

To The Honorable, the City Council

To The Honorable, The School Committee

June 16, 1972

1. The Tobin School, built at a cost approaching \$6 million, has a capacity of 975 pupils; its current enrollment is 481, of which about 60 are bussed in from the Fitzgerald district.
2. The combined current design capacity of the Fitzgerald (778), Lincoln (244), Peabody (598), Agassiz (260) and Tobin (975) schools is 3,180 pupils; there are currently 2,259 pupils residing in those school districts -- a difference of 921.
3. The combined current design capacity of just the Fitzgerald, Lincoln and Tobin districts is 1997 pupils; there are currently 1,613 pupils residing in those school districts -- a difference of 384.

The Planning and Development Department has determined that there are at least four options other than constructing a temporary pre-fabricated school, which provide a wide range of choices of average class size, use of various available school space, costs, and remaining capacity for enrollment increases. I wish to emphasize there are other options beyond these four which the School Committee can develop.

Option #1 All pupils now living in the Fitzgerald district attend Fitzgerald except Follow-Through pupils and pupils in grades 4-8 in Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers, who will attend Tobin School.

Option #2 All children, other than Follow-Through, in the Fitzgerald district attend Fitzgerald except that some of the children in kindergarten through third grade who are now bussed to Fitzgerald will be bussed instead to the Lincoln School to bring that school up to design capacity; seventh and eighth grade children in Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers will attend Tobin School.

Option #3 As in Option Number 2, the children now bussed to Fitzgerald go to Lincoln School which is used to capacity. In addition, the eight available classrooms in Notre Dame School will be used for children in the kindergarten through second grade and Fitzgerald School will be used for the remaining children in the Fitzgerald and Lincoln districts. Only children in Follow-Through attend Tobin.

Option #4 The eight classrooms at Notre Dame will be used to capacity with children in the kindergarten through second grade. All other children in the Fitzgerald district will attend Fitzgerald, except the seventh and eighth graders at Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers who will attend Tobin School. Lincoln School will remain at its current utilization.

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Estimated Costs - Additional Bus Service

Option #1	A. Bus grade 4-8 to Tobin	\$ 27,000/yr. 135,000/5 yrs.
	B. Bus only grade 4-6 to Tobin	18,000/yr. 90,000/5 yrs.
	C. Everyone walks	\$ 0
Option #2	A. Bus grade 7-8 to Tobin	\$ 9,000/yr. 45,000/5 yrs.
	B. Everyone walks	\$ 0
Option #3	8 Notre Dame classes	\$ 16,000/yr. 80,000/5 yrs.
Option #4	8 Notre Dame classes	16,000/yr. 80,000/5 yrs.
	Bus grade 7-8 to Tobin	9,000/yr. <u>45,000/5 yrs.</u>
	Total	\$ 25,000/yr. 125,000/5 yrs.

The following conditions apply to all of these options:

1. No redistricting will be necessary. Reassignments have been confined to a limited number of children in the Fitzgerald district who would go either to the Lincoln School or to the Tobin School.
2. The highest grade level assigned to the Notre Dame classrooms would be second grade, and the highest grade level assigned to Lincoln School would be sixth grade, because of the lack of special facilities at these schools for children in the higher grade levels.
3. No child in the third grade or less, not now living in the Lincoln School district, will need to walk out to Massachusetts Avenue to get to Lincoln School because of the bussing program that already exists for some Fitzgerald School children in the kindergarten to third grade. Some of these children would be bussed to the Lincoln School rather than to the Fitzgerald School.
4. Assignments to the Tobin School from the Fitzgerald district are confined to the higher grades, in one option from four through eighth grades, and in two other options from the seventh and eighth grades. This was to limit bussing and any extensive walking to the older ages and also to take advantage of the modern special facilities of the Tobin School for the older grade levels. All children assigned to the Tobin School under these options live within a one-mile walking distance of Tobin School. It is assumed that the children assigned

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to Tobin be those living in Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers. This is merely to minimize the number of stops the bus has to make, resulting in a shorter time period for bussing. But if it is felt desirable to have a greater geographic spread of assignments to Tobin, other children could be assigned as well.

5. The special purpose classrooms of the Fitzgerald School that have been converted to regular classrooms can be restored to their original purpose, and the enrollment at Fitzgerald can be reduced to design capacity.
6. Under all options there is an excess capacity of school space available for new pupils from the housing developments that are now under construction. This excess capacity is sufficient even for maximum projected family size.
7. Follow-Through children now bussed to Tobin School would continue there because it was assumed to be desirable not to break the continuity of their program. Under most of these options, however, space could be made available for these children at Fitzgerald, Lincoln, or Notre Dame if it were preferred not to bus them to Tobin.

