

Summer 2019 Carpenter Update

Dear Carpenter Families,

With great anticipation, we are planning for the start of the 2019-2020 academic school year. Our focus is to ensure that each student at Carpenter Elementary School realizes his or her aspirations, while advancing the common good by creating a world-class system of innovative teaching and learning.

We are continuing with exciting plans for enhancement of the Carpenter campus. A current update of the physical improvements underway this summer at Carpenter includes:

- upgrades to the cafeteria/kitchen area to improve efficiency and the student lunch experience
- a redesign to improve traffic flow and address traffic congestion and safety issues, including two separated drop-off areas for busses and parent drop off, and
- installation of the six-classroom addition which includes project space, offices, restrooms, and is fully air conditioned

We would like to thank the many parents who attended our community meetings throughout last school year and provided perspective through reflective dialogue. Our district team remains committed to the identified priorities, enhancing the physical property to better serve students while maintaining the tremendous community feel at Carpenter elementary.

In an effort to ensure that we fully engage our students and offer the most robust and engaging K8 experience at Carpenter, we will phase the transition to a K8 campus, with the upcoming 2019-2020 academic school year as a planning year and the addition of 6th grade in the 2020-2021 school year. In this way, we can fully engage our current rising 5th graders throughout this next school year, leveraging their perspectives to co-create a meaningful, quality K8 experience. The additional modular classrooms will provide air-conditioned space for our 4th and 5th grade students for the 2019-2020 school year, relieving space needs within the current building.

Families that had identified themselves as interested in attending sixth grade at Carpenter for the 2019-2020 school year will have the opportunity to attend another district middle school. Those specific families have already heard from us directly.

Importantly, the school day will maintain the elementary schedule for the 2019-2020 school year: start and end time times, 8:56am-3:59pm.

We look forward to welcoming those students who choose to participate as members of the inaugural group of sixth graders in the 2020-2021 school year. We are excited to

engage with students throughout the coming year to ensure that their perspective is reflected in the plans for expanding the wonderful Carpenter community.

Sincerely,

Jeanice K. Swift
Superintendent of Schools

Michael Johnson
Principal, Carpenter Elementary School

Jazz Parks
Executive Director, K-8 and Middle Schools