



Melrose LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Sembrando Comunidad | Growing Community

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January 22, 2019

Dear MLA Community,

I am happy to announce that we have an interim solution to the current lack of space at MLA.

As I'm sure you've noticed, we have run out of room at our current school site.

We are using every inch of the existing space to accommodate students, teachers, staff and parents. Our music teacher does not have a classroom. Our after school program is working without an office. All office spaces are used by at least two people; some are shared by five staff members. Our small conference room is currently housing our resource program. We have no space for parents to meet during the day.

And we are growing. Next year we will have another group of 4th/5th grade students and we have no classroom space for them. We need more classrooms and more office space next school year. And while we explored the possibility of adding additional portables to our existing site, given our district's budget crisis, no new construction can take place. How are we going to resolve this need for more space?

Beginning next school year, 2019-2020, some MLA classrooms will be housed at the Sherman site. This is great news! This will give us enough space to meet our needs. The Sherman site is about half a mile from our school, on Brann street, off of 55th Avenue. We were on this campus for five years prior to moving to Maxwell Park. Sherman is currently being used by Urban Montessori.

The opportunity to have additional classrooms at the Sherman campus was confirmed on Wednesday, January 16th. I shared this information with teachers on that day and with the School Site Council on Thursday, January 17th.

A final decision regarding which grades will be on the other campus will be made after I get input from MLA teachers. I will meet with MLA's Faculty Council representatives on Wednesday, January 23rd. I will share information with the MLA community as it becomes available.

I know that change is stressful. You may have many questions. An email has been set up for you to send in your questions and suggestions. Your questions and thoughts will be collected and responses will be shared in a weekly update. **Please share your thoughts and write to:** mlashermansite@gmail.com

Working together, we can ensure that MLA continues to thrive and that our single most important work, to support our children to become the leaders we need to make positive change in the world, continues growing.

Thank you for your partnership in this work.

Moyra Contreras, Principal
Melrose Leadership Academy