

FACTS ABOUT . . .

MetroWest Elementary on-site relief (84-E-W-4)

Orange County Public Schools is in the design process for the creation of two K-5 elementary schools on the current site of MetroWest Elementary. Once completed for the opening of school in Fall 2017, the two schools will provide permanent space for all of the students at the current school. Here are answers to some common questions:

How will OCPS ensure the schools will be equitable?

Each campus will include existing school buildings as well as some new ones. New spaces will be equipped with furniture and technology comparable to other new OCPS elementary schools. When completed, each campus will have a cafeteria as well as PE, art, music and other spaces comparable to other new OCPS elementary schools.

How is the public being included in the process?

The community is a key part of the construction process for any new OCPS school. At MetroWest, a meeting was held April 8 to inform and gather feedback from the public about early plans for on-site relief of the school. Based in part on that input, two K-5 schools are being designed.

In addition, the community input process includes public meetings at the project's 30 percent and 100 percent design stages. The 30 percent design proposal will be shared and discussed at a meeting set for 6 p.m. Jan. 6 at MetroWest Elementary. An update will also be provided when construction is 40 percent complete, and a "sneak peek" held before the schools open.

How will rezoning work?

The rezoning process will begin with a meeting in mid-January 2016 and conclude in March. At least one public meeting will be held. Primary considerations by the Student Enrollment department include ensuring that the two schools have a balance of student population and demographics and that neighborhoods are kept together when possible.

How many students will attend the schools?

Two schools are being designed with a permanent capacity of 837 students each. The current enrollment of MetroWest is approximately 1,600 students. As with the current school, enrollment will not be capped.

How will traffic be managed?

The creation of a second campus should divide the current traffic flow between two schools. The new plans include more space for parent drop-off and pick-up than currently exists. A traffic study is being commissioned and the district is working with other government entities on possible roadway improvements. OCPS is also considering staggered start and end times for the two campuses.

How will teaching and learning be affected during construction?

Construction activity will be separated from student activity by fencing in order to have the least impact on teaching and learning. Any workers who will be on the main campus while students are present will be background checked. There are currently no plans to increase the number of portables due to construction.

What will happen to teachers, staff and administration?

After administrators are named for both schools, a process will be set up to ease transfers and ensure a smooth transition for school employees.

What other school construction projects will be affected?

The construction plans for MetroWest do not affect other planned school projects in the area.

When can I learn more?

- 1) Attend the community meeting at 6 p.m. Jan. 6
- 2) Contact School Board member Pam Gould at pamela.gould@ocps.net. She has also recorded a video update on the MetroWest relief project, which has been posted for your convenience at <https://youtu.be/PxPVifBqDN4>.
- 3) Contact Lauren Roth, OCPS Facilities Communications Manager, at 407-317-3700 x2023774 or lauren.roth@ocps.net.