

February 1, 2019

Dear Parents and School Community,

This letter is to update you on our Northeast school expansion projects as it relates to the new school on Ryan Avenue. As you are aware, this part of the city is growing rapidly resulting in high student enrollment and overcrowding in many schools in the Mayfair, Holmesburg and Academy Gardens communities.

In order to achieve a successful environment for all students and to alleviate the overcrowding, the School District will build a new school located on the Lincoln-Meehan campus. The process to build the new school involves critical input from our school communities, parents and families.

What We've Done So Far

Since May of 2018, we have hosted 10 community meetings to present data supporting the need to construct a new school in the Lincoln High school catchment. Additionally, stakeholders were asked to provide feedback on the grade organization of the new school (6-8 Middle School or K-8 School). The overwhelming preference of the community was for the new school to be a K-8 elementary school.

What's Next

The next phase of the project has two steps: selecting a developer; and conducting an enrollment study to identify the attendance boundaries for the new school. In December, the Board of Education approved Gilbane Development Company to serve as the Developer for the new school. The District has partnered with Cooperative Strategies to perform the enrollment study. Cooperative Strategies has extensive experience performing enrollment studies across the country. The end result of this work will be a set of options for the attendance boundary for the new school. In order to provide updates on the new school and gather feedback on the attendance boundaries, the District will host a series of meetings for families to attend.

New School Project Update Meetings

Tuesday, February 19, 4-6pm at Lincoln High School

Thursday, February 21, 6-8pm at Lincoln High School

School Specific Boundary Meetings

Mayfair Elementary and Meehan Middle School - Saturday, March 2, 10am-12pm at Mayfair

Forrest and Brown Elementary Schools - Tuesday, March 5, 4-6pm at Forrest Elementary School

Pollock and Holme Elementary Schools- Wednesday, March 6, 6-8pm at Pollock Elementary School

We look forward to seeing you at one of these meetings and hearing your feedback on the boundary process.

Sincerely,

Danielle Floyd, Chief Operating Officer



Shawn Bird, Ed.D., Chief of Schools

