approved. I know that increased cost of material and labor has impacted the project, The project should move forward as proposed. To do less, would be a disservice to the community. If the project is not completed the right way, in the near future the community will be asking again for changes to the high school. The project needs to be done right this time.

693 Reprimand those responsible for the delay

694 Just get it done already!

699 BHS should meet up to code, be competitive with other high schools, accommodate our student needs, but don't drag it on for years and years. Fix it right and feel proud of the gift you give our young. It is an investment in our future. I do not know enough about bonds and existing funds to comment further.

700 Have the Kids do a fund Raiser

704 I don't know enough about what could be done within the current budget to comment here. However, the longer the delay to start, the more it will cost. Wasn't this approved by voters over a year ago? What was approved, if we're still figuring out what to do?

706 THE longer it waits the more expensive it will be. If this is not completed, it will make me move out of town. The schools need help.

707 If they don't do it properly it will just be worse for the town down the road

716 fix the core building first, plan for expansion later

722 it's been "done to death" and still can't get it right. leave it alone. focus on academics. can everyone who graduates read or write a complete sentence?

728 Was there really a need to do this or was this just another group of people's pipe dream. The pro education people have to understand that the taxpayers are not a free source of revenue anytime they get a silly idea to 'fix' things. The schools need to be accountable all the constituents, not just the parental or pro school component. People who have kids in the district should pay more in taxes. People who are elderly and don't have kids in the district should get a big tax break! The parents should be forced to cough up more money if they want expanded programs like after-school sports.

729 get it done! these kids do not deserve to be educated in a school that needs so many improvements.

730 monies - again - from above comment

736 Are we going to create another high school that needs extensive renovation in 30 years?

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

- 737 I need more info to answer, but want the school project completed and done right.
- 739 Make a decision and get going already! It is embarrassing that our town has waited till the eleventh hour to update the high school. It is even more embarrassing that a firm process is not in place after all this time. Better government leadership is definitely needed to bring these projects together in a timely manner.
- 742 Stop wasting my tax dollars!!!!!!
- 743 We should have started the project when it was first approved. I want adequate improvements but am afraid of stating that we should bond additional funds when we couldn't get it right the first time.
- 744 I can't believe it's taking so long. We could have probably built a new HS if we kept things moving
- 746 redo the entire building.. everything needs to be fixed. its totally outdated
- 751 too extravagant, get back to basics, we don't need to go over board with offices for non student activities
- 752 only do what the budget will allow. the tax payer have to do this everyday. this committy needs to grow up!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- 753 not familiar enough with the project to comment intelligently
- 755 My son will be attending the high school this year, however the taxes in our area are prohibitively high and I just can't see spending more money and ultimately having the tax payers fork it over.
- 757 It would be great if the students could get a new school!
- 764 Not familiar with project
- 771 This project should have been started already. This town needs the high school renovated NOW!
- 779 I graduated from Bethel High School.
- 787 No concern to the library
- 789 This needs to be done right the first time so we are not revisiting the issue in 3 years. Have we learned nothing from the library? The Berry renovation was so successful, why can't we do it again?

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

790 don't know enough to give a good opinion

793 Start from scratch and do your homework this time and do it right.

795 Unfortunately, I really don't know enough about the present condition of the building to be able to make an educated choice to this question. If the building is in really bad shape, and hazardous to the health and well-being, and learning/teaching of its occupants, then the approach might be to solve the problem for the long term, so this is not an issue again, and again, in the future.

801 Why is the town afraid to go back to the voters for additional monies if bids change. I have never understood the problem. If it is legitimate the town will approve.

804 I don't have nay school age children, but I believe quality high school education should be a top priority - the building is not the issue except for resources it houses

805 the high school is an absolute disgrace - it is old, dated, over -crowded and filthy. Teachers, students and administrators should not have to tolerate such horrific conditions. The selectmen, the board of education and the board of finance should be ashamed of themselves for not resolving this issue. There is a direct correlation between property value and the quality of education. Our high school renovation should and MUST be the TOP priority for out town

806 JUST DO IT! TOO MUCH TALKING-GET IT DONE

815 I'm not familiar with this matter.

816 Are you kidding me? This project has become a laughing stock...it's been approved and should go forward as originally planned. There are too many chiefs and not enough indians.

