

School 12 Parent and Staff

Move and Renovation Questions:

As of 4/9/14- responses: Answers provided by Principal Liguori-Alampi

Renovation:

Q: How can we be sure it will only be 2 years? Please clarify the project start date and reason for re-bidding the project.-

A: This will be covered in the PTA meeting on site at Jefferson on April 24th. Tour of the building is at 4 and the meeting starts at 5.

Q: Can we get regular updates and a timeline for construction?

A: We will continue to post this information on this website.

On return:

Q: Can we have tours of the new building before returning?

A: This will be arranged when we near this date. We will also hold an orientation at the start of the school year when we return.

Q: What is the timeline for converting to a k-8 school? Will it be immediate on returning to 12? Will there be clear communication for next year's 4th and 5th grade families so they know if there child can remain at 12 through 8th grade.

A: We are awaiting more information on this from CO. This question has been forwarded for discussion and answer from CO.

Q: Will there be a clear cell phone policy for us as a grow-out school?

A: Yes, it will be the same as our current policy outlined in the Parent and Staff Handbooks

Transportation:

Q: How will transportation be provided? How long will the bus ride be? (2 hours on the bus each day is hard to digest.)

A: All students, regardless of their current addresses, will receive transportation. The routes are determined by the Transportation Department and try and be 45 minutes in length. At times they are

longer (up to an hour). This is a long commute for some students. Most students currently have about a 45 minute commute each way.

Temporary Home and RIA

Q: Can kids go on Jefferson tours with us?

A: Yes, and many have. We are also arranging all to go to Jefferson during the school day.

Q: Will our current teachers/ staff be going to the new location?

A: Yes, any changes in staffing would have occurred during the normal staffing adjustment process.

Q: How old are the students in the RIA program at Jefferson? How much interaction will there be? Will our kids be able to move freely (for things like intervention)? Will they be safe moving with bigger kids in the building? Will we have sentries?

A: Students in RIA range from Grades 4- 12. There are around 200 students in the school. They are all recent immigrants to this country and have minimal behavioral issues. Interaction on a daily basis will be limited as RIA is on its own floor and runs its own instructional program. Intervention groups will not be mixed. However, we are looking into joint projects with the school. We do not anticipate any safety issues with RIA students. There are four Safety and Security Officers. One is at the front door. Two are on our first and third floors and one is with RIA on the second floor.

Q: What are the playground/ outdoor space like?

A: Come and see the site to check out the playground and the recess spaces. There are many.

A: Is there air conditioning at Jefferson?

Q: There is limited AC in the building. The only rooms with AC are the tech labs.

Q: Once the Rec Center renovation is done is it possible to have evening activities there instead of Jefferson?

A: This may be a possibility. We have had off-site PTA meetings in the past.

Q: Will there be a kick-a-poo?

A: Yes, it is tentatively located under the dome in the front of the cafeteria.

Issues:

Q: Who can I speak to if I feel the move is not beneficial for my child? What are my options?

A: As always, the Parent Liaison, Susan Allen, is your first line of defense to get you the help you need. If you feel you would like to transfer your child, then a voluntary transfer form needs to be completed by the deadline designated by the Placement Center. These forms are available in the main office.

This question was asked in an earlier meeting and the answer sent to all parents. If you chose to remove your child during the move and then plan of returning to School 12 when we come back to South Ave., placement stated that a seat cannot be held for you during these two years. You would be able to return only if a seat was available at the time of our return to the newly renovated building.

Q: How will parents and children be helped during the transition?

A: We have held a series of meetings and visits to the new site to get our families and staff comfortable with the space. We will hold an on-site orientation at the end of the summer before the new year starts to let all see the classrooms ready for the start of the school year. We are bringing all K-5th graders to visit the school in June. We will continue to be responsive to the needs of our School 12 community and address any issues as they arise. We have arranged for our school artwork to hang as banners in the school. The first floor is being painted our lilac and purple colors and our artwork will be hung in the building. We will try and maintain as many of our normal routines and procedures as possible and be clear on any new policies and procedures due to the building design. These will also be explained in the Parent and Staff Handbooks and reviewed at the beginning of the school year. They will be available on the school website and through our PTA communications. There is also a Parent Room on the first floor for community use. This will house a communication board.

Suggestions:

A message board out in front of Jefferson

There is a bulletin board there now and we will use to communicate with all families. Signage will clearly show School 12 locations.

A map (posted and sent home) showing where classes (teachers) and offices and other essential personnel are located at Jefferson.

This is now posted on the School 12 website. Remember, this is tentative and subject to staffing and room assignment changes.

Lots of signs/arrows

In the works!

Distribute a timeline for the building process to all families with regular updates

We will request this from Gilbane who is in charge our project.

Teachers may want to enlist parent help with packing/ unpacking.

We have a professional packing team coming to help teachers and staff pack. They will be available for three weeks in June on a first come, first served basis. Teachers may use the packing teams if they want. Teachers may ask their parents to help with packing/unpacking as they need. This is up to

individual teachers. Everything must be packed and moved by the last day of school. We have a packing meeting planned for staff at the end of May.

Students should also tour the school so they know what to expect.

Response: There was one school tour on April 2 from 4-5 and many children came. Right before the April 24 PTA meeting there will be another tour from 4-5. We also are taking all K-5 children to the school in June. School #5 and RIA have been gracious to allow us to invade their space during the school day (Thanks Mrs. Wideman and Ms. Diaz).

I like that our students eat in the classrooms. Even if there is room for all the students at breakfast please consider having some eat in their classrooms.

Students on the first floor (K-1) will eat in their classrooms. We are working on deciding where those on the third floor will eat. Those that eat in the cafeteria will be able to eat hot food.