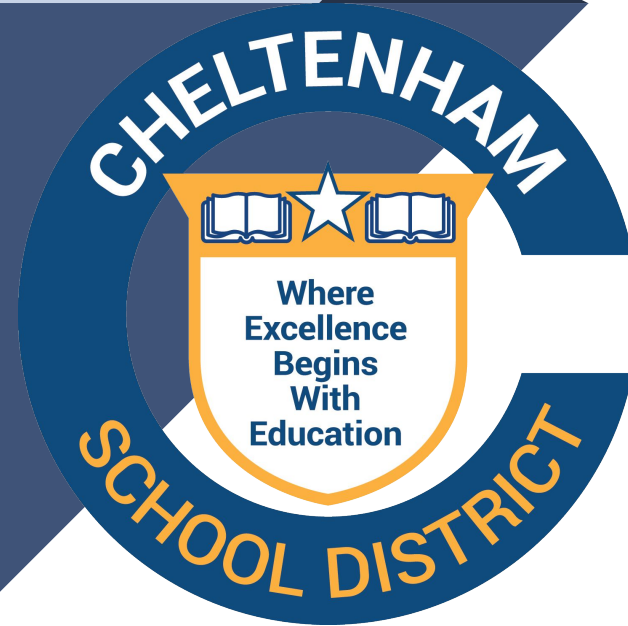


Hearing Under Section 780 of the Public School Code



Wednesday, February 26, 2025, 7:00 PM
Administration Building



School Closure

Closure of a school building to educational use. Schools should not be closed during the school term except under certain circumstances with approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

“In the event of a permanent closing of a public school or substantially all of a school's facilities, the board of school directors shall hold a public hearing on the question not less than three months prior to the decision of the board relating to the closing of the school. Notice of the hearing shall be given in a newspaper of general circulation in the school district at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date of such hearings.” 24 P.S. Section 7-780: Public hearing prior to closing school

Legal Requirements

- Public Comment
- 30 day Written Comment Period
 - ▷ Written Comments will be accepted until 4:00 PM on Friday, March 28, 2025
- School Board Vote at least ninety (90) days from the date of this Public Hearing

Administrative Recommendation



Our Vision and Mission

Our Vision

“Belong, Engage, Seek Justice.”

Cheltenham School District is a community where all students know they belong, engage and excel in their learning experience, and are prepared to act as champions of social justice.

Our Mission

The mission of Cheltenham School District is to provide inspiration and resources to every student to achieve academic excellence and pursue their highest potential by creating an equitable and inclusive community that fosters social and emotional well-being and a passion for learning.



Our Essence

Belonging, Becoming, Excelling

Our diversity gives us strength, but our essence defines our purpose, our “why.” It is what connects us physically and emotionally to a greater good. CSD is driven to provide a place where all belong (students, families, staff, community) and where all can become the greatest version of themselves.



Pumpkin Chunkin' World Championships,
Cheltenham Elementary fourth graders



Administrative Approach

- Provide a detailed plan regarding the proposed closure of the Elkins Park School, including information regarding the timeline for the reconfiguration of schools.
- Engage the community and seek feedback regarding the proposed plan.
- Ensure transparency.



Agenda

- 5th Grade Plan for Elementary Schools
- EPIC Plans
- 6th Grade Plan for the Modulares
- Construction Updates
- Next Steps