817 I believe an addition is important because the population is increasing and it is inevitable that there will be an addition at some point. The town needs to stop putting this off.

823 Don't know all the info on this, but it seems as if the entire thing has been mismanaged from what neighbors say.

827 It should be completed quickly.

834 Bethel high is loosing out on top athletic and academic students . If a child is at all gifted they will be making the local privet schools shine

835 get a better builder. if its the same company that built berry school, they should switch. I heard berry is having some building issues! DON'T CUT CORNERS

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

837 Whatever the decision, greater emphasis on developing academic rigor in our schools is essential, Bethel is quickly falling behind similar towns in the quality of education it provides its students (as well as the preparedness of its graduates for the outside world).

838 Absolutely necessary. I am leaving the school system because of serious probationary and administrative issues.

839 We need to update our high school. It is falling apart.

841 I don't know what to say - the project should have been dealt with years ago. The people of Bethel DO NOT support their education system and I am glad my kids are out of Bethel schools.

843 I don't know.

846 live in danbury..not familiar

850 This town has F---ed up the project already

853 Needs to get done ASAP and done right!

859 build a new facility that would give us more federal/state funds

863 Extremely important to provide state of the art facilities.

864 The high school project has been long overdue getting the show on the road. There is much negativity on the part of some about the future educational needs.

873 the longer we are indecisive, the more we will pay!

878 get the damn thing done, stop wasting the funds on the budget and make it pass, do not drop it as low and get the new building and the old one up to code, for God sakes it has been almost eight years this project was suppose to go down

881 oust the incompetants, learn how to plan and budget

882 I am a Student at Bethel High and I would like to see some work being done on my school and the school of almost 1000 other students to be started soon with renovations to the current building and the new addition

887 don't know enough to comment on this

892 The project should be done the way it was originally presented to the town when we bonded the original funds. Anything else is unacceptable. Our children have been waiting long enough for a decent

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

high school. If more money is needed to complete the project as originally presented, then we should do it.

894 not familiar enough with the project

897 I'm not familiar with the project

909 Poorly developed question

911 not familiar with the project's problems.

913 I just moved to town and am not well versed in the subject, but as a general rule, I support building space for future needs as well as making all building up to date technologically and within code

916 Fix the building, expand science and offices only. Forget the gym for now.

917 The BHS project needs to be completed. The construction needs to begin within the year. We need to have it done properly the first time. We need to spend a little more money now, so that in 5 or 10 years, we as a town, are not repeating this process. With our high school in limbo, everyone in Bethel suffers (town image, property values, etc.).

919 This project should have been started and completed by now. I am very disappointed that little or no work has been done.

920 We need this done. Enough time has lapsed. The high school students deserve this addition and renovation, the town of Bethel deserves this. Stop wasting time and town money. Get it going.

921 key to the community to have an accredited school

927 The quality of life and the economic vitality of the community are reliant upon a quality school system which has a positive reputation.

929 Not familiar with the issues involved.

935 Perhaps eliminate some "taj-mahal" aspect(s) of the proposed renovation project and JUST GET IT STARTED before asking for more money.

939 This should have been done when first proposed 5 years ago, and the Town governments that have dragged their feet on this are unconscionable.

942 Finish what was started and passed by voters.

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

943 No shortcuts with the project!! All important aspects of the high school should be addressed, for example-new AC, new flooring, heating, wireless capability (a technology school), etc.

945 It is absolutely absurd that we renovated the library, built a new Stony Hill firehouse, and now want to build a new police station when our high school is falling apart and so badly needs our help.

946 they should get the damn thing startedand due what they can now.