The principal advantages and disadvantages of each option are as follows:

In Option Number 1, the most modern school in the area, the Tobin School, is used extensively, and the remaining available space is the largest of the four options. Further, it would not be necessary to rent space at Notre Dame. At the same time, the number of students who would have to walk or bus to Tobin School is the largest of the four options and involves the youngest children. The bussing costs under this option are such that the cost of the option is the highest of the four.

Under Option Number 2, the Lincoln School is used to full capacity and Tobin School is used only for the older students, who would have particular use of the special facilities available there. Again, the space at Notre Dame would not have to be rented, and the amount of space remaining for additional enrollments is the second highest of the four options. The bussing cost makes this the least expensive option and need not be incurred at all if the seventh and eighth graders walk the one mile or less to Tobin School.

Under Option Number 3, Notre Dame, Lincoln and Fitzgerald Schools are all used to full design capacity and no children other than Follow-Through are assigned to the Tobin School: thus no bussing or walking out of North Cambridge is involved and the cost of this option, which is the cost of renting Notre Dame space, is the second lowest of the four options. Further, the class sizes are generally the smallest of the four options. The main disadvantage of this option is that with such full utilization of the schools in North Cambridge there is somewhat less flexibility available for additional enrollments in that area and any substantial enrollment

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increases in the course of the school year, would have to be accommodated at Tobin School.

Under Option Number 4, with Notre Dame used to full capacity rather than the Lincoln School, Lincoln is left with excess capacity for unexpected enrollment increases. The seventh and eighth graders assigned to Tobin School have the advantage of the use of those facilities with the disadvantage of the walk or bus trip to the school. With the rental of the Notre Dame classroom space and bussing of the seventh and eighth graders assigned to Tobin, this is the next most expensive of the four.

All of these options work without overcrowding at any school or conversion of special purpose facilities to regular classrooms. It should be clear that no temporary school facilities in North Cambridge will be necessary, at least for the coming school year, and probably for the next two to four years.

I am aware that several housing developments now under construction will affect the enrollments in these districts in the next school year. In addition to the third Rindge Tower there is the Walden Square housing and the development by John Briston Sullivan on Garden Street both of which have a large number of units attractive to families with children.

It is difficult to predict how many children of elementary school age will reside in these new housing developments. It is a practical impossibility to predict how many families will move into these new housing developments from within the above mentioned school districts, thus producing no net change in the enrollment, or who will occupy the existing housing from which families will move into the new housing. I am further aware that a number of children now in parochial school or private school may transfer to the Tobin School in its first full year of operation, but those numbers cannot be predicted. We have no choice except to see what develops.

The Planning and Development Department's best estimate is about 380 elementary school children in those three housing developments. If all of those children were new to the area, which is an unlikely assumption, the projected enrollment in the five schools would be 2639. The current design capacity of the five schools is 3,180, a difference of 541. Tobin School with its current enrollment of 481 could absorb all of those children for a total of 861 and still have room for 115 more children.

Offsetting the potential increase in children from new housing is the shift of children from schools in the western part of the city to the alternative school to be offered at the King School. It is difficult to estimate how much enrollments in the five schools will be reduced by that program.

I recognize that the options outlined above, or any others the School Committee may develop, are short-term solutions. I am still prepared to believe that a new permanent elementary school in North Cambridge may be required some-

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time in the foreseeable future. I believe that the trends that take place in the next year or two will provide the necessary information on what size this school should be and where it should be located. We must review enrollment distributions next year at the time that most of the new housing that is now under construction will be completed and occupied and we must watch for further parochial school closings and their effect on public school enrollments.

We also must be sure that planning for a new school is done in the context of the City's educational needs as a whole. Elementary school enrollments have generally declined in the City, from 8330 in 1960 to 7,091 -- a decline of 14.9%. Yet through the construction of the Tobin, King, and Kennedy Schools we have provided a net increase of about 1200 pupil spaces above the older schools they replaced. Space at these new schools should be available for City-wide special facilities that might otherwise have to be provided, at least in part, in a new North Cambridge school. It may be also necessary, or at least useful, to reconsider the present layout of school district boundaries in order to make best use of available, new school space throughout the City.

Thus, there are at least three tasks which I see that need to be carried out over the next two or three years in connection with the issues discussed in this report. One task is to detail the various needs for school space in Cambridge for special programs; a second task is to review school district boundaries and determine to what extent they serve logical purposes as they are now drawn. The third is to detail the need for additional school facilities in North Cambridge.

In the meantime, I offer the forementioned four options to the School Committee and School Department for action on next year's school assignments. Knowing that several other options can be developed, I would be pleased to make available to school officials the computer tape, which identifies the location by city block of each child by grade, as well as the technical assistance of the Planning and Development Department's staff.

