

Town of Arlington · 2026 Annual Town Meeting  
May 6, 2026

## Warrant Article 67

# Hardy School HVAC Feasibility Study and Schematic Design

FY27 Appropriation Request

# \$375,000

Julie Wayman, Deputy Town Manager - Finance

# Why are we considering this?

- The Hardy School HVAC (existing buildings) is nearing end of life.
  - The Town supports the climate actions set out in our Net Zero Action Plan.
  - We expect grant funding to make a new electric system cost-competitive with gas replacement.
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*Article 67 appropriates \$375,000 to fund a study and schematic design to make the best decision for the town.*

*Due to our acceptance into the MSBA Accelerated Repair Program, the town will receive a 43% reimbursement (~\$161,250), resulting in a final cost of \$213,750.*

# We will evaluate four options - each with a different outcome.

## Gas (No A/C)

COST TO ARLINGTON

**\$3.97M**

No grants available

Air Conditioning  
Net Zero Aligned  
MSBA Eligible  
IRA Direct Pay  
Green School Works

## Gas + Air Conditioning

COST TO ARLINGTON

**\$8.87M**

No grants available

✓ **Air Conditioning**  
Net Zero Aligned  
MSBA Eligible  
IRA Direct Pay  
Green School Works

## Air Source Heat Pumps

COST TO ARLINGTON

**\$4.52M**

\$10.0M before grants

✓ **Air Conditioning**  
✓ **Net Zero Aligned**  
✓ **MSBA Eligible**  
✓ **Climate Leaders Eligible**  
IRA Direct Pay  
Green School Works

**LOWEST COST**

## Geothermal

COST TO ARLINGTON

**\$3.71M**

\$13.2M before grants

✓ **Air Conditioning**  
✓ **Net Zero Aligned**  
✓ **MSBA Eligible**  
✓ **IRA Direct Pay**  
✓ **Climate Leaders Eligible**  
✓ **Green School Works**

# Tonight starts a deliberate process.

1

May 6, 2026

Town Meeting votes YES on Article 67

2

Summer 2026

MSBA assigns project OPM and Designer. Feasibility study begins.

3

Spring 2027

Construction vote at Town Meeting as part of Capital Plan

# The impact of a NO vote.

- 1 Replacement happens regardless — potentially as a costly emergency**
- 2 Arlington exits grant and incentive programs already underway — MSBA, Green School Works, DOER, IRA, MassSave all require advance planning**
- 3 Opportunity to make progress on Arlington's Net Zero Action Plan goals missed until next replacement, approximately 20 years**

**“YES” authorizes \$375,000 to determine the best path forward for Hardy School's HVAC replacement.**

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- 1 Preserves eligibility for MSBA, IRA Direct Pay, MassSave, Climate Leaders, and Green School Works funding**
- 2 Returns to Town Meeting in Spring 2027 with a full design and cost picture — no construction is authorized tonight**
- 3 Positions Hardy School for air conditioning and long-term Net Zero alignment**
- 4 Avoids a costlier, unplanned emergency gas replacement with no funding offsets**