951 We must do something or we will not be able to attract new families to bethel in the future

955 Add Air Conditioning throughout the building

958 If the prospect of a new additon is out of the question then we need to do the best we can without compromising the main purpose of improving t

960 The list of collages and universities Bethel grads are entering disproves the empty "threat" of accreditation.

963 this delated is costing the town more than 3,000.000 as now.

982 To many cooks in the kitchen !

984 Not educated enough on the project for an opinion

992 STAY WITHIN THE BUDGET OR DON'T DO IT

995 I don't know enough about it to answer truthfully.

1004 the plan as it is is now out of date and under funded.

1009 school campus an impressive selling point but constant budget battles are not. maintenance funds cut so much because it doesn't affect kids so much, but then everything falls apart at the same time, so taxpayers get hit with a huge increase, rather than a gradual payout. somebody needs to tie schools to property values so its not 'us and them' just us

1014 Why not build a new high school on the front lawn, and turn the high school into a community recreation area?

1020 Determine what is the RIGHT thing to do and find a way to pay for it

1022 do something please

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

1027 inaction is action - Bethel High School needs serious work immediately and whatever path is chosen it should encompass a multi-year plan to get BHS back within academic goals for the region. Bethel lags seriously behind surrounding schools and WILL drive families out of the area to better school systems

1034 just start.. whats so hard?

1036 do it one time and make certain it is right. We don't need another fiasco like the Middle School

1037 halt the building of condos as many towns surroundings us have done. this will greatly reduce the amount of new students in our small school. in addition, check-ups should be done on residency to see if a student actually lives in their so called address.

1039 Do the project right the first time and make ALL the necessary changes ... our children are our future ... a strong school system is going to ATTRACT new residents ... I think the town isn't making the right decisions for the right reasons ... can't we all just come together and work to strengthen the school system, make it what it should be and stand proud! I'm actually hesitant to say that my children will attend Bethel High School, especially when taking to other families in neighboring towns ... believe me, our reputation is not a strong one!

1052 Not familiar with the issue.

1053 vote to approve at any cost

1062 make a new school

1065 How about getting someone involved who can actually get something accomplished??

1067 I am not familer enough with the project to comment but I would say that from walking through part of the building it needs a lot of work.

1070 At this point I would feel that we have been taxed to death hoping the school would be done and have seen no results. It is very disturbing to me that we did not spend our dollars where it is most needed. My only idea would be to take back the municipal center and rededicate it as Bethel High School 2 and complete the REQUIRED repairs at the existing Bethel High School 1. We do not need wasted space to accomodate other than the students. The proposal does not have enough of what the school needs, ie class rooms. I've been so fed up with Bethel that I'm thinking of moving out very soon.

1076 just fix the school once and get it right using any fiancial way possible.

1082 what renovation project?

1084 LIVE WITHIN YOUR MEANS

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

- 1091 The High School is fine, we're just hearing a lot of hype
- 1092 do it right the first time, do all that needs to be done, it will be cheaper in the long run
- 1093 do the approved original plan!!!
- 1095 Just do it already.
- 1101 they should fix the existing part, and add central air.
- 1104 Complete the project ... do it once and do it right!!! This project is CRITICAL for the reputation of this community and the education of the children in this town. The high school should be a "shining star" representing the hope for the future.
- 1109 make it up to date and add the new section, it is needed
- 1113 Do it once, do it right!
- 1114 not familiar enough to comment
- 1116 The building is old and needs immediate attention.
- 1129 Get it done; and stop the political garbage
- 1132 The High School needs a total overhaul. It's a 1970's building in 2006. Not a good learning or working environment
- 1137 Don't be cheap with education, Schools make property values high. We are losing on this front to ALL surrounding school districts.
- 1140 No knowledge of this issue
- 1141 I paid for private school because Bethel's public school system was inadequate. I'm not familiar enough with the building to comment.
- 1143 i attended the school not too many years ago, and it was adequate, it will not help the quality of education.
- 1144 JUST START ALREADY
- 1146 Do it once, do it right, Build a new building from scratch
- 1147 this project is a colossal waste of money

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

1148 STOP THE DELAY TACTICS AND GET IT DONE!

1156 My taxes have more than doubled in 7 years with nothing to show for it. The uses the existing budget is used for should be more closely examined. As I understand it I am paying \$160,000 or so a year for cell phones for teachers - what an incredible waste of money.

