Thank you Moderator, Select Board, Warrant Committee and Town Meeting Members. I am Kerry Hurley, current resident in Precinct 10 and, Chair of the recently formed School Building Committee. I am here tonight to introduce the members of the committee and to give a brief update on what we have been working on over the past 5 months. We have not included information that has been previously shared by other committees and I think it is important to mention up front that due to the fact that we are limited to a quick update we fully intend to offer information sessions after the holidays that will give you the opportunity to ask any questions you might have and will allow our committee to share the detailed analysis we have completed.
We have broken our past 5 months of work into four buckets: Developed, Initial Goals, Current Status, and Future Goals.
1. At Special Town Meeting on February 2019, you (TM) voted to establish a School Building Committee. The Moderator was charged to appoint nine members to serve on the committee, two of whom shall be members of the School Committee and two of whom shall be members of the Select Board or its designees.

2. The School Building Committee was formed in May 2019 and has met 9 times with our first meeting held on June 24th. In our short amount of time working together it is easy to appreciate the impressive skill sets of our members and the commitment they have to the task at hand. We would like to acknowledge Moderator Hiss and give him a
note of credit for the great work he did finding highly qualified and capable members of the Milton Community. That being said, let me introduce you to our Committee.
Akwa Ebong - Engineer with National Grid
Tim Lombard - Project Manager with Legatt McCall Properties
Scott Tereshak - Director of Preconstruction at the Cardinal Group
Sean O’Rourke - MEP (Mechanical, Electric, Plumbing) Design Manager at wsp
Kerry Hurley - Executive Director at a mid-size law firm - Rackemann, Sawyer & Brewster
We are also lucky to have two (2) dedicated SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPOINTED MEMBERS

Ada Rosmarin
Betty White
And last, but, certainly not least, we have the SELECT BOARD APPOINTED MEMBERS:

Michael Zullas – current Chair of the Select Board

and Glen Hoffman, a registered architect with 14 years of experience working on K-12 schools
The Initial Goals of the committee were to understand the concerns regarding the space restrictions at the schools, to review and assess the enrollment projections and develop a timeline for deliverables.
We wanted to understand what the schools had been originally designed to accommodate, where the schools currently stand, and what changes need to occur in order to accommodate the continued increase in enrollment that is being projected.
As of today, there have been 20 spaces converted to classrooms – this is at the expense of music rooms, art rooms, libraries, computer labs and office space.

The short term plan for the next 5 years would be to convert 5 additional spaces to classrooms – which would be at the expense of additional library space, another music room, preschool, a teachers room and office space.
Glover Conversions there have already been four rooms converted and the conversion of the music room is on the possible short term plan list.
Cunningham Conversions there have already been 8 rooms converted and the possible short term plan would be to convert the 4th floor attic space to a teachers room to free up space for an additional classroom.
Collicot Conversions there have already been five rooms converted and for the short term plan they anticipate having to create a classroom space in part of the library.
Tucker Conversions there have already been three rooms converted and the possible short term options would be to convert three more rooms at the expense of office space, teachers room and preschool.
Moving on to the ENROLLMENT DATA REVIEW
Highlights – PK-12 enrollment continues to grow over 20 year period – 3782 -> 4433 -> 4565 (A total of 783 students)

Distribution changes a bit in projections as large enrollment from PK-5 moves up through middle and high school

Projected enrollment for PK-5 shows that we might be nearing the peak of the elementary enrollment growth, but we still see an increase in the next ten years of 132 students.

Note: the projections are CONSERVATIVE  
• After first 5 years, assumes level birth rate  
• Does not include unapproved residential
• construction that we know is coming in next 10 years
• Does not assume the impact of building a new school – build it and they will come
• 2029-30 PK-5 enrollment is still almost 400 students more than 2008
This slide highlights the elementary school enrollment data. You can see we continue to use the enrollment at the time the schools were rebuilt as the baseline, in this case 1,873 students for PreK-5 in 2008 and this gives you a visual of how the projections from 2020 to 2030 are depicting the enrollment being up an average of 21% over the next ten years.
We have done a detailed analysis of Milton Real Estate transactions from (2008 - current) to see if there is any correlation with the Enrollment Data.

- We were able to correlate the real estate transaction peaks with enrollment
- It also supports the theory mentioned previously that if you build it – they will come
- And the Milton Public Schools certainly have an impact on property value.
Current Status reflects how the majority of the School Building Committee time has been spent. All members went on a School Building Tour to experience the current enrollment implications at all four (4) Elementary Schools and Pierce Middle School.

We invited Don Kennedy, our NESDEC demographer, to a meeting and this allowed us the opportunity to understand the factors (birth rates, planned construction, real estate sales and persistence ratios) are taken into consideration in the projections and gave us the ability to ask questions.
We have reviewed and digested current NESDEC enrollment projections from October 2019.
As we moved closer to a decision on the direction we intended to pursue, we started focusing on the Massachusetts School Building Authority and the process for getting approved funding. We created a preliminary timeline based on MSBA deliverables to get a better understanding of what the road ahead looks like. It does not contemplate all of the different approvals we will need from the Town of Milton and it already pushes us into late 2023. I might add that the current short term solutions are only to solve for the next 5 years and after that
assume there will be a new elementary school as the solution long term.
We are certainly motivated to keep pushing for forward progress on our charge and based on our independent and detailed review of enrollment data, real estate trends and space needs.

The School Building Committee voted on November 25th to plan the construction of a free-standing elementary school building in order to address the Town's long-term school space needs.

We considered all of the different options shared previously by the School Committee and we felt compelled by the current status of classroom conversions that took place to accommodate enrollment and after reviewing the projections that a new elementary school should be the planned focus.

It is also important to highlight that we are in good company. We are now the third appointed or elected committee that has looked at the overcrowding issue in the Milton Public Schools and that have all independently arrived at the same conclusion. Specifically the School
Committee voted to accept the recommendation of the facilities advisory committee and voted unanimously on May 1, 2019 to recommend to the School Building Committee that the construction of a free-standing elementary school is the preferred educational objective of the Milton School Committee.
So where does all of this lead us to - our future (immediate) goals are:

To offer Informational Sessions after the holidays to share our detailed analysis of the information and to solicit initial feedback and questions and to also create a vehicle (for example, website and social media outlets) to deliver all the information and updates the School Building Committee has and will continue to generate as we move forward.

We intend to prepare an Article for consideration by Select Board and Warrant Committee that will request funds to embark on Feasibility Study, Select/Hire (required) Owner’s Project Manager (OPM) and Initial Design Development

Prepare Statement of Interest for MSBA which is due in April 2020

Fully Engage on Site Selection Process – We know we need to build a school and now we have to find a site.
Thank you for your time! 

Hope to see you at Town Meeting in May 2020!

Thank you for your time and we look forward to seeing you soon.