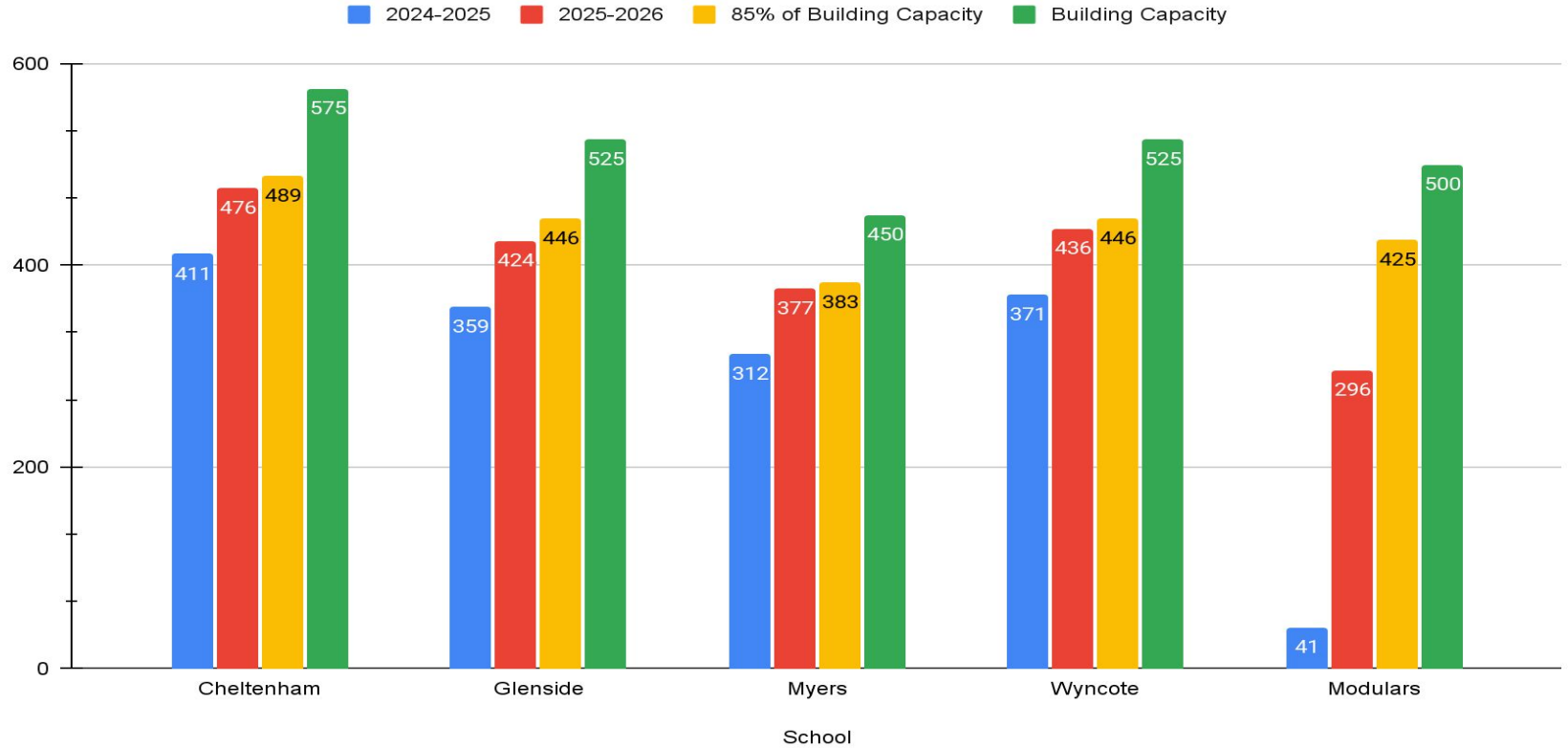
School Closure Recommendation

- Rising 5th graders would remain in elementary schools for the 25-26 school year.
- EPIC would move into leased space *or* back into the High School.
- Rising 6th graders would move to the modulators for the 25-26 school year and remain there for 26-27 school year as part of Cedarbrook.
- Rising 6th graders would move to Cedarbrook for the 27-28 school year.
- EPIC would move back into the modulators for the 27-28 school year, if in leased space.

5th Grade Plan for Elementary Schools

ShaVon Savage,
Assistant Superintendent

K-6 Enrollment*



*If 5th Grade remains in Elementary Schools and 6th Grade moves to the Modulares

Building Capacity

School	2025-2026	Building Capacity	% Full in 2025-2026
Cheltenham	476	575	82.78%
Glenside	424	525	80.76%
Myers	377	450	83.78%
Wyncote	436	525	83.05%
Modulars	296	500	59.20%



Administrative Adjustments

- Assistant Principals
 - ▷ Cheltenham Elementary School
 - ▷ Wyncote Elementary School
- Teachers on Assignment
 - ▷ Glenside Elementary School
 - ▷ Myers Elementary School



Curriculum, Instruction & Programming

- Current 4th graders will remain in the elementary schools as rising 5th graders for the 2025-2026 school year
- Will be self-contained as part of the Elementary School Model
- Will utilize existing instructional materials



General Education Staffing Requirements

School	24-25 Homerooms	25-26 Homerooms	Additional Teachers Needed
Cheltenham	19	22	3
Glenside	18	21	3
Myers	16	18	3*
Wyncote	19	21	2

*One Classroom is staffed by a Long-Term Substitute Employee.



