

Starksboro Community Forum on Robinson Elementary School



August 10, 2021

Why are we here?

Due to a pattern of declining enrollment and rising costs in our school district (MAUSD), Superintendent Reen **proposed to “repurpose” (i.e. close) Robinson Elementary School.**

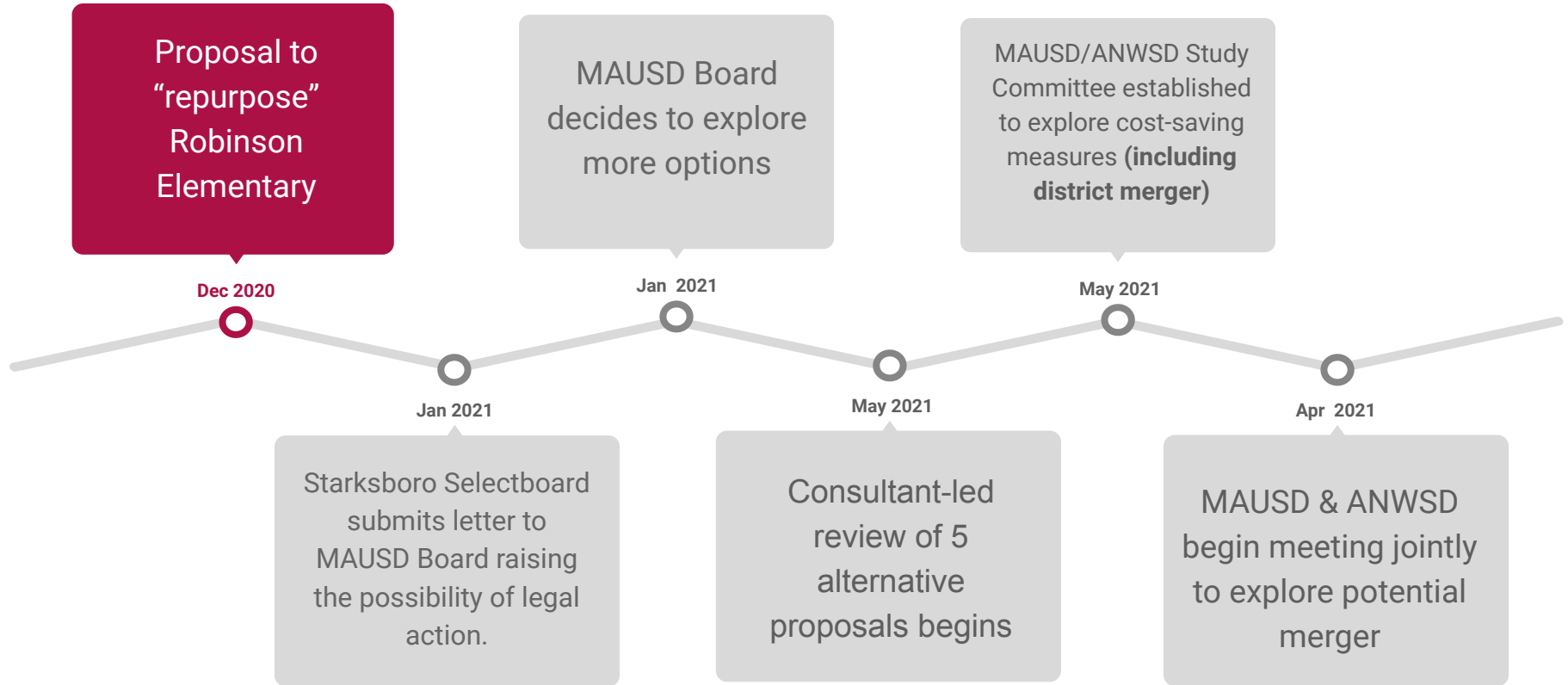
That proposal has been tabled pending

1. A consultant-led review of alternative proposals solicited from the 5 town community and submitted in May, and of the superintendent's proposal.
2. A joint ANWSD/MAUSD Study Committee, which is currently exploring cost-saving measures for both districts.