After a more thorough review of the North Cambridge school overcrowding problem, I have reached these conclusions:

1. The need for construction of a temporary pre-fabricated school building in North Cambridge has not been sufficiently justified, particularly in the light of other available alternatives.
2. There are at least four options, and presumably others as well, available to solve the problem which do not require massive redistricting or an amount of bussing appreciably greater than currently exists.
3. We must avoid piecemeal sectional solutions dependent on historical school boundaries and think on a larger basis. In this instance one school, Fitzgerald, is admittedly overcrowded. Yet another school, Lincoln, only 1200 feet away has excess capacity, and a brand new school, Tobin, which is currently less than one-half occupied, is just less than one mile away.

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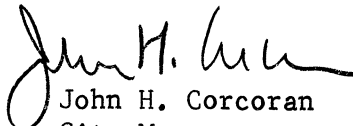
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4. In view of the unpredictability of how many children will move from elsewhere in Cambridge to new housing in the area, and how many children in the area who will attend the Alternative School program, we should not be making expensive medium-length commitments now. I feel the entire situation should be re-evaluated next spring.

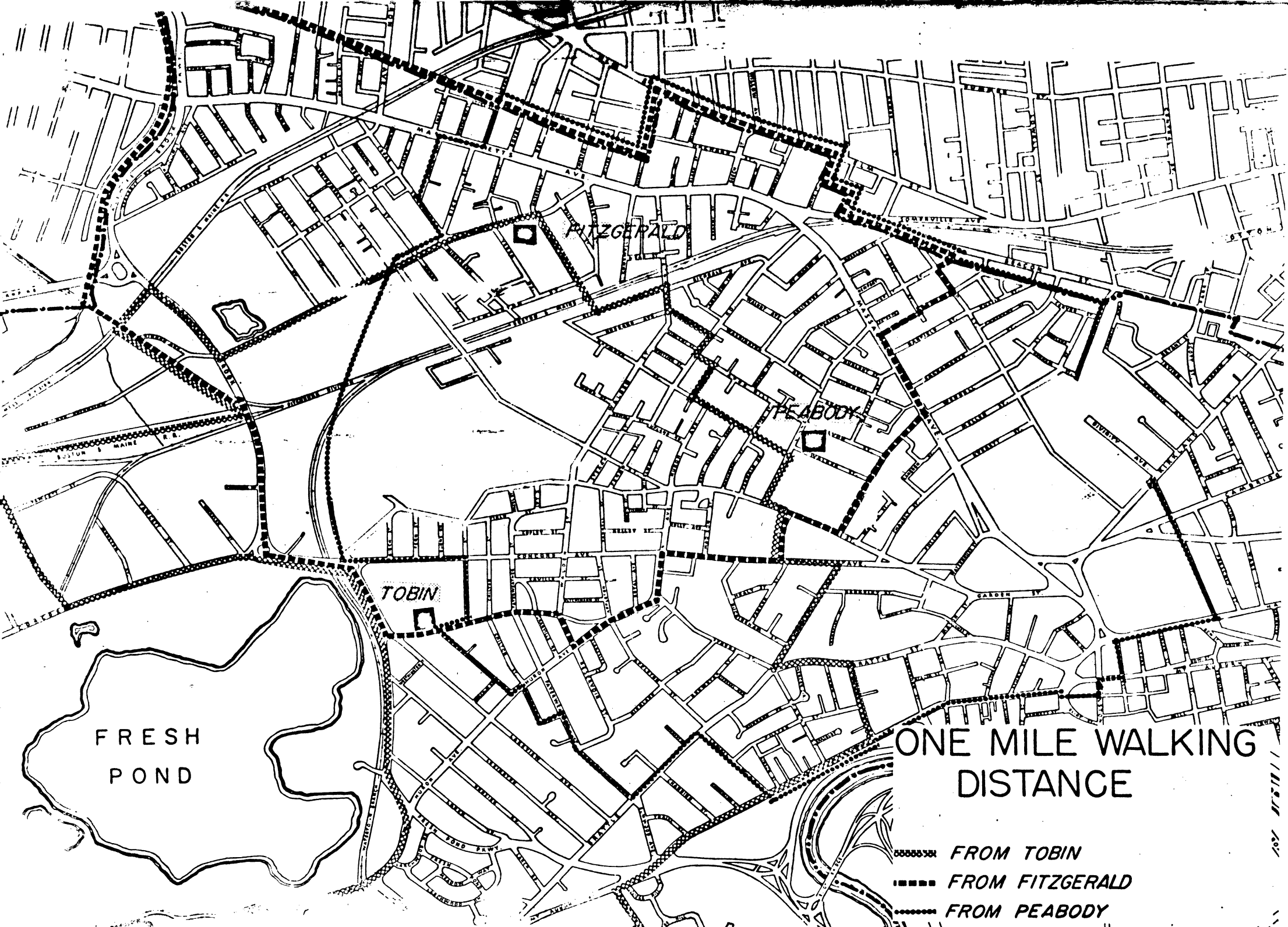
In sum, I am convinced that construction of temporary school facilities in North Cambridge is not at present a consideration.

