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MEMORANDUM

To: Plymouth School Committee

From: Christopher Campbell, Superintendent of Schools

Date: April 7, 2025

Re: Recommendation for the Relocation of the Plymouth Early Childhood Center

Overview:

Under Massachusetts General Laws (M.G.L.) Chapter 71, Section 68, each town is required to "provide and maintain a sufficient number of schoolhouses, properly furnished and conveniently situated for the accommodation of all children therein entitled to attend the public schools."

I am recommending the relocation of the Plymouth Early Childhood Center (PECC) from its current location at Plymouth Community Intermediate School (PCIS), 117 Long Pond Road, to Plymouth South Middle School (PSMS), 488 Long Pond Road, effective July 1, 2026.

Rationale for Relocation:

Optimizing Learning Spaces – Moving PECC to PSMS will allow for a more dedicated early childhood learning environment while alleviating space limitations at PCIS. PSMS offers more overall space that will better accommodate the long-term needs of a growing cohort of early learners. These expanded spaces allow for flexible learning arrangements, enhanced student engagement, and better support for individualized instruction.

Improved Accessibility – PSMS offers facilities that better accommodate the needs of early learners. Additionally, the new location would include a dedicated and safer parent drop-off area, reducing congestion and improving overall student safety.

Operational Efficiency – The relocation aligns with our broader efforts, as specified in the <u>Strategic Plan</u>, to maximize the use of district facilities while maintaining high-quality educational programming. PSMS provides expansive storage for equipment and teacher materials, ensuring that educators have the necessary resources readily available without compromising instructional space.

Enhanced Collaboration and Educational Opportunities – The proximity of PSMS to Plymouth South High School presents unique benefits, particularly for students enrolled in the Early Childhood program. These students will have greater opportunities to engage with and

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support the preschool program, fostering hands-on learning experiences while strengthening the district's career and technical education pathways.

Infrastructure and Logistics—PSMS features expansive parking, which better accommodates staff, families, and visitors while improving traffic flow during drop-off and pickup times. This logistical improvement will enhance the overall accessibility and efficiency of school operations.

Minimal Disruption – The transition can be achieved with minimal impact on students, staff, and families, as both locations are within close proximity.

Recommendation:

Based on these factors, I respectfully recommend that the Plymouth School Committee approve the relocation of PECC from PCIS to PSMS, effective July 1, 2026. We are committed to ensuring that the transition, when it does occur, is as smooth and well supported as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Campbell, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools Plymouth Public Schools