Special Education Staffing Requirements

- Every elementary school except Glenside will receive an additional Learning Support teacher who is transferring from Elkins Park.
 - ▶ This can be revisited if necessary, but a current analysis indicates that Glenside does not require an additional Learning Support teacher.



Special Education Staffing Requirements

- An Autism Support classroom will be moved from Wyncote to Glenside Elementary School.
 - ▶ This will result in at least one (1) Autism Support classroom in every elementary school.



Encore Programming

- In order for us to honor our collective bargaining agreements, we need to introduce an additional Encore class for purposes of scheduling at the K-5 level.
- In grades K-5, STEM will become a stand-alone Encore class (like art, music, etc.).
- Elementary schools will share two (2) floating gifted teachers.
 - ▶ Their assignment will be 100% gifted education, and will no longer split with STEM responsibilities.



Instrumental Music Programming

- We will hire an additional instrumental music teacher for strings.
- We will then have four (4) instrumental music teachers (two (2) for strings, two (2) for band).
- These teachers will work with the Principals and the Office of Education to create a rostered schedule to support instrumental music in 4th through 6th grades.



Additional Staffing

- Counselors and Nurses will be reassigned.
 - ▶ Cheltenham and Wyncote Elementary will each receive an additional counselor.

EPIC Plans

Josh Sweigard,
Director of Business Services



Plan A: Leased Space

- 6,000 - 8,000 Sq. Ft. of space will be required
- Options examined:
 - ▷ St. Joseph's
 - ▷ Gratz College
 - ▷ Commercial Space



Plan B: Return to the High School

- We've located a space at the high school that could be renovated to mimic an "open space" model
- This is a large space with multiple existing closets/offices and a bathroom, as well as ingress and egress to the outside of the building

6th Grade

A Move to the Mods



Administrative Adjustments

- Lead Administrator/6th Grade Assistant Principal
- Assistant Principal



Curriculum, Instruction & Programming

- Schedule will mimic the schedule at Cedarbrook Middle School and will utilize a team model.
- We are investigating a 6th Grade Success Academy Model, and will utilize a teacher to support the coordination and implementation of the Success Academy.
- Some instructional materials will be replaced with new materials as we move through our High Quality Instructional Materials Adoption and Implementation Process; some currently utilized materials would not be moved.



General Education Staffing Requirements

Elkins Park	24-25 Homerooms	25-26 Homerooms
5th Grade	14	0
6th Grade	12	14

- 11 teachers are needed for 5th grade in the K-5 model.
- 1 teacher has shared intent to retire.
- 14 teachers will move to the modulars with rising 6th graders.



Special Education Staffing Requirements

- Four (4) Learning Support teachers will move to the Modulars.
- One (1) Learning Support teacher will move to Cedarbrook to fill a position currently held by a Long Term Substitute.
- The current Elkins Park Emotional Support and Life Skills/Autism Support teachers will move to the modulars as well.



Encore Programming

- 6th grade will have a Gifted/STEM teacher.
- Both Physical Education/Health teachers will move to the Modulares from Elkins Park.
 - ▷ The Elkins Park gym will remain open for scheduled use.
- One Art teacher will remain at the Modulares, one will move to Cedarbrook.



Encore Programming

- We will work with the Cheltenham Township Library System to facilitate library resources for the students while in the Modulares.
- Instrumental music will be supported by a rotation of four (4) instrumental music teachers.



Additional Staffing

- There will be no changes in the duties, responsibilities and expectations for Math and Reading Specialists.
 - Current EP Math and Reading Specialists will be supporting 6th grade students in the 2025-2026 school year.
- Student will continue to receive the support of their ESL teachers.
- Counselors and Nurses will be reassigned as well.



