

Ruthanne Fuller Mayor City of Newton, Massachusetts

Office of the Mayor

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Ward and Underwood - \$100,000

School Committee members and Newton Public Schools staff began to work with the Ward and Underwood Task Force just before the Covid-19 pandemic began. The Ward and Underwood communities have been patiently waiting for this process to restart after the pandemic forced us to put the work on hold. We are now poised to tackle the facility and enrollment challenges that exist at both schools, and to determine how best to address them. Last fall, Mayor Fuller announced the City was reserving ARPA funds to make sure that Newton Public Schools and the Ward and Underwood Task Force have resources to move this important initiative forward. The City allocated \$100,000 in ARPA funding to support the Newton Public Schools and the Ward and Underwood school communities. These funds helped NPS provide professional services to evaluate the facilities, analyze enrollments and educational models, and clarify the challenges and opportunities to help with the decision making.