



Wilkinsburg School District

718 WALLACE AVENUE
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OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

May 16, 2017,

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

We are all very excited about the upcoming renovations at Turner Elementary School that will improve the learning environment of our students. The renovations will include: upgrading building systems such as heating, cooling, plumbing, lighting and safety/security technology; replacing exterior windows and doors, repairing masonry, repainting, installing news ceilings and floors, as well as making ADA and Code improvements.

While these extensive renovations are underway, Turner Elementary School students will be moved into the Wilkinsburg High School building for the 2017-2018 academic year. This temporary move into the Wilkinsburg High School building will eliminate classroom disruptions from the heavy construction and provide a safe learning environment.

Wednesday, May 24 and Thursday, May 25, 2017: Student Field Trips & Tours

We have arranged field trips so Turner students and teachers across all grades can tour the Wilkinsburg High School building on Wednesday, May 24 and Thursday, May 25, 2017. Teachers and students will have the opportunity to see model classrooms and become familiar with their building.

Wednesday, June 7, 2017: Open House

We've also arranged an Open House for you and your families on the evening of Wednesday, June 7, 2017 from 4:00-6:00 at the high school. During this Open House, you will be able to enjoy refreshments, see model classrooms, and tour the facilities, as well as have any questions about the move answered in person. A flyer with detailed information will be sent home on Monday, June 5, 2017.

We hope you will both take note as well as participate in the events listed above as we aim to make the transition for the upcoming academic year as comfortable and smooth as possible.

Please see the attached FAQ sheet for additional information about the move and transition process. If you still have questions after reviewing the FAQ sheet and attending the Open House, please reach out to Ms. Tanya Smith, principal, Turner Elementary School.

Sincerely,

Dr. Linda J. Iverson
Superintendent of Wilkinsburg Schools

Wilkinsburg High School Reopening for Elementary During Next Year Turner School Renovations

Frequently Asked Questions

What students are affected?

Everyone at Turner Elementary School – including staff and students in grades PreK-6th— will be moving to the high school building next year.

How long will Turner students attend school in the high school building?

For the entirety of the 2017-2018 academic year.

What renovations are being done to the Turner Elementary School building next year?

Over the summer and throughout the 2017-2018 academic year, Turner Elementary School will undergo exciting but extensive renovations. The scope of work includes upgrading building systems such as heating, cooling, plumbing, lighting and safety/security technology; replacing exterior windows and doors, repairing masonry, repainting, installing news ceilings and floors, as well as making ADA and Code improvements.

Why are Turner students moving to the high school?

We believe that temporarily moving students and staff while the heavy construction takes place at Turner will ensure the least amount of disruption possible in their learning and instruction. Moving to the high school building will eliminate the noise, dust and the frequent movement of their classrooms during the different phases of construction at Turner.

How much of the high school is reopening?

General use rooms like the cafeteria, gymnasium, auditorium and library will reopen. Grades PreK-3rd will be located on the first floor, and the second-floor classrooms will be used for the older students in grades 4th-6th. The third and fourth floors will be closed off to all students.

How will the district make sure the building is a suitable environment for elementary students?

A part of preparing the high school building for elementary students includes furnishing it with the smaller desks, chairs and tables moved from Turner Elementary School. The classrooms and hallways will also be cleaned and outfitted with colorful charts, bulletin boards, posters, rugs and all the other hallmarks of a typical elementary school classroom.

Will the district incur extra costs using the high school for this temporary use?

A portion of Turner's renovations budget has been set aside to reopen the high school building. This budget includes funds for cleaning up the high school and decorating its spaces so that it is welcoming to our elementary students.

Will there be transportation?

Yes. Details about bus stops and pick up times will be provided prior to the beginning of the year.

Will there be opportunities to see the high school before the start of the new year?

Yes. Before the end of the school year, on Wednesday, May 24 and Thursday, May 25, 2017 students and teachers at every grade level will go on a field trip to the high school to see model classrooms and tour the building. Younger students, PreK-3rd grade, will visit the school in the afternoon on Wednesday, May 24, 2017 and older students, grades 4th-6th, will visit in the afternoon on Thursday, May 25, 2017.

For the parents/guardians of Turner Elementary School students, the district will host an Open House at Wilkinsburg High School on Wednesday, June 7, 2017 from 4:00-6:00. At that time, families can come see the model classrooms, tour the facilities and ask questions in person. A second Open House opportunity will be scheduled on Monday, August 14, 2017 from 4:00-6:00 at the high school to provide parents with specific information about registration and transportation prior to the opening of school.

Are Kelly students moving to the high school, as well?

No. While Kelly Elementary will also undergo major renovations – to the outside entrance of the building, the internal lighting system and to the kitchen – these renovations will cause minimal disruption to the daily operation of the school and to the classrooms over the summer and throughout the next school year.

Where and when will registration be held for prospective Turner students?

Registration for prospective Turner students will be held at the Wilkinsburg High School, 747 Wallace Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15221, beginning July 10, 2017. Parents are asked to use the North Street entrance.