



# Providence Schools

**Kennedy Elementary  
School  
School Construction  
Updates**  
January 2025



## Goals of today's session

- Share answers to questions we have received
- Discuss swing space in greater detail
- Discuss next steps/milestones



## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

FAQ document contains list of answers to common questions with most frequent/important below

### **Q1: Why is construction happening and how was Kennedy selected?**

- Our facilities have significant needs and the district has an ambitious goal of having enough seats in new or like new schools by 2030
- Key to this plan is expanding options that we have heard from parents: greater access to pre-kindergarten and different middle school options
- Kennedy was identified as a priority for the next phase of construction based on the quality of its current facility, current enrollment, and the ability to use the existing site for a Pre-K through 8 school
- Given once-in-a-lifetime amount of state reimbursement, construction needs to begin soon

### **Q2: What is overall recommended swing space plan for Kennedy?**

- Students in grades K-5 would move temporarily to the Hopkins Middle School building for SY2025-2026 and SY2026-2027
- For school year 2026-2027, Kennedy would grow to be a K-6 before returning to the new building in SY2027-2028 as a PK-7
- Hopkins Middle School will operate grades 7-8 in SY2025-2026 and grade 8 in SY2026-2027 in the same building
- Kennedy and Hopkins are not merging, but will be co-located in the same building during construction. More information in later in the presentation on how co-location will work

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

FAQ document contains list of answers to common questions with most frequent/important below (continued)

### **Q3: Will students receive transportation while the school is in swing space?**

- Same transportation policy will be in place while the school is in swing space: if a student lives a mile or more from their school, they are eligible for yellow bus transportation
- Students who currently live less than a mile from the current Kennedy facility but more than a mile from the Hopkins facility will be eligible for transportation

### **Q5: Does the Hopkins building have outdoor space?**

- Yes, the school has an athletic field immediately adjacent to the school
- Additionally, the district plans to add in a fenced in play area for the school's earliest learners

# Co-location at Hopkins Middle School

District is taking several steps to support a safe and successful co-location

## **Separate staff members and leadership teams**

- Each school will retain their staff and leadership teams

## **Separate start and end times**

- Start and end times will continue as is: Kennedy - 9:05-3:25pm; Hopkins – 7:45-2:30pm

## **Separate spaces**

- Kennedy will primarily be using the basement, first, and second floor, with Hopkins using the third floor
- While start/end times are staggered, the school has the ability to use separate entrances and stairwells
- Administrative teams will share office space on the first floor

## Recreation Center

PPSD, City of Providence, and City Council working closely on recreation center plans

- Construction plan will include improvements to the gym and recreation center
- As we are assessing building demolition and construction timelines, we believe that the recreation center may be offline for use as early as September 2025 and no later than January 2026
  - Exact timing will be based on construction timeline/deadlines, financial impacts to later demolition, and community feedback
- When the building is offline, one option under consideration is having recreation center staff members at Hopkins to support after school programming
  - We are still assessing the feasibility of this and other options, and welcome parent input.

## Swing Space Scope

Swing space scope will be further refined in the coming weeks

Improvements will be done to the building to prepare it for swing space including:

- Repairs to ceilings and floors in classrooms and hallways
- Improvements to restrooms to ensure they are age appropriate
- Improvements for accessibility on the basement level
- Exterior improvements including a fenced in play space for the school's earliest learners and pavement and sidewalk repairs.





ZONE R-1

BUILDING SETBACK (TYP.)

EATON STREET

ZONE R-1

CLOSE EXISTING DRIVEWAY OPENING

BUS ZONE PICK-UP/DROP-OFF

PROPOSED ROBERT F. KENNEDY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ZONE

EXTEND PARENT DROP-OFF AREA

ZONE R-1

PROPOSED CURB CUT

STAFF/VISITOR PARKING AREA (50 SPACES)

ZONE OS

ZONE C-1

ZONE PS

ZONE R-P

PROVIDENCE FIRE ENGINE #23

ZONE R-1

LA RALLE ACADEMY

(Rtp. 44)



# RFK

## Visioning Workshops

### February-June

1. Visioning Review
  - a. Audience: District/School Leadership/Architects/Contractor
2. School Tours: D'Abate/Spaziano ES/Narducci
  - a. Audience: District/School leadership/architects/parents/community
3. Visioning 1
  - a. Audience: District/School Leadership/Architects/Contractor
4. Workshop 1
  - a. Audience: District/School Leadership/Architects/Contractor/Staff
5. Visioning 2
  - a. District/School Leadership/Architects/Contractor
6. Workshop 2
  - a. District/School Leadership/Architects/Contractor/Parents/Community

# Questions?

