

Co-location Q&A (update April 16th)

Here is a list of questions your parent representatives on the School Site Council have been gathering from the community. Our administrators have answered many of them and will continue to update this list with new questions and answers as they come in.

Q: Will our students mingle with the other LAUSD elementary students? Since we'll be on the same campus, will we share an entrance / restrooms / playground / lunch service / security personnel?

A: Once LFCSA formally accepts this final offer, the District will then sets up a timeline for administrators of both schools to meet and discuss the share of the facilities. Our parents will be invited to give their feedback as we begin to build a relationship with the school we are sharing a campus with.

Q: How will CAP (Coyote After School Program) work? Will there be CAP at both campuses? Will the programming differ in any way?

A: CAP will be at both campuses. We anticipate the programming to be the same as our current model. There may be smaller adjustments to the enrichment offerings given that our co-location will be serving students in the lower grade levels, the programming will have a focus on the early childhood developmental needs of this age group. We want to be able to send as many of our current CAP staff to the co-location as we can to help maintain familiarity and program cohesion.

Q: Will the PE & Arts Specialist teachers go over to the co-location campus once a week? If not, how will the specials work for the other campus?

A: Specialists will commute between both campuses. Now that we know our co-location, we can begin working with our Specialists to plan the logistics.

Q: Will we share one PTA and Site Council, as well as other committees?

A: The elementary PTA and School Site Council, are responsible for the goals, action plans, events, etc. for the elementary school only. The Middle School will have its own PTA, Site Council and committees.

Q: Will there be a bus between locations?

A: Although we love this idea, it is not an option we can afford at this time.

Q: Will drop off/pick up times be coordinated between the two locations? How?

A: We will be looking into various time frame models, to help with commuting for parents w/ siblings on both campuses. We will work to create a large enough window of time between the locations in a way that doesn't negatively impact the full operation of both locations.

Q: Will events be held in both locations? (E.g. pep rallies, Halloween Town, Art Walks, Friday Coffees, etc.)

A: Some events will be held at both locations (e.g. pep rallies), some will be held at only one location and the entire community will be invited, this is to ensure our community stays connected.

Q: When can we start to design/decorate the new space? Will the Build Committee be involved?

A: We love the idea of a co-location Build Committee and appreciate any help from our parent community we can get! Be on the look out for times when we will be able to visit the school to see what the possibilities are.

Q: Can we contact the school or visit the school on our own?

A. Please DO NOT CONTACT the school directly - LFCSA needs to go through the Prop 39 office for all communications/meetings.

Q: When will we know which teachers/classes will be at the new location?

A: We anticipate having next year's teacher assignments out by May.

Q: What are the immediate and long-term plans for the K/1 combined classes? Will they continue to exist? Will they be moved to the new site?

A: We love the idea of multiage, as you know. We would like to continue with multiage at the co-located site (e.g. TK & K). This is a discussion that will occur, once teacher assignments are finalized.

Q: What administrative, office, and/or student support staff will be at the new location? Who will be "stationed" there vs. rotating or visiting there?

A: There will be an administrative office at the co-location, with an administrator and a dedicated office staff member. The school has changed its organizational structure from 1 Executive Director/Principal and 1 Assistant Principal to 1 Executive Director, 2 Co-Principals, and 1 Director of Student Support Services. The Co-Principals will be sharing duties that go across both locations, to help maintain cohesion and efficient operations. Co-Principals will rotate between Media Center and the co-location.

Q: How will other grades/classes be added to the other site going forward, and how will the drop off/pick up times be determined for them? Will they staggered, similar to the way they are at Media Center?

A:

2018-19 School Year – TK & K at co-location (with the exception of our current TK families who will be meeting to discuss whether they would like to stay at the Media Center Drive location)
2019-10 School Year – TK, K and 1st grade at co-location

We anticipate a shift in drop off/pick up times scheduling when we add the 1st grade. We will determine if it will be a staggered drop off during co-location discussions with the co-locations administrator and will inform the community of the decision.

Q: How will the school ensure continuity of its arts-integrated curriculum and social-emotional learning components across both sites?

A: Although the teachers are on different campuses we will ensure that there is program cohesion by having our faculty meetings, professional development and our pupil free day workshops together as a whole staff. We anticipate having these meeting together on both sites throughout the year.

Q: Will the little ones at the other site have equal access to the Artist in Residence, assuming the AiR continues to be based at Media Center?

A: Artists generally apply for their residency more than a year in advance. We will discuss with incoming artists what residencies can be conducted at both locations.

Q: Can you give us a timeline of when related decisions/announcements will be ready to share?

A: We will have more information and a better sense of our timeline when the District receives our acceptance of their final offer. We will share dates as we receive them. We anticipate being able to build a clearer timeline towards the end of May.

Q: Can there be a fundraiser specifically to raise money for moving into the new site?

A: Yes, we would love the help!

Q: Is there a possibility for new siblings this year to join the current TK class that stays on at Media Center?

A: It has not been decided if the current TK's will remain at Media Center location. If the current TK's stay at Media Center, we will be able to determine whether or not it has space by the end of the month. We are processing the Intent to Return forms. There may be a few spaces opening up, and if that is the case we can decide to open it to other Kinders. We would place priority for families with siblings, and conduct a random drawing if there are more students than spaces.

Q: Why did the former charter at Albion Elementary leave?

A: The former charter left because it consolidates its 3 locations into one facility.

Q: Will there be extended CAP hours to accommodate working parents who will now have to travel to 2 locations?

A: There will be CAP at both locations, we would be interested in knowing how much extended time would be needed and by how many families.

Q: Is there any thought against acquiring temporary/portable classrooms to exist on the current school campus for the first year of this transition?

A: We are not allowed to add portables in the Media Center Complex, due to the area being so close to the freeway.

Q: Is there any consideration to keeping siblings of current students at the same location?

A: We do not have the capacity to start a sibling class, as this would mean students of varying grade levels in one class, plus this would interrupt the teacher teams, which are essential to planning.

Q: Can we please set up some kind of tour of Albion sometime soon so parents can make a more informed decision regarding how they are moving forward next year?

A: We will schedule tours as soon as the District allows us to. We are awaiting our first meeting to begin discussions, this is anticipated to occur in mid-May – early June.