Respectfully submitted,


John H. Corcoran
City Manager

Enclosures

Copies to: North Cambridge Task Force on
School Overcrowding
School Department



FRESH
POND

TOBIN

FITZGERALD

PEABODY

ONE MILE WALKING DISTANCE

- FROM TOBIN
- FROM FITZGERALD
- FROM PEABODY

TABLE 1: ENROLLMENTS BY GRADE AND SCHOOL AND CLASSROOM UTILIZATION, MAY 1972

Grade												Total Available Classrooms		
	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Special	Total	K	1-8	Special
Agassiz	38	36	44	20	33	15	13	18	12	-	229	1	10	1
Fitzgerald	114	112	110	87	97	90	97	99	85	-	891	2	8	-
Lincoln	21	26	25	26	20	26	26	-	-	-	168	2 ²	24	-
Peabody	35	65	48	60	42	51	54	38	75	20	490	1	19	1
Tobin	44	39	58	42	33	41	28	58	69	69	481	4	28	3
Total	252	278	285	235	225	223	218	213	241	89	2259	10	89	5
Desired Size	40 ¹	25	25	25	30	30	30	30	30	20-25	Total Utilized Classrm.			
No. of cr's	7	11	12	10	8	8	8	7	8	4	7	72	4	
Pupil spaces remaining	18	-	15	15	15	17	22	-	-	-	102	3	17	1

Notes

- ¹ A.M. + P.M. Sessions -- 20 each
² Lincoln, Kindergarten has double capacity of 80

<u>EXCESS CAPACITY:</u>	
3 x 40 =	120
17 x 30 =	510
1 x 20 =	20
102 ch =	<u>102</u>
A) Total, without N.D.	752
B) Using 8 N.D. cr's	952

TABLE 2: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PUPILS WITHIN ONE MILE WALKING DISTANCE DISTRICTS

<u>Grade</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>			<u>Total</u>
	<u>Fitzgerald-Lincoln</u>	<u>Tobin</u>	<u>Peabody</u>	
K	198	118	110	426
1	215	136	146	497
2	202	130	154	486
3	176	119	123	418
4	168	110	118	396
5	173	116	117	406
6	163	95	96	354
7	137	97	86	320
8	149	114	105	368
Total	1,581	1,035	1,055	3,671

Note: Special Classes Not Included.

TABLE 3: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PUPILS WITHIN DISTRICTS CLOSEST TO SCHOOL*

<u>Grade</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>			<u>Total</u>
	<u>Fitzgerald-Lincoln</u>	<u>Tobin</u>	<u>Peabody</u>	
K	152	40	52	244
1	148	31	89	268
2	147	41	83	271
3	113	38	65	216
4	122	37	50	209
5	120	28	64	212
6	122	31	45	198
7	107	36	43	186
8	103	50	46	199
Total	1,134	332*	537	2,003

Note: Special Classes Not Included.

*Districts are bounded by the one-mile walking distance line and the equal distance line.

TABLE 4: NUMBER OF STUDENTS, K-8, IN THE FITZGERALD, LINCOLN AND PEABODY SCHOOL DISTRICTS WHO ARE WITHIN ONE MILE WALKING DISTANCE OF TOBIN

Fitzgerald School District	389	K-8 Students
Lincoln School District	95	K-8 Students
Peabody School District	191	K-8 Students

TABLE 5: EFFECT OF NEW HOUSING IN WESTERN AREA ON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Total No. Units</u>	<u>Projected School Children</u>
Rindge Tower 3	252	50
Walden Square	120	288
247 Garden St.	159	40

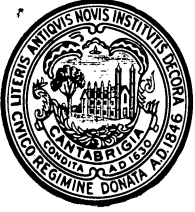
378 Nominal

Range 321 to 435

Assumptions: All children are net additions to the school system.

TABLE 6: PROJECTED ENROLLMENT IN WESTERN AREA INCLUDING NEW HOUSING

		<u>School Included</u>
Present Enrollment:	2,259	Agassiz
Minimum Projected Enrollment:	2,580	Fitzgerald
Maximum Projected Enrollment:	2,694	Lincoln
Capacity Without Notre Dame:	3,011	Peabody
Capacity With Notre Dame:	3,211	Tobin



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
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REPORT ON NORTH CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL OVERCROWDING

Prepared by:

Richard Lockhart and Peter Hahn

June 15, 1972

REPORT ON NORTH CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL OVERCROWDING

Methodology of Research

The research for the North Cambridge School Overcrowding project was based on data collected at each of the area schools -- Agassiz, M. E. Fitzgerald, Abraham Lincoln, Peabody, and Tobin. The data consisted of the address and grade of each child attending these schools as of May 17, 18, 19, 1972. These cards were obtained at the headmasters' and masters' offices at each school.

