



**CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
LOCKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

2828 North Oak Park * Chicago, Illinois 60634 * Phone (773) 534-3300 * Fax (773) 534-3111



*John Fitzpatrick
Principal*

*Deborah O'Brien
Maureen Komperda
Noemi Ramos
Assistant Principals*

9-11-2019

Dear Locke Parents and Guardians,

On behalf of Locke Elementary and Chicago Public Schools, we want to thank you for a successful start to the 2019-20 school year. We're notifying you today of an unexpected construction issue affecting our school. As you may be aware, Locke is undergoing a comprehensive roof replacement, and our structural engineer just detected a problem on the west side of the building that is requiring us to close a section of our school.

To ensure the immediate safety of our students and staff, today we moved students in classrooms 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, and 220 to the first floor of our school. In order to fully address this issue, starting Monday, September 16, all seventh and eighth grade students will move to an interim facility, Steinmetz College Prep, which is less than one mile away at 3030 N. Mobile Ave. We expect seventh and eighth grade students will be able to return to Locke on January 6, 2020.

We want to emphasize that the structural engineer overseeing our renovation, who works for one of the City's leading engineering firms, determined that this plan is appropriate and in the best interest of student safety. Classroom numbers 211, 213, 215, 217, and 219 are safe to occupy for the remainder of the week, and the rest of the building is structurally safe for students and staff.

Please know that we are working closely with district officials to ensure our high-quality academic programming will not be affected. To minimize disruption to schedules, all students who are moving locations will arrive and dismiss at Locke Elementary and be bussed to and from Steinmetz, which is a short four-minute drive. The students who are moving to Steinmetz will learn in modulars that are currently used for Parent University. This means that students will have their own area of the school, separate from high school students.

We are currently working with CPS to finalize plans for ensuring safety and security, providing required services identified in Individual Education Plans, and much more, and we will be sure to update you with information as it becomes available. **In the meantime, we invite all parents who did not have an opportunity to meet at Open House to attend a community meeting with Locke administration in the MPR on September 13 at 8 a.m.**

We will also share more information via email as it becomes available. Please feel free to contact the school if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

John Fitzpatrick