

BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

**Statement Related to Requests for Consideration: Land Transfer (White Field House) from the
School Committee for Other Municipal Purpose**

Issued: October 2010

The Belmont School Committee is willing to consider requests from other town entities for the transfer of the White Field House property subject to satisfactorily addressing the following minimum conditions and concerns:

Minimum Conditions:

- 1.) assurances from NEASC's Commission on Public Secondary Schools that such a transfer will not negatively impact School Department efforts to meet and continually maintain NEASC Standards for Accreditation at Belmont High School is given.
- 2.) legal opinion (approved by School Committee Legal Counsel) that any such transfer will not negatively impact current and/or future opportunities for building/renovation funding from the MA School Building Authority or other public funding source (such as, for example, future possible stimulus from fed gov't for school buildings) is rendered.
- 3.) a clearly articulated, professionally vetted plan for the replacement or relocation of high school fields and athletic facilities affected will be produced for School Committee review and approval.

CONCERNS:

- 1.) impact of the proposed use of the property on student, staff, and visitor health, safety, and security, particularly as related to traffic, parking, pedestrian protection and overall campus security.
- 2.) consistency with ongoing efforts by the Town's financial leadership to ensure the fiscal sustainability of the Town of Belmont through organizational coordination and the development and implementation of a comprehensive Capital Asset and Financial Management Plan, such as described in the Comprehensive Plan adopted by the Board of Selectmen on April 12, 2010.
- 3.) demand on School Department resources (financial and human) at a time when resources are already stretched beyond capacity, in terms of our ability to conduct the core business of the schools and to adequately meet the needs of our students.

This position statement was adopted by the Belmont School Committee in their meeting on _____.