

---

# NAUSET NEWS

---

## Nauset Regional High School Building Project

---

### *Student Spotlight*



What do students at Nauset Regional High School think of their school? K.C. Myers of the Provincetown Independent interviewed eight Nauset students who share their Nauset experiences and their opinion on the need for renovations at the high school. They also address the topic of School Choice. Hear what the students have to say at [StudentVoices](#).



### *Want the FAQs?*

- What is the Nauset renovation project?
- Why do we need it?
- What will it cost me?
- What is the benefit?
- What is (not) on the March 30 ballot?

To answer these questions and get even more details on the renovation project, go to:

[NausetRenovationFAQs](#) and [NausetProjectOverview](#)



## FAQs - School Choice

### What is School Choice?

The Massachusetts Inter-district School Choice Program was established in 1991. The Nauset Regional District began participating in the Choice program in 1997, at which time Nauset had 5.5 FTE students coming to Nauset through Choice and 13.8 FTE students leaving the District through Choice. Today every Cape Cod traditional public high school participates in School Choice. In the current school year 262 students from other Districts came to Nauset High School and Middle School through the Choice program and 43 Nauset students left the the District through Choice.

### What are the Benefits of School Choice?

School Choice brings Nauset both students and resources. Whether drawn to a particular school through its academic, arts, or athletic programs or other personal preference, Choice allows students to choose the school that they believe best fits their educational needs while increasing the diversity at the receiving school. Choice students also bring revenue (\$5000/student plus special education funds). Over the last 11 years, Nauset has received an average of over \$1.6 million per year from the Choice program. This income stream allowed the District to broaden and deepen the curriculum for all students and to reduce annual assessments to member towns.

### What is the Cost of School Choice?

For the most part, School Choice students are admitted to a district on a “space available” basis and additional costs are limited to the cost of consumable supplies. Why doesn't it cost more, e.g., the difference between a district's per pupil cost and the \$5000 Choice tuition? To answer this, one needs to differentiate between fixed and variable costs as well as consider the distribution of students and class size. Choice students are distributed across existing classes, increasing class size from e.g., 15 to 20. The cost of the classroom, teacher, utilities, etc. are fixed and do not increase with the additional students. No additional teachers were hired at the Middle School to accommodate Choice students. Because additional electives were added to the curriculum at the high school, it is estimated that about 6.5 FTE teachers are required to cover the expanded curriculum, the cost of which is more than covered by Choice revenue.

### What would happen if we eliminated School Choice?

Just as the School Choice program brings Nauset students and resources, we would lose both if we stopped participating in School Choice. There would be fewer students to populate many of the elective and extracurricular classes, and unless member towns increased their assessments to make up for the lost revenue, there would be fewer classes. The reduction in classes would come about by cutting programs from the curriculum - any class not required for graduation as well as extracurricular activities would be vulnerable to cuts. Opting out of School Choice for the District does not mean that Nauset resident students would be precluded from choosing to attend school in another district. Choosing out of one's school district is open to all students in Massachusetts.

### Is the March 30 vote about School Choice?

No. The March 30 vote only concerns the proposed NRHS renovation; it is not a referendum on School Choice.

### JOIN US for Informational Zoom Meetings

The topic for the next informational zoom meeting will be School Choice. Please join us for this presentation on Wednesday, March 17 at 6:30 p.m. Participants are encouraged to submit their questions during the Zoom meeting for the Q&A session that will follow the presentation.

<https://zoom.us/j/91924602088>

US: +1 929 205 6099 Webinar ID: 919 2460 2088