

## BOARD BRIEF

Date: May 15, 2020

For ACTION

For INFORMATION

Board Agenda: Yes

No

**FROM:** Erika Gulick, Director, Capital Programs, Planning & Design

**THROUGH:** Mignon R. Anthony, Chief Operating Officer  
Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

**TO:** The Honorable Cindy Anderson, Chair, and  
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

**TOPIC:** **Douglas MacArthur Update**

**ACPS 2020 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:**

Goal 4: Facilities and the Learning Environment

**SY 2019-2020 FOCUS AREA:**

Focus Area 4: Douglas MacArthur Swing Space

**FY 2020 BUDGET PRIORITY:**

Safe Schools for Students and Faculty  
Optimal and Equitable Learning Environments

**SUMMARY:**

This brief is an update on the following topics:

- Swing Space Progress
- Relocation Plan
- New Douglas MacArthur Design

**Swing Space Progress**

The interior renovation of the swing space as well as the exterior upgrades to the Patrick Henry site are progressing with some minor adjustments to the schedule based on delays in delivery of materials from COVID-19 and should be complete this July. Work included at the site includes, but is not limited to:

Interior Renovation

Converting auditorium to gymnasium  
Replacing all carpet  
Replacing all blinds  
Repairing ceiling tile and floor tile where needed  
Painting throughout  
Roof and HVAC repair

Exterior Renovation

Creating additional parking lot  
Creating loop around swing space  
Shifting the existing parking lot westward to allow for installation of sidewalk on east end of site  
Ensure access to new Patrick Henry School and Recreation Center

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Regarding the swing space operation, ACPS is working with the Campagna Center on providing before care for families to help mitigate the concern about the later start time. ACPS is also in the process of finalizing the contract for transportation. More information is forthcoming and, of course, is all dependent on what school may look like in the future following COVID-19 impacts.

### **Relocation Plan**

Given the need to be prepared for the upcoming school year, in whatever form that may take, and to begin abatement work in the existing Douglas MacArthur building, it is critical to move Douglas MacArthur into the swing space prior to the end of the school year. Staff met with the Douglas MacArthur School Team this week to inform them of the following path forward: The project team would be hiring movers to pack and move everything currently in the Douglas MacArthur building and moving it to the swing space. This will include personal items, student work, furniture, classroom materials, etc. Staff is aware and understanding of the concern of staff and families to have their personal items left in the school packed and moved by contractors; however, ACPS will make every effort to make sure all items are handled with the utmost care and arrive in the correct location. During these times, safety of our staff and families is the most critical and leadership believes this is the best path forward.

ACPS has contracted with CBRE to conduct all relocation planning and have conversations with staff during packing to ensure the correct items are moving. Over fifty interviews were held between school staff and CBRE, the relocation planning team, via zoom in May to prepare for the moves. The move company is currently preparing its quote to conduct this work. Packing will begin in the first week of June (June 1-7) and the move and setup of furniture will take place in the second week of June (June 8-15).

### **New Douglas MacArthur Design**

Design is progressing aggressively on the new Douglas MacArthur. ACPS has submitted its initial concept to the City for review, received comments and is in its completeness submission phase. ACPS is still targeting a September Council hearing for this project. Staff will keep the School Board informed as the project progresses and continue working with its design team, DLR Group, City partners, construction management firm, Skanska, and all other partners/subcontractors to ensure the project remains on schedule. More budget information will be shared with the School Board in the coming weeks as the schematic design cost estimate is finalized by Skanska.

On Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, staff will be hosting a joint Swing Space Collaborative Committee and Douglas MacArthur Advisory Group meeting at 6:00 pm via Zoom to provide a similar update as included in this brief and solicit feedback. The meeting will be recorded and shared online for the rest of the community. Staff will also be updating the PTA on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Following a decision by the School Board on April 4, 2019 to use the old Patrick Henry building

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as swing space to advance the Douglas MacArthur Elementary School modernization, ACPS began pursuing renovation of the swing space, Douglas MacArthur at Taney Avenue and the design of the new Douglas MacArthur. After significant consideration and discussion with the community, the School Board selected the “Forest” concept for the new design. This is an update on the renovation of the swing space, relocation plan and progress of the new building design.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review this brief and watch the recorded meeting to be shared next week.

**IMPACT:** This project is in pursuit of the SY2019-2020 Focus Area 4: Douglas MacArthur Swing Space.

**ATTACHMENTS:** 1. Photos of Swing Space

**CONTACT:**

Erika Gulick, [erika.gulick@acps.k12.va.us](mailto:erika.gulick@acps.k12.va.us)