



Cook - CCLA

Update
January 22, 2020
Discussion



History

- 2013: Cesar Chavez Language Academy opened with four classrooms at the Comstock Campus with 65 students
- 2018: Cesar Chavez had outgrown the space and the decision to move them to the Lawrence Cook Middle School was made by the school board
- Fall 2018: Representatives from both sites (certificated, classified, parents) formed a Merger Committee.
- 2019: The move took place and the Merger teams (representatives from both sites) began to meet to find a way for two schools to cohabitate and to create opportunities to merge.

Spring 2019 Planning Meetings

- Members from both sites volunteered to participate on the Merger Committee
- Members included certificated and classified staff from each site, administrators from each site, parents from CCLA, community member from LCMS
- Met approximately every 3 weeks
- Topics included: Future instructional program, Facilities, Logistics, Staff and student unity, Family engagement

Summer Planning 2019

2 Day Retreat at Bodega Bay: Merger Team

- Desired Outcomes
 - Build a cohesive transition team willing to engage in difficult conversations
 - Design a plan for logistics, office coordination/parent engagement, and plan activities to build a positive school culture
 - Develop a process for communicating concerns/issues that arise
 - Develop a set of agreements about desired expectations of students/staff regarding a school environment based on unconditional respect

Transitions Meetings Continued Fall 2019

Merger Committee was charged with:

How do we create a TK-8th grade school that shares a common vision for all students?

- **Meet every two weeks from 3:30-5:30pm, over 20 hours of collaboration with team.**
- **Dates: 8/20, 9/3, 9/17, 10/1, 10/15, 11/19, 12/10, 1/7, 1/14**
- **Continue to meet every two weeks**

CCLA and Cook Joint staff meetings (Certificated & Classified):

Spring 2019: Facilities/Locations of classrooms/Playground

August 2019: Building morale & setting norms for a shared campus

September 2019: Active Shooter Training

October 2019: Vision/Seeking Input on TK-8th grade school

Public Forum December 2019

- Parents/Students gave input on TK-8th School
- 200+ in attendance
- Facilitated in small table groups by students/parents/staff
- Input Values/Vision for school
- Input on possible Electives
- Input on School Name

TK-6th Grade Program

- Continue to exist as a TK-6th Grade Dual Immersion Program

Program & features to remain the same:

1. **Dual Immersion 90/10 Model**
2. **GLAD Schoolwide**
3. **AVID 3rd-6th grade**
4. **Parent/Student/Staff Compact**
5. **Common Student Dress**
6. **Strong Parent Involvement**

Merger Team Proposal - 7th & 8th Grade:

Three Strands: Presented to Staff October 2019

1. **World Language**: Students have the opportunity to take Spanish I, II, or Heritage Spanish (Spanish for Native Speakers) along with traditional classes in English.
2. **English Only**: Students continue with a traditional program in English.
3. **Dual Immersion/Newcomer**: Students from a Dual Immersion Program continue to take some content classes (Spanish Language Arts, Social Studies/Science) in Spanish. Newcomer students have access to content classes in Spanish with the DI students (while continuing to learn English). Students who demonstrate Literacy Skills in Spanish can also join this Strand.

In some classes, students from all 3 strands will be placed together.

School Culture & Climate: 7th & 8th Grades

In addition to the Strands, the Merger Committee has proposed:

1. **AVID Schoolwide**
2. **Additional elective options**
3. **Common Student Dress**
4. **Student/Parent Commitment Letter**

CCLA/LCMS staff gave input: October, 2019.

And beyond 9-12

We are beginning to engage with the Elsie Allen High School Leadership team to create potential Curricular Gateways to support: International Business, Ethnic Studies, World Arts, Entertainment and Media through CTE funding that will support the Dual Immersion Model.

Impacts on Staffing

- Site leadership options (one or two principals, VPs)
- Allocations for program need (dual immersion model)
 - Certification needs (BCLAD)
 - Contractual obligations for student/teacher ratio
- Reducing duplicated positions (ex. One office manager versus two)
- Charter requirements for credentialing

Possible Configurations of Schools

The work of the merger team has shown a significant commitment to the blending of the two schools. The Board will need to provide direction to two options:

- Combine the two schools under a K-8 charter which would necessitate the Board of Education to close Lawrence Cook Middle School. Additionally, a charter renewal would need to take place to take into consideration, priority for neighborhood students and existing Lawrence Cook Middle School Programs.
- The incoming 7th grade students at CCLA is projected at 32 students. Therefore keeping the two schools as is but utilize the opportunity for cohabitation of the facilities, create learning opportunities within the two schools and keep the funding sources separate.