The data -- addresses and grades -- were fed into a computer which produced a list that showed for each school the number of children from a given grade located in an appropriate census block.

For example: Census Tract, 3549 Block Number 206 (Block contains Jefferson Park Apartments and Rindge Towers) has 23 children attending Kindergarten class at the M. E. Fitzgerald, 32 children in the 1st grade, 20 children in the 2nd grade, etc.

This data was then plotted on a map (Scale: 600 ft. = 1 in.) showing all city blocks. Ten such maps were used: one for each grade, K-8, and one for the total in K-8. Color Coding enabled us to see at a glance how many children in a given grade and a given city block attend a given school.

The maps were in addition divided into districts, bounded by two kinds of lines: first, a line that for a given school encloses an area in which every point is within a one mile walking (NOT as the crow flies) distance of the school. Second, a line along which a child is within the same walking distance of two schools -- that is, an equidistant line.

The maps are shown in reduced form in this report. One map shows the total number of K-8 pupils in each city block within the area and the equal distance line. The other map shows the boundaries of the One-Mile-Walking Distance Areas of the Fitzgerald, Tobin, and Peabody Schools. Note that these one-mile districts often intersect and many children are in fact within a one-mile walking distance of two or even three schools.

Table 1 gives the number of children, by grade, within the one-mile walking distance districts of the three major schools. Because of overlapping, the total number of school children is much greater than the actual number attending the five area schools.

Table 1: Elementary School Pupils Within
One Mile Walking Distance Districts

Grade	SCHOOL			Total
	Fitzgerald-Lincoln	Tobin	Peabody	
K	198	118	110	426
1	215	136	146	497
2	202	130	154	486
3	176	119	123	418
4	168	110	118	396
5	173	116	117	406
6	163	95	96	354
7	137	97	86	320
8	149	114	105	368
Total	1,581	1,035	1,055	3,671

The primary purpose of these maps is to provide the locational and quantitative dimensions of the demand for school space in the Western area of the city. Once this demand is specified it can be matched with the supply characteristics of the system.

Table 2 shows a tabulation of the current enrollment in each school by grade. (See the following page). It shows, in addition, the availability of classroom space in each school broken into three types of rooms: kindergarten, 1-8, and special. This classification is somewhat arbitrary, since these rooms do not in fact differ physically. The aggregate capacity of the five schools is shown to be 10 Kindergarten classrooms, 89 regular 1-8 classrooms, and 5 classrooms for special classes (not special facilities classrooms, such as Science rooms). The table also shows the aggregate number of classrooms required for each grade if acceptable capacities are maintained in each room. The present demand for classrooms is seen to be 7 Kindergarten rooms, 72 regular 1-8 rooms and 4 special rooms. These rooms are often underutilized and in fact can accommodate another 102 students. A total of 21 classrooms overall would remain empty with a capacity for 650 students. The total excess capacity with present demand (without utilizing the Notre Dame School) is about 750.

TABLE 2: ENROLLMENTS BY GRADE AND SCHOOL AND CLASSROOM UTILIZATION, MAY 1972

Grade											Total Available Classrooms			
	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Special	Total	K	1-8	Special
Agassiz	38	36	44	20	33	15	13	18	12	-	229	1	10	1
Fitzgerald	114	112	110	87	97	90	97	99	85	-	891	2	8	-
Lincoln	21	26	25	26	20	26	26	-	-	-	168	2 ²	24	-
Peabody	35	65	48	60	42	51	54	38	75	20	490	1	19	1
Tobin	44	39	58	42	33	41	28	58	69	69	481	4	28	3
Total	252	278	285	235	225	223	218	213	241	89	2259	10	89	5
Desired Size	40 ¹	25	25	25	30	30	30	30	30	20-25	<u>Total Utilized Classroom</u>			
No. of cr's	7	11	12	10	8	8	8	7	8	4	7	72	4	
Pupil Spaces Remaining	18	-	15	15	15	17	22	-	-	-	102	3	17	1

Notes

¹ A. M. + P. M. Sessions -- 20 each

² Lincoln, Kindergarten has double capacity of 80

<u>EXCESS CAPACITY:</u>	3 x 40 = 120
	17 x 30 = 510
	1 x 20 = 20
	102 ch = <u>102</u>
A) Total, without N. D.	752
B) Using 8 N. D. cr's	952

The actual demand next year must include children that will be added to these schools from the occupancy of three major new housing developments -- Walden Square, 247 Garden Street, and the third Rindge Tower. Table 3 shows the effect of these developments using methodology developed by the Elementary School Building Study. An unusually conservative projection gives a range of 321 to 435 new children entering some or all of the five schools sometime during the next school year. We feel the projection overstates the number of children because it assumes that all children in these housing developments are new to these schools and that parents will in all instances transfer their children to Western area schools in the midst of the school year. It certainly is reasonable to expect that some of the occupants in the new housing already had children enrolled in one of the schools and that some who are in fact from outside the area will choose to have their children complete the school year in their present schools.