Scheduling

- The scheduling teams at Cedarbrook and Elkins Park will be meeting to create a schedule together.
- We are also beginning to assemble a course catalog for Cedarbrook that will capture our offerings for our middle school students.



After School Programming

- EDEP (Extra Duty, Extra Pay) positions will be maintained at the Modulars.
 - ▷ Clubs
 - ▷ Intramural Sports
- The Elkins Park gym will remain open for after school activities for 6th grade students and staff.

Additional Information



Transportation

- We will be moving from four (4) school timelines to three (3) for purposes of scheduling buses, but routes will remain similar.
- There won't be a significant impact on the cost of the bus routes.
- Parking needs to be considered.
 - ▶ We will gain spots at Wyncote and Cheltenham Elementary school due to elimination of external programming during the day.



Food Services

- Whitson's will prepare food for the 6th students in a kitchen and transport the prepared food to the Modulares, where it will be kept warm or cold in new equipment in a modified kitchen.
- This would be temporary and until 6th grade moves to Cedarbrook.



Professional Development

- Professional Development will be provided for teachers switching content areas and for transition.
- Summer Institutes will occur during the summer of 2025 to support teacher transitions.
 - ▷ Summer Institutes have occurred in the past.



Evening Activities

- Currently four (4) external organizations and one (1) student group from the high school utilize Elkins Park in the evening.
- We will work to relocate those programs to other schools as necessary.



Moving Costs and Timeline

- We will ask staff at EP to spend their last inservice day packing classrooms (currently June 18th).
- Items that need to be moved, including furniture, will be tagged and labeled.
 - ▷ System will be created to coordinate the color of the tags with the eventual location the items will be moved to.
- We will post and hire summer help to support the move.
- We will likely rent a vehicle to move items as well (box truck).



Communications Planning

We will utilize a number of mechanisms to communicate plans out to the community:

- Letters to the Community
- Website Landing Page with Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- News Shares
- Principal and Teacher Newsletters

Construction Updates

Josh Sweigard,
Director of Business Services



Construction Timeline for Glenside and Cedarbrook

25-26 SY

Construction Planning

Building design, permitting,
documentation, and bidding

26-27 SY

Construction Begins

Major work to occur during the
summer months.

27-28 SY

Construction Complete

Additions at both Glenside and
Cedarbrook will open Fall 2027.