1160 I don't know enough about the project to comment

1161 I am not familiar enough with the project to decide.

1162 THis is the most important thing of all, so our children have pride in themselves and their town and we draw new families in.

1174 ????

1179 Finish orignal plan

1182 What would it cost to build a brand new high school?

1185 Education is very important and should be a high priority for the town, even if you do not have children

1187 i am not familiar...sorry

1188 As a project manager it is incredible to me that we've waited this long to fix this. The cost of supplies increases with every passing week. If we sit on our hands any longer we wont be able to pave the parking lot.

1193 Not familiar enough with the issue.

1194 Certainly not have anyone involved in the library renovation included in the high school renovation.

1202 I am sorry I do no have information about this project.

1210 get started already!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

1211 New Building

1214 A new high school is vital to property values staying up - our kids are in "competition" with others from Ridgefield, Redding etc who have wonderful school and atheletic facilities.

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

1215 The whole reason for the project being put into effect was to account for the growing number of students coming into the school system and to update the facility. By the time the project's funds are passed and work begins, the plans for the school will already be insufficient to the conditions of the growing town. This project is an investment in our town with the hopes of the better school system creating a town wide improvement that will effect not only those in the school system but those hoping to benefit from property tax and economic standpoints as well.

1216 the longer this issue takes, the more it costs. Do what was voted on. If that works, more can be implemented

1217 Although we don't have children, I have followed this issue closely in the five years we have lived in Bethel. I believe in strong universal PUBLIC education (nothing to do with property values). I have tried very hard to understand all the issues with this building project and I am more lost now than when I began -- I have no idea which of the above alternatives is best. BUT I favor ACTION - I just wish the people who are fully knowledgeable would just GET ON WITH IT! SO much money has been wasted and now we may lose the state grant money, too?

1218 Although we don't have children, I have followed this issue closely in the five years we have lived in Bethel. I believe in strong universal PUBLIC education (nothing to do with property values). I have tried very hard to understand all the issues with this building project and I am more lost now than when I began -- I have no idea which of the above alternatives is best. BUT I favor ACTION - I just wish the people who are fully knowledgeable would just GET ON WITH IT! SO much money has been wasted and now we may lose the state grant money, too?

1225 Am not familiar with this project.

1226 DO IT ONCE AND DO IT RIGHT!!!!!!

1231 Might be cheaper to build a totally new building

1239 too bad the renovations could not have benefited my children as predicted.

1240 The town needs and adequate HS

1248 New in town. Not familiar with this project.

1249 Not close enough to the project to respond

1258 its time to get it done

1259 The concept that the high school is on 'academic probation' due to inadequate cafeteria facilities is oxy-moronic.

1264 DO something!

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

- 1271 build a new school, and pay the teachers more so they stop going to wealthier towns
- 1278 Borrow a loan from the government
- 1281 I have lost faith in the Board of Education in funding matters; I do not believe they are acting in the best interest of all citizens of Bethel.
- 1283 I don't have children in school and don't know enough to comment on the options above.
- 1287 I work there and it desperately needs help! The classrooms do not fulfill the needs of teachers and students regarding space.
- 1289 Just build it already so I can have good high school credentials for college
- 1294 Don't know -- children still too young.
- 1297 Get it over with already. Our schools are the reason we are leaving town!
- 1306 The school board should manage money more carefully and not just ask for more and more money.
- 1307 I have no connection with the school, I do think the school should be safe and provide excellent education. I am confused about all the issues, can't tell what is needed. what is political. I don't grasp the bidding issue - it seems backward to me. I hope it gets resolved soon - it's taking too long. I am upset about R.O.T.C. in our high schools - too militaristic.
- 1311 the high school should be properly renovated, regardless of cost. A high school is the major showpiece of a town. I think it's more important than the library.
- 1315 If we care for our children, why the delays? Let's get this DONE NOW!
- 1317 Education is important and it is only possible with a good learning facility.
- 1323 Not too familiar w/all issues
- 1325 cyper scholl tax credit for withdrawing hihg school students
- 1330 I do not have a family so a school is not on my list of priorities
- 1336 I'm not a resident
- 1339 Logically we should start over, knowing what we now know - but do we have the time before losing our accreditation?

