

FAQs from 3/11/25 MSM Community Forum

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) - Middle School Transition

1. Concern: "Can you please show the slides again with the breakdown of schools and what classes they will have?"

- **Q: Will the district provide a clear breakdown of which schools students will attend and what classes will be offered?**
 - **A:** Yes, we will re-share the presentation slides in digital format on our District's website.

2. Concern: "Self contained needs consistency"

- **Q: How will the district ensure consistency for students in self-contained classrooms during the transition?**
 - **A:** We understand that students within self-contained classrooms need consistency. We are working to ensure that the transition will be as smooth as possible for those students. This includes, where possible, maintaining existing staff, and consistent routines.

3. Concern: "Why don't you care that the community does not agree with this new model that you want to implement? The community does not agree with this new model and you just ignore us."

- **Q: Is the district ignoring community concerns about the new middle school model?**
 - **A:** We understand the frustration expressed. We deeply value community input. We are not ignoring your concerns. The purpose of these meetings is to listen and respond. We are committed to ongoing dialogue and will be holding an additional meeting on April 3, 2025.

4. Concern: "In the presentation, there was mention about expanding the gifted and talented program. Is there another phase that will discontinue use of school 28/PAGT and return gifted and talented students to district schools? Or will these new elementary schools and middle schools implement their own GT programs within the school? What is the impact on school 28/PAGT from this middle school model? Academically, I don't believe my child would receive the same level of education at a GT program within a district school. That is the real concern of parents with children in school 9 who now have to send their children to Hani A. The concern is that the level of education is going to decline."

- **Q: What will happen to the Gifted and Talented (GT) program, and what is the impact on School 28/PAGT?**
 - **A:** We are committed to maintaining and enhancing our GT programs. We are exploring various models for GT programs within the new middle school

structure, including the possibility of school-based GT programs. We will provide detailed information regarding the future of School 28/PAGT as the transition progresses.

5. Concern: "I suggest that you partner with city officials to clean up the street from vagrants, litter etc. Our children will now be frequenting these streets and they deserve clean environments. We need more community patrols and crossing guards. We also need solutions for traffic during pick up and drop off. All these latent effects from the change should be considered."

- **Q: How will the district address safety and environmental concerns in the areas surrounding the new middle schools?**
 - **A:** We will partner with city officials to address safety concerns, including increased community patrols, crossing guards, and traffic management. We are committed to creating safe and clean environments for our students.

6. Concern: Buying new uniforms

- **Q: Will students have to purchase new uniforms due to the school changes?**
 - **A:** Each building principal will determine their site's uniform expectations.

7 . Concern: Before and After Care

- **Q: Will before and after school care be provided and is there a cost to parents?**
 - **A:** A staff member will be available between 7:45 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. and after school between 3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. There is no additional cost to the parent, but this is only applicable to students in grades K-5.