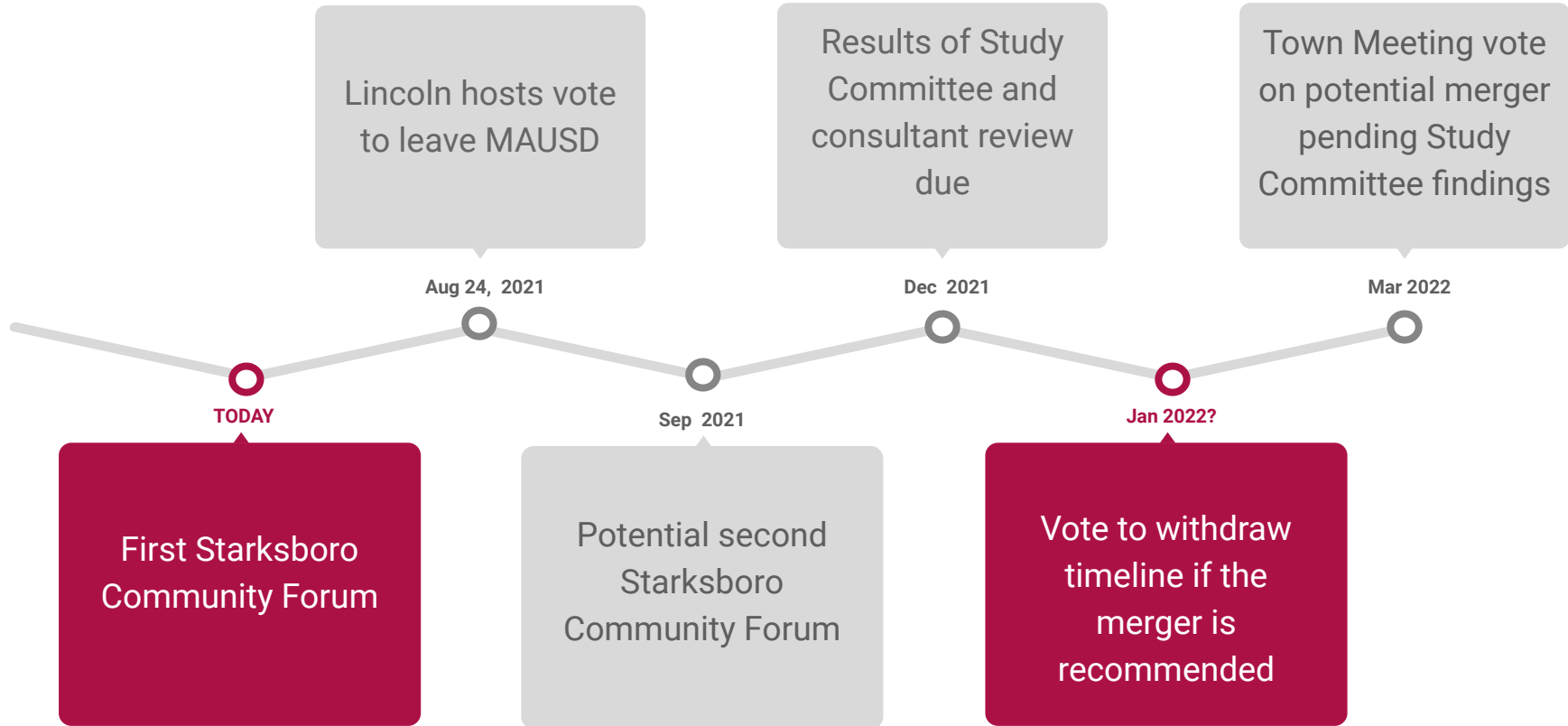
On the table: A potential merger between the two districts.



Timeline of Events, 1 of 2



Timeline of Events, continued



What could this mean for us?

- Potential closure of Robinson Elementary
- Potential merger with Addison Northwest School District
- Potential to have our own independent Robinson School
- ?
- ?



What are our options?

- We should make our voices heard by attending the meetings (which are all public)
- We should speak with Brad Johnson and/or Stephen Rooney, who are on the School Board and on the Study Committee (Brad only)
- We should impress upon the School Board and the Study Committee (as we have done already) that if they choose to close (or "repurpose") Robinson, we should get to have a Starksboro-only vote on that action, and EVERY town should have that right, as agreed when MAUSD was formed.
- We could vote to leave the school district



What are our next steps?

- Updates from Selectboard via FPF and/or another community forum
- Join up with the Starksboro School Advocacy Group (SSAG) (see [Nancy Cornell](#) and/or Herb Olson)
- Research into what it means to withdraw from the school district (Ripton has almost completed their process from the Middlebury SD and Lincoln is voting to do so later this month)
- Share your perspectives with Selectboard and/or SSAG
- Get/stay involved!



Questions/Discussion



Thank you for
coming
out tonight!