Summer 2020 Facilities Projects

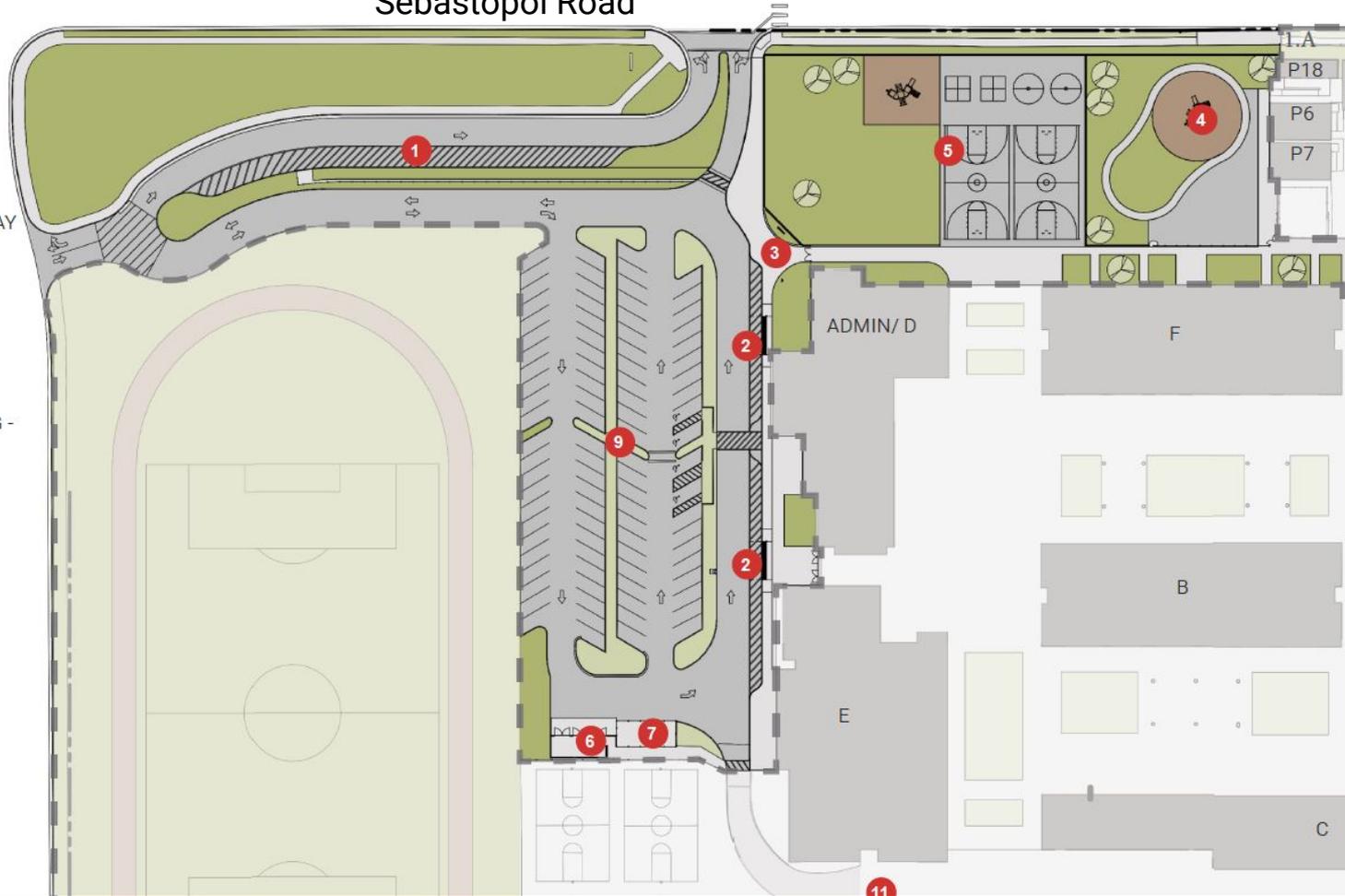
Phase II Major Projects

- Enclosed play/recess area near Sebastopol Road
- Redesigned Bus and Car Entry and Drop-Off

Sebastopol Road

SITE LEGEND

- 1 BUS DROP OFF - 6 BUSES
- 2 AUTO DROP OFF - 8 CARS
- 3 SCHOOL ENTRY
- 4 RELOCATED KINDERGARTEN PLAY AREA W/ PLAY STRUCTURE
- 5 1ST-3TH GRADE PLAY AREA W/ RELOCATED PLAY STRUCTURE
- 6 TRASH YARD
- 7 RE-ARRANGED BIKE PARKING
- 8 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARKING - 15 PARKING SPOTS
- 9 PARKING - 89 PARKING SPOTS
- 10 TRASH YARD
- 11 EXISTING TO REMAIN



Next Steps

1. Articulate with Elsie Allen High School in building a strong K-12 Dual Immersion Model
2. Finalize staffing and curriculum instruction needs for 2020-2021 school year
3. Continue merger committee meetings
4. Finalize scope of summer facility projects
5. Work on marketing for the site
6. Dependent on board direction regarding the possible closure of Lawrence Cook Middle School then a possible board policy change regarding the naming of a facility will take place