

Story of a Building

Doherty Memorial High School

Thursday, April 16, 2026

AGENDA



8:30 AM **Arrival – School office and Guidance Seminar Room –
Coffee and Refreshments**

8:45 AM **Welcome and Introduction**

James A. MacDonald, *CEO, Massachusetts School Building Authority*
Jeffrey S. Shapiro, *Inspector General of Massachusetts*
Brian E. Allen, *Superintendent of Worcester Public Schools*

**Session 1: Launching a School Project: Education and
Community Visioning and Early Planning**

John Staley, *Principal of Doherty Memorial High School*
David Stephen, *AIA, M.Ed., New Vista Design*
Christina Bazelmans, *Principal, Director of Programming and Sustainability,
Lamoreaux Pagano Associates | Architects, Inc.*
Christopher Lee, *Principal, Design Director, Lamoureux Pagano Associates |
Architects, Inc.*

Q&A

**Session 2A: Key Design Features & Student
Perspective Tour**

**Session 2B: Designing Learning Opportunities
Through School Construction**

Christina Bazelmans, *Principal, Director of Programming and Sustainability,
Lamoreaux Pagano Associates | Architects, Inc.*
Elizabeth Wambui, *Director of Diversity, Inclusion & Community Impact,
Fontaine Brothers, Inc.*
Alejandro Zafon-Whalen, *Grade 12 Student, Doherty Memorial High School*
Isabelle Adamsson, *Grade 12 Student, Doherty Memorial High School*

Q&A

Session 3A: From Concept to Completion - The Importance of Capital Planning

Brian E. Allen, *Superintendent of Worcester Public Schools*

Eric D. Batista, *City Manager, City of Worcester*

Q&A

Session 3B: Partnering for Success: Municipal and District Leadership in Capital Planning

Deborah B. Goldberg, *Treasurer & Receiver General of the Commonwealth and Chair of the Massachusetts School Building Authority*

Joseph M. Petty, *Mayor, City of Worcester*

Q&A

Closing Remarks

Mary Pichetti, *Executive Director, Massachusetts School Building Authority*



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



James A. MacDonald, First Deputy Treasurer, Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Chief Executive Officer, Massachusetts School Building Authority

On June 28th, 2017, Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg named James (Jim) A. MacDonald as the Chief Executive Officer of the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA). Jim has been serving as the CEO since January 2017. Jim's career in the Office of the State Treasurer spans over forty years. In January 2015, Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg appointed Jim to the statutory position of First Deputy Treasurer of the Commonwealth. As part of his role, Jim works closely with other Treasury departments and state agencies on matters of policy and operations.

Jim serves as Treasurer Goldberg's designee on the Board of Bank Incorporation, Clean Water Trust and the MMDT Advisory Board. He also represents the Treasurer at the Massachusetts Collectors and Treasurers Association, a member of the State Debt Management Network for the National Association of State Treasurers (NAST), and on the National Association of State Auditor's, Comptrollers and Treasurers, Training and Professional Development Committee.

On the local level, Jim is in his eleventh term as a member of the Dedham Select Board, serving seven times as Chair. He also has been a member of Dedham's Finance Committee and elected member of the Dedham Charter Commission and Town Meeting. Jim's family resides in Dedham. He attended Boston State College and is active in St. Susanna Church in Dedham. Jim has also been involved in many athletic programs for children and young adults with special needs.

Jeffrey S. Shapiro, Inspector General of Massachusetts

Jeffrey Shapiro is the Commonwealth's fifth Inspector General, by appointment of the Governor, the Attorney General and the State Auditor. The Massachusetts Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is an independent agency mandated to prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in the use of public funds and property.

Since becoming Inspector General, he has worked closely with state and local officials to expand education and training opportunities to promote good government and reduce fraud, waste and abuse of public resources. He has advocated for common sense changes to the state's procurement laws, asked the Legislature to reform of the governance structure of the Cannabis Control Commission, called for greater focus on fare collection on the MBTA Commuter Rail, and better oversight of post-retirement earnings of public retirees. He was instrumental in getting a streamlined procurement process for electric school buses passed into law.

IG Shapiro is an elected member of the Board of Directors of the Association of Inspectors General.

