

WE Families,

We want to let you know about changes you can expect **beginning in August, 2020.**

West Elementary continues to grow in our student enrollment. As a result, we have reached the point of no longer having available classroom space in Building F for all third and fourth-grade classes. However, we do have available classrooms on the lower campus in Buildings A and D. After carefully considering what is best for our students, families, and staff as well as what is fiscally responsible to our patrons, **we will be reconfiguring grade levels within buildings at West Elementary over the next two years to include the following grade levels by August 2021:**

Building B: PK-No Changes
Building A: K-Fourth Grade
Building D: K-Fourth Grade
Building F: 1st-Fourth Grade

In an effort to make our large, six building campus feel smaller, we will be reconfiguring grade levels within buildings to provide all students more continuity in the same building to develop stronger relationships with one another and our staff. Beginning in August 2021, approximately one-third of our students, staff, and families will have a minimum of four years (1st-4th grade) in Building F and two-thirds of our students, staff and families will be in the same building for five years (K-4) in Buildings A and D. Each building will have a minimum of 100 students per grade level, giving our students a large, heterogeneous peer group.

Having more continuity with students for multiple years gives our staff the gift of time to build long-term relationships with students and families. This configuration will also help us keep grade level class sizes similar from building to building. Our grade level teaching teams will continue weekly collaboration to ensure we are providing equitable educational experiences for our students across all grade levels and buildings. We will continue to offer looping and multiage options in each of our buildings.

Between now and then, we will be working with District leaders to ensure we make the appropriate facility adjustments (i.e., playground equipment, STEM lab, STEM teacher) for our students across the campus.

What will happen in August 2020?

Four classes of third grade students will be relocated to Building D, with four experienced third-grade teachers, Ms. Cleary, Ms. Denton, Ms. Forgy, and Ms. Fields. Approximately 100 current second graders in Building D will remain in Building D to continue for third and fourth-grade.

What will happen in August 2021?

Additional third and fourth-grade classes (approximately eight total) will be relocated to Building A. First and second-grade classes in Buildings A and D (approximately six total) will be moved to Building F. We will establish a first/second-grade multiage class in Building F and third/fourth-grade multiage classes in Buildings A and D.

We will be sharing this information and answering questions at the following times:

- **WE Parent Information Meeting, March 10th, 6:00-6:45 p.m. (Building E Gym)**
- **WE PTAG Meeting, March 11th, 9:30-10:30 a.m. (Building A Commons)**

Please feel free to visit our **website** or email if you have specific questions. We appreciate your patience, open-mindedness, and support as we work through this process.

Suzanne Lair, Site Principal