

May 9, 2011

To the Members of the Cambridge City Council:

We are writing to you as voters, taxpayers and members of the Kennedy-Longfellow, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Morse school communities. We want to begin by expressing our gratitude to the School Committee for passing the Innovation Agenda and committing to offering a rich educational experience for middle school students in Cambridge.

Our three school communities--teachers, parents, and administrators--have begun to collaborate and build a spirit of community among our three schools. At a joint meeting of our school councils on May 4, we were united by our dismay that the City Manager's recommendation of a \$3 million appropriation for a facilities study of Cambridge Public Schools has been called into question.

This appropriation proposal was not unexpected. As you know, the poor condition of the building at 100 Putnam Avenue has been well documented since the city commissioned its Building Capital Needs Assessment dated July 2006, and was recently affirmed by the Facilities Planning Team of the Cambridge School Committee last fall. This building renovation was already desperately needed *five years ago*.

We ask you to please dispel any perception that this delay reflects an attempt to undermine the Innovation Agenda. We urge you to respect the hard work of our teachers and school department by moving swiftly to approve the funding needed to fix Cambridge's crumbling school buildings.

Thank you for supporting Cambridge's schools, and for investing in the quality of educational experience for our children. We hope you will approve this appropriation without further delay.

Sincerely,

1. Nancy Adams, Morse School Parent
2. Carol Basile, Martin Luther King, Jr. School Teacher
3. Bill Boehm, Morse School Parent
4. Felicia Brady-Lopez, Morse School Parent
5. Dave Christie, Kennedy Longfellow Parent
6. Melissa Christie, Kennedy Longfellow Parent
7. Jenny Chung, Martin Luther King, Jr. School Parent
8. *Kathryn Codd*, Morse School Parent

9. Ned Codd, Morse School Parent
10. John DeLancey, Kennedy Longfellow ISP Parent
11. Mary Devlin, Morse School Parent
12. Kevin Fanning, Martin Luther King, Jr. School Parent
13. Joanna Fink, Morse School Parent
14. Katherine Gamble, Morse School Parent
15. Elizabeth Gibb, Martin Luther King, Jr. School
16. Richard Gonci, Morse School Parent
17. Joseph Grassi, Morse School Parent
18. Cam Hicks, Morse School Parent
19. Michelle Hicks, Morse School Parent
20. Elizabeth Hill, Martin Luther King, Jr. School Parent
21. Abigail Lewis-Bowen, Kennedy Longfellow School Parent
22. Haoyang Liu, Martin Luther King, Jr. School Parent
23. Sian Victoria Liu, Martin Luther King, Jr. School Parent
24. Kimberly Mancino, Morse School Parent
25. Matthew Noblett, Martin Luther King, Jr. School Parent
26. Wendy Noblett, Martin Luther King, Jr. School Parent
27. Louise Parise, Kennedy Longfellow Parent
28. Rosalie Rippey, Martin Luther King, Jr. School Parent
29. Danielle Sauve, Morse School Parent
30. Gayle Sherman, Morse School and CRLS Parent
31. Frank Shirley, Morse School Parent
32. Gromek Smolen, Morse School Parent
33. Slavco Sokolovski, Morse School Parent
34. Summer Thompson, Martin Luther King, Jr. School Parent
35. Bethany Versoy, Martin Luther King, Jr. School Parent
36. Nancy Wyse, Kennedy Longfellow School Parent
37. Gerald Yung, Martin Luther King, Jr. School Principal
38. Veronica Zabulu, Kennedy Longfellow School Parent
39. Lolly Lincoln, Kennedy Longfellow
40. Robert Gibson, Kennedy Longfellow