

**Press Release  
For Immediate Release  
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### **Banwell Architect's Work Progresses at The GRS Cooperative Schools**

[Banwell Architects](#) of Lebanon, NH and their subcontractors have begun their work on the Gorham Middle High and the Ed Fenn Elementary schools. Their focus over the next 6 weeks will include a comprehensive top to bottom analysis of the structural, mechanical and electrical systems of the buildings. "On March 31, architect David Laurin, President of Banwell walked out of the SAU 20 office with numerous studies and drawings of our schools," says Pauline Plourde, Business Administrator of SAU #20. "Banwell and a number of their subcontractors have returned to look carefully over every inch of our schools. Aiding them are all of the materials we have provided them. In preparing their report, some previous studies will only need to be updated, and the areas that have not been yet addressed will be added in."

Simultaneously, Mr. Laurin has begun a process of meetings with Patrick Low, Keith Parent and Paul Bousquet; Superintendent of SAU #20 and the Principals of the GMHS and the Ed Fenn respectively. They have called together a committee of core faculty members and department heads. This group will compile their needs and visions for the educational needs study, that Banwell is conducting. "This is an extremely important part of the process," says a Building Committee member. "Our teachers, staff, and the Superintendent will have direct input into the report that Banwell is preparing. The combination of the building condition portion of the analysis combined with the educational needs analysis will result in a series of presentations to the taxpayers addressing the current condition of our facilities, what we need to deliver today's and tomorrow's curriculum, and most importantly the launching point for the discussion as to how configure the buildings to best deliver quality education." "These upcoming public meetings will give the citizens of the Cooperative their chance to see, hear and respond to what kind of schools are needed to ensure that our children get the best education we can give them," comments a member of the Committee. "After the initial series of meetings, the Building Committee and School Board will meet with Banwell to adjust the plans, taking into consideration the consensus of the public feedback. These are our schools, and we all need to make sure our needs are heard and included in the process. Having an experienced firm like Banwell is invaluable, but they can only deliver a superior product, provided we all take part in this process. In the coming weeks we will be announcing the schedule of public meetings. Please join us and let us hear from you!"

Visit the Building Committee's webpage on the SAU #20 website, at [www.sau20.org/building](http://www.sau20.org/building), for up to date information on the Banwell work, the progress of your Building Committee. For more information contact a Committee Member, School Board member or the SAU20 office, at 466-3632.