Table 3: Effect of New Housing in Western Area
On Elementary School Enrollments

<u>Name</u>	<u>Total No. Units</u>	<u>Projected School Children</u>
Rindge Tower 3	252	50
Walden Square	120	288
247 Garden St.	159	<u>40</u>
		378 Nominal
		Range 321 to 435

Assumptions: All children are net additions to the school system.

Table 4 shows the projected total enrollment in the Western area, including the effects of new housing developments.

Table 4: Projected Enrollment in Western Area
Including New Housing

		<u>School Included</u>
Present Enrollment:	2,259	Agassiz
Minimum Projected Enrollment:	2,580	Fitzgerald
Maximum Projected Enrollment:	2,694	Lincoln
Capacity Without Notre Dame:	3,011	Peabody
Capacity With Notre Dame:	3,211	Tobin

Table 5 gives the number of children within the one-mile-walking-distance districts of each school which are closest to that school. That is, one of the boundaries is the equidistant line. Here overlapping is eliminated and no double counting of children occurs.

Table 5: Elementary School Pupils Within Districts Closest to School*

Grade	SCHOOL			Total
	Fitzgerald-Lincoln	Tobin	Peabody	
K	152	40	52	244
1	148	31	89	268
2	147	41	83	271
3	113	38	65	216
4	122	37	50	209
5	120	28	64	212
6	122	31	45	198
7	107	36	43	186
8	103	50	46	199
	1,134	332	537	2,003

Note: Special Classes Not Included.

*Districts are bounded by the one-mile walking distance line and the equal distance line.

Table 6 shows those children within the Fitzgerald and Lincoln Schools Districts who are also within a one-mile walking distance of the new Tobin School.

Table 6: Number of Students, K-8, in the Fitzgerald, Lincoln & Peabody School Districts who are within One-Mile Walking Distance of Tobin School

Fitzgerald School District	389 K-8 Students
Lincoln School District	95 K-8 Students
Peabody School District	191 K-8 Students

Tables 7 through 10 show how each of the four options might be implemented and the hypothetical resultant alignment of affected schools. There is much flexibility available in each option and many other kinds of alignments may be deemed desirable by the School Department and the School Headmasters.

Final, firm room assignments can only be made at the time in which the precise demand matrix is available in September, 1972. New housing developments are, of course, the primary unknown component in the final demand matrix.

TABLE 7: Option 1

Required distribution: Pupils in grades K-3 residing in Jefferson Park Apartments and Rindge Towers will attend the M. E. Fitzgerald. Pupils in grades 4-8, also from Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers, will attend the new Tobin School.

Transport Alternatives: A) Bus pupils in grades 4-8 (Jefferson Park and Rindge Towers) to Tobin; B) Bus only pupils in grades 4-6; 7 and 8 grade pupils may walk to Tobin.

RESULTANT ALIGNMENT AND SCHOOL UTILIZATION - A SAMPLE

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Fitzgerald</u>			<u>Tobin</u>		
	<u>Enroll.</u>	<u>CR</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Enroll.</u>	<u>CR</u>	<u>Size</u>
K	131	3	44	44	1	44
1	127	4	32	39	2	20
2	122	4	31	58	2	29
3	92	3	31	42	2	21
4	66	2	33	70	3	24
5	55	2	28	81	3	27
6	66	2	33	64	2	32
7	65	2	33	95	3	32
8	57	2	29	102	4	26
Special	-			69	4	17
TOTAL	781	24		664	23+3	

TABLE 8: Option 2

Required distribution: Pupils in grades 7-8 residing in Jefferson Park Apartments and Rindge Towers attend Tobin. Use Lincoln to capacity -- K-3 only if possible.

Transport Alternatives: A) Bus 7th and 8th Grade pupils to Tobin; B) allow them to walk.

RESULTANT ALIGNMENT AND SCHOOL UTILIZATION - A SAMPLE

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Fitzgerald</u>			<u>Lincoln</u>			<u>Tobin</u>		
	<u>Enroll.</u>	<u>CR</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Enroll.</u>	<u>CR</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Enroll.</u>	<u>CR</u>	<u>Size</u>
K	72	2	36	80	1	80	44	1	44
1	127	4	32	26	1	26	39	2	20
2	122	4	31	25	1	25	58	2	29
3	92	3	31	26	1	26	42	2	21
4	73	3	25	48	2	24	33	2	17
5	96	3	32	25	1	25	41	2	21
6	84	3	28	44	2	22	28	1	28
7	65	2	33	-	-	-	95	3	32
8	57	2	29	-	-	-	102	4	26
Special	-	-	-	-	-	-	69	4	17
Total	790	26		274	1K 8 reg.		551	3 spec. 20 reg.	