IG Shapiro has devoted his entire career to public service. For over 30 years, he has served in various legal, administrative and fiscal roles in the Middlesex District Attorney's Office, the Attorney General's Office and, as a legislative staff on Capitol Hill and Beacon Hill, and as the Commonwealth's First Deputy Comptroller.

Brian E. Allen, Superintendent, Worcester Public Schools

Brian has spent more than thirty-one years in various finance and operations roles with the City of Worcester and Worcester Public Schools. On May 1, 2025, he was selected by the Worcester School Committee to become the Superintendent of Schools on July 1, 2025.

In his previous role as Deputy Superintendent, Chief Operating Officer & Chief Financial Officer, he was responsible for the development and management of a \$586 million annual budget. He served as the chairperson of the district's strategic plan committee. Brian has received national recognition with the Distinguished Professional Eagle Award, the Pinnacle Award of Achievement, and he is a twelve-time Meritorious Budget Award recipient from the Association of School Business Officials International, as well as the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award, President's Award, and the Operational and Cost Efficiency Award from the Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials (MASBO). Brian has also served on numerous statewide committees on education funding and is a Past President and previous Legislative Liaison for MASBO. Brian has been a senior instructor of school finance courses at Worcester State University since 2001. Brian has a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Clark University, a Master's in Public Administration from Suffolk University, and a C.A.G.S. in Conflict Management from Clark University.

John Staley, Principal, Doherty Memorial High School

John has been a member of the Doherty High faculty since 1999, after graduating from the College of the Holy Cross (Mathematics, Pre-Med). He joined the science department, primarily teaching physics and engineering. He has worked as a science teacher, department chair, assistant principal, and is currently in his fourth year as the DMHS Principal.

David Stephen / AIA, M.Ed., New Vista Design

David Stephen's professional life straddles the worlds of education reform and architectural design. As an educator, he has over 35 years of experience partnering with schools nationwide and internationally to imagine, develop, and implement innovative curriculum and school programs. As a licensed architect, he has collaborated in the architectural programming and design of more than 150 forward thinking K-12 school buildings across the U.S. and abroad. Not surprisingly, important and interesting connections happen at the intersection of these two disciplines. David founded New Vista Design in 2006 and has served as Co-Chair of Harvard Graduate School of Design's LEFT (Learning Environments for Tomorrow) Institute since 2012.

Christina Bazelmans, Principal and Director of Programming and Sustainability, Lamoureux Pagano Associates | Architects

Christina Bazelmans is a Principal at Lamoureux Pagano Associates | Architects and serves as the firm's Director of Programming and Sustainability. A graduate of Wentworth Institute of Technology with a Master of Architecture degree, Christina joined LPA|A in 2013. She has extensive design and management experience on a wide range of building projects and is currently serving as Project Architect for the Richer Elementary School in Marlborough. Christina also served as the Assistant Project Architect for the Doherty high project and is a LEED BD+C Accredited Professional.

Christopher Lee, Principal and Design Director, Lamoureux Pagano Associates | Architects

Chris has been part of the teams of twelve MSBA core projects including four high schools over the course of his career. He is currently serving as Project Manager on Marlborough's Richer Elementary School. Chris' role on Doherty High was also Project Manager and he was involved with every facet of the project from day one to the end. Chris is a graduate of Roger Williams University and is a LEED AP and Licensed Massachusetts Construction Supervisor.

Elizabeth Wambui, Director of Diversity, Inclusion and Community Impact, Fontaine Brothers, Inc.

In her role, Elizabeth is tasked with ensure compliance on workforce goals on all projects and helping to maximize business utilization for BIPOC and women owned business. She is committed to helping develop a more diverse workforce within the construction and leads partnerships with local unions, traditional and trade schools and other community groups like Building Pathways, and Community Works on these efforts. Elizabeth participates in various compliance meetings with fellow DEI Directors across the state, Advisory groups at Doherty Memorial High School and serves on the Committee for Diversity and Inclusion and Workforce Development Committee for the Associated General Contractors of Massachusetts.

Elizabeth also oversees the Fontaine Community Foundation. The mission of the foundation seeks to build partnerships with organizations focused on creating stronger communities and contributing to the common good. She is committed to helping the firm connect with a broad range of worthy causes that are personally important to our team members, but also to create and grow the habit of philanthropic giving at every level of our organization through the employee-directed giving component of the foundation's efforts.