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

1343 I haven't been here long enough to become aware of the issues.

1345 If our students have such a problem learning why are we talking about building a gym. We need to improve the learning environment not spend \$25,000,000 on a gym, Fix the school that we have!

1348 I don't know what's up

1349 the longer we wait, the less money we have. if the project started when it was supposed to, we wouldn't have the problems we have !!!!!!!

1352 Fix the school once and for all

1358 We need an accredited High School. Get it done.

1359 the senior cafeteria wall can be taken down to make the cafeteria bigger. students chose to eat in the hallway, not because there is no room. we need to check air quality, etc. instead of worrying about a larger cafeteria.

1361 the school was overcrowded in 2002 i can't imagine it now

1362 start from scratch. more cost efficient to remove and build from the ground up. Piece work only find more existing issues and problems which will be extremely costly then to get it all done by code and correct from the beginning. It's like trying to correct a crooked house and hang striped wallpaper...it never comes out straight...

1364 The High School s/b Top Priority

1366 check into all available grant monies -- federal, state and corporate -- there may be something the community qualifies for that has become available in the interim

1373 This is a project that is long overdue. It needs to be done immediately, and it needs to be done right!

1378 I don't know - I'd have to do more research.

1380 I don't know

1382 Quality of buildings directly affects learning.

1386 i feel very strong to build a new addition with all classrooms, have this addition as an annex with lockers, security levels for students and faculty entering the school, and build this addition for more than enough students, and then take the old section and re-design the whole building for a new auditorium, band room, cafeteria, office spaces. what i am afraid of is the fact we have already fell into

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

the asbestos problem..if we plan on building onto this section of the existing building of the high school, it will crumble and the new addition will be a waste of money.

1388 the town powers that be need to get moving and stop playing the political game and fix the problems at the school and they should do so REALISTICALLY and in a financial way that does not hurt the towns people to the point that we can't afford to live here. If that means not moving the cafe then so be it.

1391 Just Get it done before it costs the tax payer more money

1394 We need to do this to stabilize real estate values. We are not attracting the higher educated parents whose children tend to push the quality upwards.

1406 Long overdue. A poor education system affects the Town's land values.

1408 Just get it going. Enough talk and procrastination about it. I have been back in this town for 9 years and it has been talked about since we got here. I graduated from BHS in 1980 and the school still looks the same. The facility needs help it is not fair to the students, faculty and the town!

1412 I'm disgusted by the town's lack of commitment to the high school and the library, which seem to me to be the two cultural centers of the town. The waffling and mismanagement reflect poorly on Bethel.

1420 a fiasco with political games winning over common sense.

1423 find out how much is needed BEFORE you ask for bonding and hire a professional manager to oversee the project, volunteers mean well but are LOUSY money managers

1427 not familiar with project enough to say

1433 start project ASAP, tired of waiting

1437 Most every town in all USA is on over-kill with physical facility for education. Good teaching and NOT the physical facility should be the emphasis. Yes, the facility has to be good enough to attract quality teachers but good leadership within the Board and more importantly within the Administration will do far more for the quality of education than a fancy facility.

1446 get on it! BHS is holding the students back from being accepted to their college of choice, or being accepted to college at all.

1450 Do it as planned, BHS is a fucking embarassment.

1455 If we just put a band-aid on this we are going to have to add an addition or do better renovations in the future. Our property values can be effected by the quality of our school system. But,

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

most importantly our children are our future. My kids ae grown and thru college. But, I still feel it is my responsibility to support the school system.

1458 Terrible administration of the whole project. As a tax payer I feel as if I have been miss lead about all aspects of the project.