TABLE 9: Option 3

Required Distribution: Use 8 classrooms at the Notre Dame de Pitie School to accommodate K-3 grades; use Lincoln to capacity.

Transport Alternatives: No busing is required.

Resultant Alignment and School Utilization - A Sample

Grade	Fitzgerald			Lincoln			Notre Dame		
	Enroll.	CR	Size	Enroll.	CR	Size	Enroll.	CR.	Size
K	40	1	40	80	1	80	32	2	16
1	87	3	29	26	1	26	40	2	20
2	82	3	28	25	1	25	40	2	20
3	92	3	31	26	1	26			
4	75	3	25	48	2	24	2 more cr available		
5	96	3	32	25	1	25			
6	84	3	28	44	2	22			
7	102	4	26	-	-	-			
8	90	3	30	-	-	-			
Special	-	-	-	-	-	-			
TOTAL	748	26		274	1K 8 reg.		112	6	

TABLE 10: Option 4

Required distribution: Pupils in grades 7-8 residing in Jefferson Park Apartments and Rindge Towers attend Tobin; use Notre Dame for K-3 pupils. Lincoln is left at present utilization.

Transport Alternatives: A) Bus 7th and 8th Grade pupils to Tobin; B) Allow them to walk.

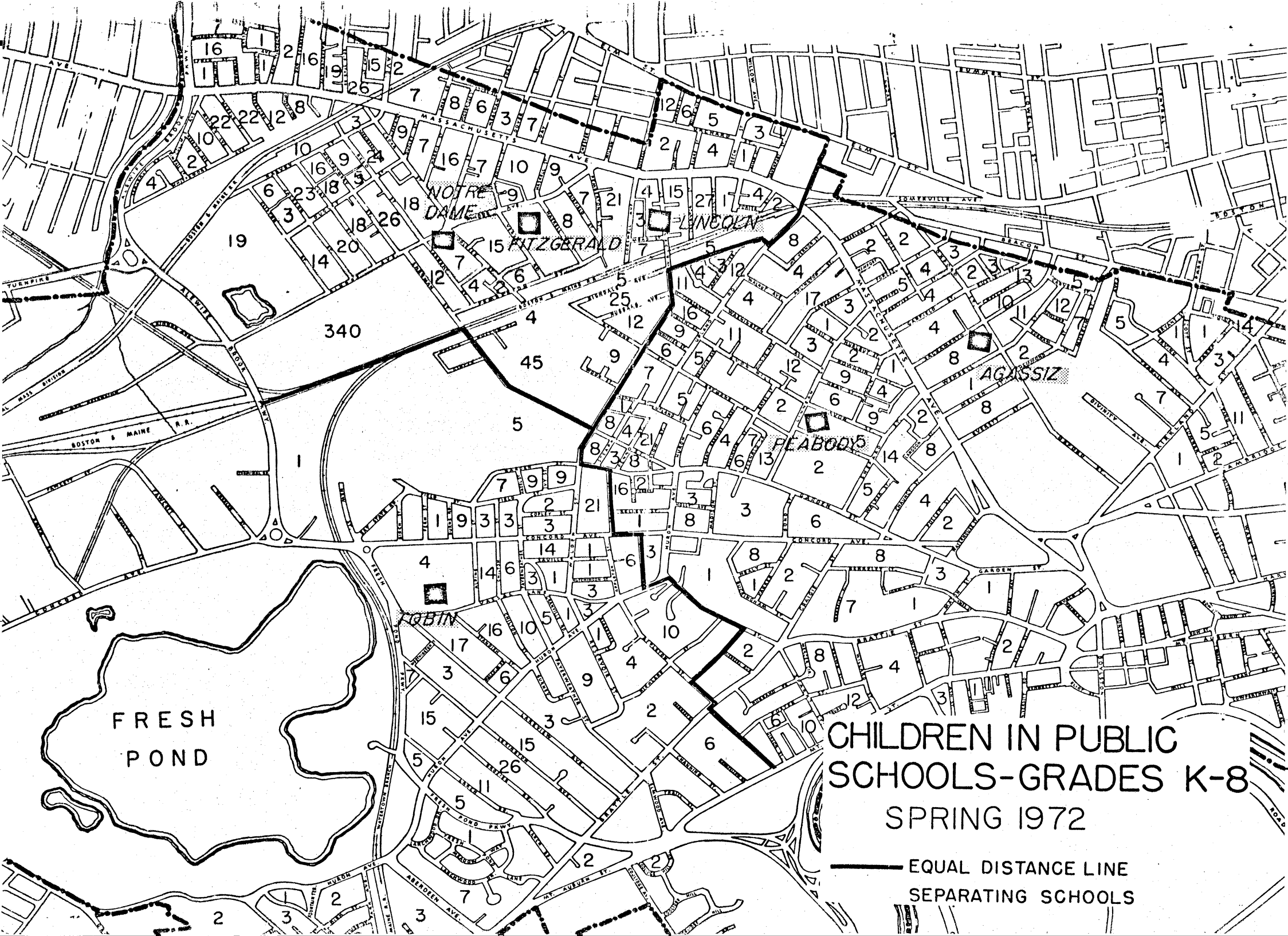
RESULTANT ALIGNMENT AND SCHOOL UTILIZATION - A SAMPLE

Grade	Fitzgerald			Notre Dame			Tobin		
	Enroll.	CR	Size	Enroll.	CR	Size	Enroll.	CR	Size
K	131	3	44	--	--	--	44	1	44
1	64	2	32	63	3	21	39	2	20
2	62	2	31	60	3	20	58	2	29
3	92	3	31				42	2	21
4	103	4	26				33	2	17
5	95	3	32				41	2	21
6	102	4	26				28	1	28
7	65	2	32				95	3	32
8	57	2	29				102	4	26
Special	--	--	--				69	4	17
Total	771	25					551		3 Spec. 20 Reg.

Table 11 gives some estimates of the costs of the four options given. Unit costs are based on the assumptions that the rent for one classroom at Notre Dame is \$2,000 per year and that the service on one bus making only one trip is \$50 per day for approximately 40 pupils. The latter is a conservative assumption because the small distances involved in the busing operation and the centralized location of the bused students certainly makes two and even three trips per bus a very reasonable alternative. Note that in all the cost estimates the present required busing of Follow Through children is not included. Busing of Rindge Tower students is eliminated entirely.

Table 11: Cost Estimates

<u>Option</u>	<u>Transport Alternative</u>	<u>One Year Cost</u>	<u>Five Year Cost</u>
1	A. Bus 4-8 Jefferson-Rindge pupils to Tobin - 3 buses	\$27,000	\$135,000
	B. Bus only grade 4-6 from above - 2 buses	\$18,000	\$ 90,000
	C. Everyone walks	\$0	\$0
2	A. Bus 7-8 Jefferson-Rindge to Tobin - 1 bus	\$ 9,000	\$45,000
	B. Everyone walks	\$0	\$0
3	8 Notre Dame Classrooms	\$16,000	\$80,000
4	A. 8 Notre Dame Classrooms and Bus 7-8 Jefferson-Rindge to Tobin	\$16,000	\$80,000
	Total	<u>\$ 9,000</u> \$25,000	<u>\$45,000</u> \$125,000
	B. 8 Notre Dame Classrooms with Everyone Walking	\$16,000	\$80,000