Elizabeth is passionate about engaging with the community. Service and social justice have been driving forces as she sought both career and volunteer opportunities. She currently serves as a Board Member for several local organizations. It's the opportunity to help advance equity in the community she loves, that ultimately made her stay here, to give back to the community that gave so much to her. A proud Worcester Public Schools Alumna, Elizabeth holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the College of the Holy Cross.

Eric D. Batista, City Manager, City of Worcester

Eric D. Batista has served as City Manager since December of 2022 and has worked in municipal government for over a decade.

During his tenure, City Manager Batista has led Worcester through a time of unprecedented growth, working to ensure opportunity remains available to everyone in the city, regardless of their background or situation in life. Under his leadership, Worcester has expanded its employment base; grown its stock of affordable housing; elevated diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts; developed a school capital maintenance fund; and prioritized public health and safety.

City Manager Batista attended Worcester Public Schools and earned a bachelor's degree from UMass Amherst and an MBA from Assumption College. He currently lives in Worcester with his wife and young children.

Deborah B. Goldberg, Treasurer and Receiver General of the Commonwealth, Chair of the MSBA Board of Directors

In that role she is responsible for the state's cash and debt management, unclaimed property, and chairs state boards and commissions, including the Massachusetts School Building Authority, the Pension Reserves Investment Management Board, the State Board of Retirement, Massachusetts State Lottery Commission, and the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust. In 2015, she established the new Office of Economic Empowerment, the first of its kind in the country, and chairs its Economic Empowerment Trust Fund. Treasurer Goldberg is the former President of the National Association of State Treasurers and is the Co-Chair of the National Institute of Public Finance.

As a former businesswoman and local elected leader, Treasurer Goldberg brings innovative leadership, disciplined fiscal management and an unwavering commitment to uphold economic stability and create opportunity for every Massachusetts resident. Treasurer Goldberg served for six years on the Brookline Board of Selectmen, including two as its Chair. Prior to her career in public service, she worked in retail operations, buying, and consumer affairs at The Stop & Shop Companies, Inc.

Treasurer Goldberg is the President Emeritus of Adoptions with Love and serves on the Advisory Board of the Greater Boston Food Bank. She was one of the founders of Berkshire Hills Music Academy, a school for individuals with intellectual disabilities, is a trustee emeritus at Beth Israel Lahey Health, and a former Director at Affiliated Physicians Group / Beth Israel Deaconess HealthCare. Treasurer Goldberg has been actively involved with numerous philanthropic activities, including The Grow Clinic, the 100 Club, Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts, and the Combined Jewish Philanthropies.

A graduate of Boston University, Boston College Law School and Harvard Business School, Treasurer Goldberg lives in Brookline with her husband Michael Winter. She has a son, Evan, and daughter, Meredith.

Joseph M. Petty, Mayor, City of Worcester

Joseph M. Petty is serving his fifteenth two-year term as Councilor-At-Large and his eighth term as Mayor of the City of Worcester. He is also the Chairman of the Worcester School Committee.

Joseph M. Petty has served as Mayor of the City of Worcester since January 2012. He is a graduate of Holy Name Central Catholic High School, Worcester. He received a BS in Business Administration from Nichols College, Dudley, and a law degree from New England School of Law, Boston.

Mayor Petty believes providing reliable police and fire services and exercising budgetary prudence at City Hall are issues of high priority. He promotes improving our infrastructure, especially in our schools and neighborhoods.

He is married to the former Gayle A. Perrone and is the father of two sons, Andrew and Joseph, and one daughter, Nicole.

Mary Pichetti, Executive Director, Massachusetts School Building Authority

Mary Pichetti joined the Massachusetts School Building Authority on November 28, 2007, as the Director of Construction. She held that position until being promoted to Director of Capital Planning and held that position from 2008-2023. In that role, she led the team in developing and implementing grant processes that have supported programs for major projects and repair projects. In July of 2023, Mary was appointed the Deputy Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director of the MSBA. Mary has extensive experience in the planning, design and construction for building and large-scale infrastructure projects in both the private and public sector. Prior to joining the MSBA, Mary worked for over 18 years with the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority managing construction projects and program administration including public procurement, contract management, claims and change order analysis for the \$3.6 billion Boston Harbor Project and the \$1.7 billion Metrowest Water Treatment Plant, tunnels and covered storage tanks. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Smith College.