1460 What we don't need to do is attract families with more school aged children which turn out to be a drain on taxpayers.

1463 AS a student, i can say that the school desperatley needs to be renovated

1466 The project should have been started long ago. Why can't the project be started when the asbestos removal is done? I strongly feel that "something shady" is going on and that this is all happening "as planned" by our officials to get more money from the tax payers. I have heard that Bethel has the highest school tax per student and some of the lowest quality/programs. I wish my company gave raises equal to the teachers raises. The elementary schools should take more advantage of the parent volunteers and some othe teachers could use a push toward retirement.

1468 JUST DO IT

1469 Get moving costs are only going up. Focus on the needs and not the wants.

1481 I do not know enough about the state of the high school or the process or renovation

1488 i am ashamed of our town for even bickering about this issue.

1493 how do you rationalize improvemnets to the library if you there is not enough \$\$\$ to improve the schools?

1500 The building needs to be renovated but I don't know enough about the addition to comment further.

1506 Sorry but I'm not that familiar with the problem @ BHS

1511 Why wasn't it started when the town approved it? Now, as time is wasted, the costs rise.

1513 bond more funds to do the project as planned with no more cuts

1515 The BHS original design was extremely poor without sufficient thought for expansion and can never be fixed with the poor patch jobs that have taken place. The only real solution is to tear it down and start with practial design rather than modernistic unworkable floorplans.

1520 Worry about maintaining what we have, and forget about making an 'impact' on Bethel's educational system.

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

1524 The Ground Floor of the Locker and Bathrooms should be demolished

1525 Don't know enough about project to comment.

1531 The school is overcrowded and falling apart. It is one of the few schools in the area that has not been renovated and the locker rooms are unhealthy. Bethel should bite the bullet and do it once and do it right or we will have to renovate again in 10 years. Let's just get it done!!!

1532 Don't know. Taken way too long to get started.

1537 take some time to think about the options

1539 do it now and do it right. the kids should not suffer

1544 we already ate that apple

1545 do what NEEDS to be done.

1546 Start the project!!!!!!

1549 Renovations should be done to meet / exceed NEASC standards to obtain accreditation. Do it right the first time.

1553 Terrible mismanagement of the project.

1556 Do the job the right way! It is embarrassing that there are people in town that refuse to contribute to the greater good. They reaped the benefit for years and are now unwilling to continue to help the community. Bethel is a wonderful town - why are they trying their best to ruin it?

1560 I thought taxes were approved years ago for this project who is pocketing the \$\$

1562 utilize the existing infrastructure more fully.

1564 We're going to have to do it sooner or later.

1565 I am unfamiliar with the scope of this project

1566 to keep property values high, keep local schools strong

1570 I feel handicapped as a voting citizen because I don't know enough about the financial demographics of the town. Don't want to force people out, but do want to fund education better than we are doing!

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

1575 LETS GET GOING ON THIS!!!!

1577 The high school is old and run down, it is in big need of renovation. I am embarrassed by the high school especially in comparison to neighboring towns.

1579 This should have been completed some years ago. The original project has been revised so many times by so many administrations, it should be looked at with fresh eyes.

1580 no comment- I am not a builder nor architect- let the experts handle it-

1586 i am not a resident, therefore unaware of situation

1593 not familiar with the project...sorry

1597 Again, can someone find out where all the tax money is going and stop the waste and I'm sure that all the projects can be done without further burden on the tax payer.

1600 Dont know enough about the project

1603 If the town would have moved on to renovate the HS immediately after Berry School's renovation, we would not be in the mess we are in now!

1610 Shame on you for building the library b4 fixing the school.

1615 not sure

1620 just moved here -- don't know enough to comment

1628 If it was done right once but like the library,. They asked for money to complete it and then we get half a library

1632 We should have built an entirely new High School. We should either renovate or build new, whichever is fastest.

1639 Let's get it done, period.

1641 It needs to be done right so that it will serve the students of Bethel for many years down the road. We should not be thinking short term but long term solutions.