CHILDREN IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS-GRADES K-8 SPRING 1972

— EQUAL DISTANCE LINE
SEPARATING SCHOOLS



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 876-6800

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JOHN H. CORCORAN
City Manager

June 16, 1972

The Honorable, the School Committee
1700 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

The Honorable, the City Council
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear School Committee Members and Councillors:

I am pleased to submit herewith a report on the solution to the school overcrowding problem in North Cambridge. You will recall that several members of the City Council requested further study of the alternatives outlined in my letter of March 13, 1972.

Recent public discussion on this subject and reports in the public press have implied I am unwilling to proceed with the construction of a temporary pre-fabricated school because of the cost of doing so and the effect on the tax rate. While I am not unmindful of costs, the principal reason for not proceeding is because I am convinced there is enough space in existing school buildings and because I feel strongly we have an obligation to utilize fully the new school buildings we have constructed at considerable expense to the taxpayers of Cambridge.

What I said in my March 13, 1972 report still applies:

"In sum, as far as the temporary solution is concerned, I do not feel that the proposed expenditure of \$500,000. or more has been sufficiently justified, nor have other possible alternatives been fully examined."

The School Committee has not proven there is a need for a temporary pre-fabricated school, in the light of other available alternatives.

I have asked the Planning and Development Department to study the matter and determine whether, in fact, for the next year or more there could be a workable program of school assignments for children in the Fitzgerald School district that would minimize the number of children transferred. Using enrollment data obtained from the School Department and the standards of the School Committee; the Planning and Development Department has proven conclusively that there are several ways of overcoming the short-term overcrowding problem without significant disruption of existing school boundaries or massive bussing. I am impressed by the following pieces of information:

(10)

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COMMUNICATION

from the City Manager trans

~~mitting one from~~

relative to school overcrowding in
North Cambridge

June 19, 1972

Placed on File