1646 No excuse for deplorable condition of school building.

1656 Science is important; Not needed is a new gym. School Population is stable. Consider a field house when Middle School is paid for.

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

1658 get blue collar workers in on the project; kick the stuffed shirts to the curb; contact Redding officials to avoid the pitfalls of school projects;

1661 The project is essential but I haven't adequately studied the facts to give an intelligent answer.

1662 Start over and do it right!!!

1666 I feel that the high school project is a very important project to complete for the future of Bethel, I feel that the current plan was inadequately done and rushed to push it through. I feel that the plan needs to take into consideration the future enrollment and plan accordingly.

1670 i don't know enough about the project to comment

1672 This is the missing link on economic development. Fix the school and businesses will seek Bethel out.

1683 too much time has been wasted causing the cost to go up...just get it done right and stop dragging your feet!!!!!!

1684 Do what is necessary to bring the school to standards that we always had in the past. STOP development which in the long run simply increases costs. Charge a per pupil fee rather than have the entire town support the school system. The longer the delay, the higher the costs. However those who use the school should be more responsible.

1685 We need to maintain accreditation but we must do this without huge overruns

1686 Our highschool is awful and needs as much money as it can get, no more can be cut from the budget because it is extremely inadequate to not have proper heating and airconditioning

1689 Get this started now. It's ridiculous that it hasn't started yet.

1692 all the push to pass, then nothing! Chesley doesn't deserve it!

1694 i don't know enough to comment

1699 Don't know enough about the issue

1700 School improvements are very important to a town's growth & to attract businesses that are family and community friendly.

1701 have not lived here long enough to have an opinion

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

1706 too much talk and not enough action has cost us \$\$ at this point anymore delay would be beyond ridiculous

1708 I think teh original design was cleaner and better than what is being done now.

1709 i dont care

1713 this is the number one priority in town; BHS must get off probation

1717 Just fix it, for heaven's sake. For all the bickering we've done it could have been done by now.

1722 a entire new building is needed not pour money into the old one for that kind of money a new building should be possible

1723 Don't know enough on the topic to comment

1726 I think it is a shame we don't think of all needs/desires of the town at one time and try to combine some of them instead of compartmentalizing each project, such as, pool, high school renovation, athletic facility.

1727 not familiar with the issue

1732 please don't let it become a joel barlow disaster to the taxpayers

1738 i do not know enough to resolve, i just know it needs to be fixed

1748 Not sure what the new addition is for, but it sounds like the Bethel High School is a hazard to the students and faculty and should be appropriately repaired.

1753 probably best to build an entirely new school and destroy the present structure

1758 more people are coming to the area and you need to have schools

1762 I know that really is not feasible, however this has been going on for too long--graduates in the year 2000 lived with the issue of accreditation and we still are waffling about what needs to be done and the how and when of it all--do we truly know where we stand??

1764 It is short sighted to not make BHS as new as possible for the betterment of the students and the town

1766 The town of Bethel will definitely suffer if there is not a decent high school - people will move out, businesses will suffer and the town will go downhill. What was the town thinking? Redoing the high school should have been done years ago.

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

1820 If a new Bonding should take place, the Town & board of Ed must not drag their feet in doing these renovations as they did in the past, which blew the costs up to the impossibility of doing the renovation.

1821 I think they should do the project in 2 phases: First, get the budget approved for the renovation. Second, the new addition.

1823 I don't know about this

1825 i am not familiar w/ the issues but stay financially responsible & look forward to youths needs

1827 if we started when we were supposed to the prices would not have gone up, and we'd be done by now. Poor planning and management!

1829 most confusing to persons who "Pay but can't use"the school, need better communication with planners and spenders of precious tax dollars.

1831 Meet the violations that have been sited and make ONLY needed repairs

1832 even students say they don't need huge sch.library,etc

1840 do not know enough to comment

1843 Money should be carefully used to maximize the options available.

1845 I lack enough information to select

1846 we must renovate the high school is our towns and childrens future. the reputation of many towns is the quality of the schools and Bethel has fallen way behind

1848 This simply needs to get done!

1851 It is a disgrace that it has not even been started.

1854 Renovate with an addition as originally planned and voted for!!!!

1855 The cost will only continue to rise. Do it right the first time to avoid similar situations in the future.

1860 We must increase the reputation of the HS.

1866 We must not loose another 3 years, this has gone on far too long. Renovate NOW

Comments from “How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?”

1868 local people should do the work

1872 Bethel's children deserve an accredited school & a decent environment!

1876 Must make up for decades of neglect, for all schools, not just ones one probation.

1878 Get going on this project. Mr Burke and Mr Stzakowski MUST stop holding the students and teachers hostage and give them the quality building they deserve.

1880 I am not very familiar with this issue.

1882 Not familiar with the issues or condition of the High School.

1884 start soon!!!

1886 Unfortunately renovations & additions never get done correctly; which in the long run ends up costing the taxpayer more. My opinion is a brand new high school structure should be built in the educational park. The old structure could be used and renovated by the recreation department or the town and house multiple recreational activities as well as cultural events.

1888 We need to continue to invest in our schools to keep current residents. The schools can be used for other town events and not just for students. An examples is how many people enjoy and take advantage of the high school track.

1891 I am not in any position to judge

1892 I don't know the answer 'cause I haven't been involved.

1894 Not aware of this issue

1901 n/a dont have children

1905 Non certain but Bethel must improve it's ed. image

1915 I'm not sure the current school district has analyzed actual needs

1921 do not have enough info to comment

1924 Good schools are very important to the growth of the community

1925 I have no opinion on the subject

Comments from "How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?"

1930 Since I am new to town I don't know enough to comment. However, I do believe in fiscal responsibility

1931 This is the major downfall of Bethel -- our high school. Perhaps we need to lose accreditation before residents realize this is a serious issue.

1932 unsure of present progress; but has taken to long. A restart might be the besat way to go. Most of all a sped up policy should be introduced.

1935 do what's necessary now to bring up to spec & certification

1943 Build New

1944 do it complete once and forall

1951 Renovate what can be renovated, use the money where important, get more bids.

1958 Partially renovate well below the current budget

1959 The mishandling of this project has been an embarrassment.

1960 I don't understand why there has been such a poor use and mismanagement of tax payers dollars. This has been going on for more than 8 years - to improve the school.

1978 our future depends on these children

1983 all I know is that the budget/bid process was poorly handled

1984 We need to give our children and the town's students the very best. A school system plays a key role in social development and city development. More affluent people will move to Bethel if there is a top notch school system and facility available to there children.

1985 There is nothing more important to the Town of Bethel and its residents than the adequate and timely renovation of the BHS

1986 The current building should first be renovated as new and then deal with the "nice to haves". The High School is just one of many projects that need to be attended to and residents can only accept reasonable increases in taxes.

1993 The high school is a disgrace and inadequate for 21st century educational needs.

1995 The BHS building project is the most important issue in our town and has been so for several years. I am very concerned with the current town leadership's obvious stall tactics and atempts to delay

Comments from “How do you feel the Bethel High School building project should be resolved?”

and derail the entire project. In attempt to become elected, Burke and his cornies made an obvious pact with the BAC and other anti-education people in town and now the Republican leadership is working in cohorts with these factions to bury this project in red tape. Enough already! It's time the good people of Bethel and the children of our town finally see some posite action --FIX BHS, NOW!

1996 Asbestos is a major concern here

2005 New to Bethel, not 100% aware of all the issues

2008 The project design is not adequate for the future of Bethel High.

2009 not familiar with the issue

2017 Do whatever is neccessary to bring the schools up to accreditation level

2022 The longer this project is delayed the more it will cost. It is really getting rediculous!

2024 avg. kids in - avg. kids out. Repaint & move on.

2031 Plan very carefully to do a new addition to meet the needs of the expanding school population. Pay particular attention to renovating and updating science labs.