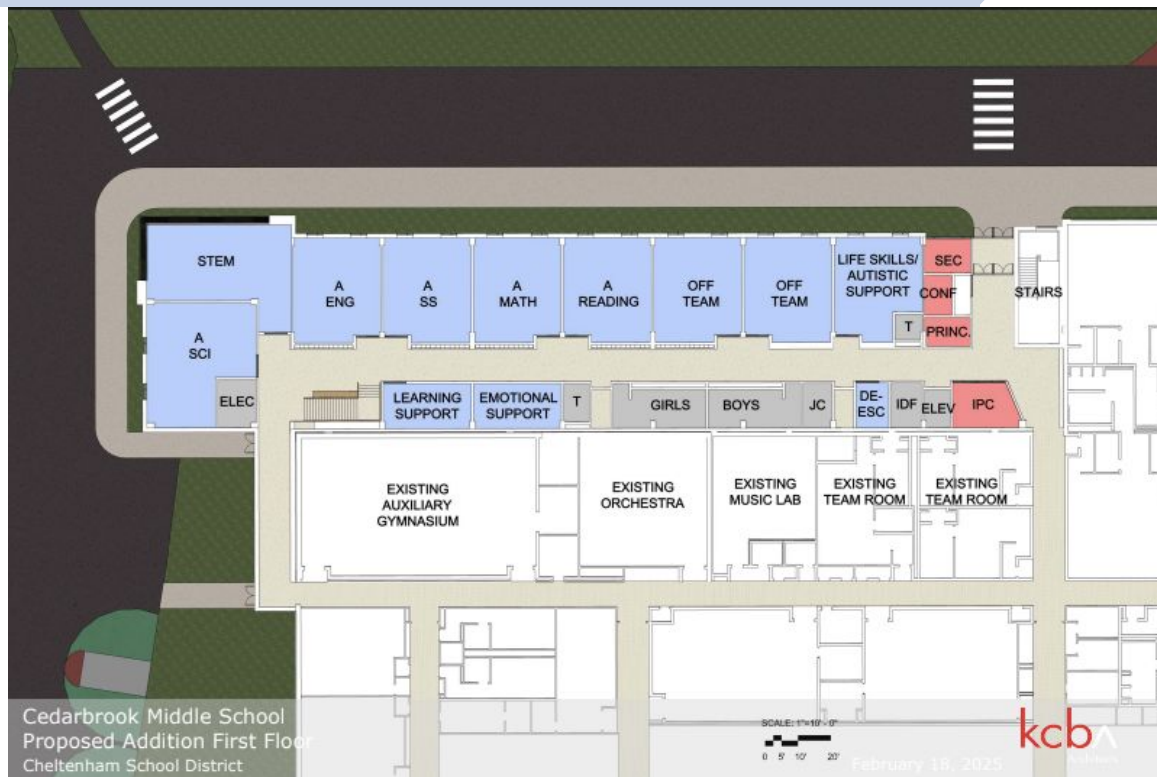


Cedarbrook Middle School: 6th Grade Addition



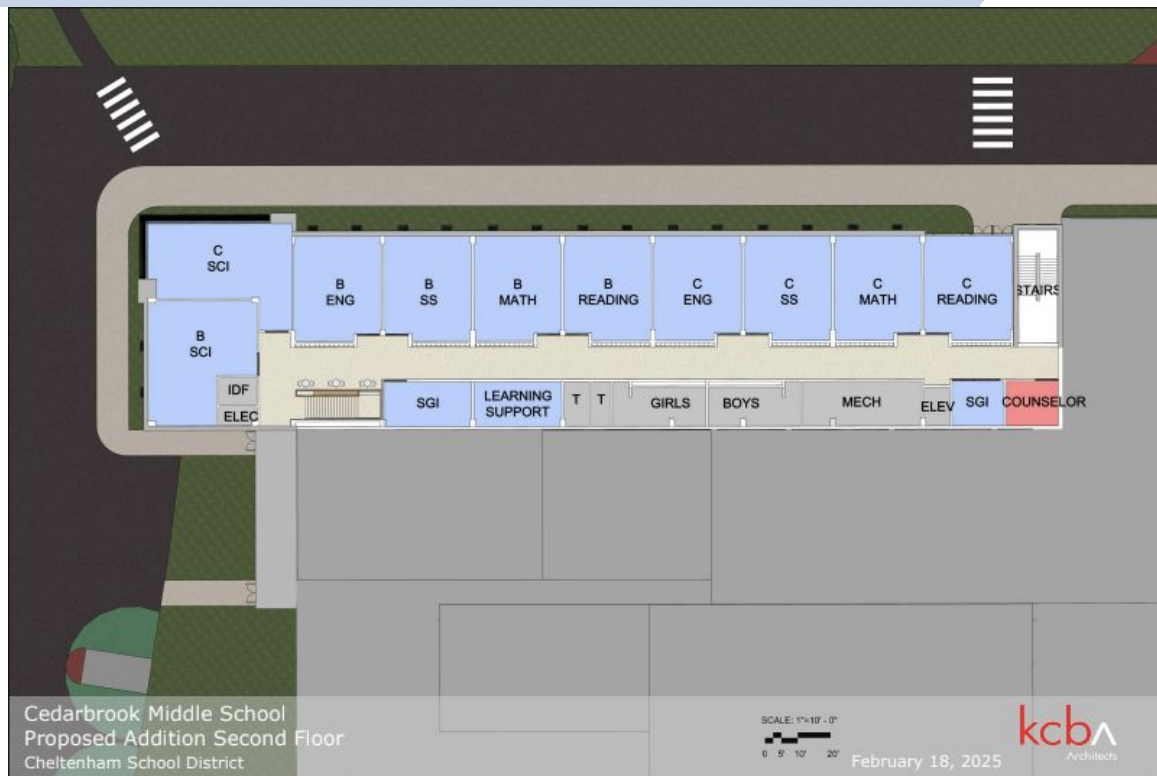


Cedarbrook Plans: 1st Floor



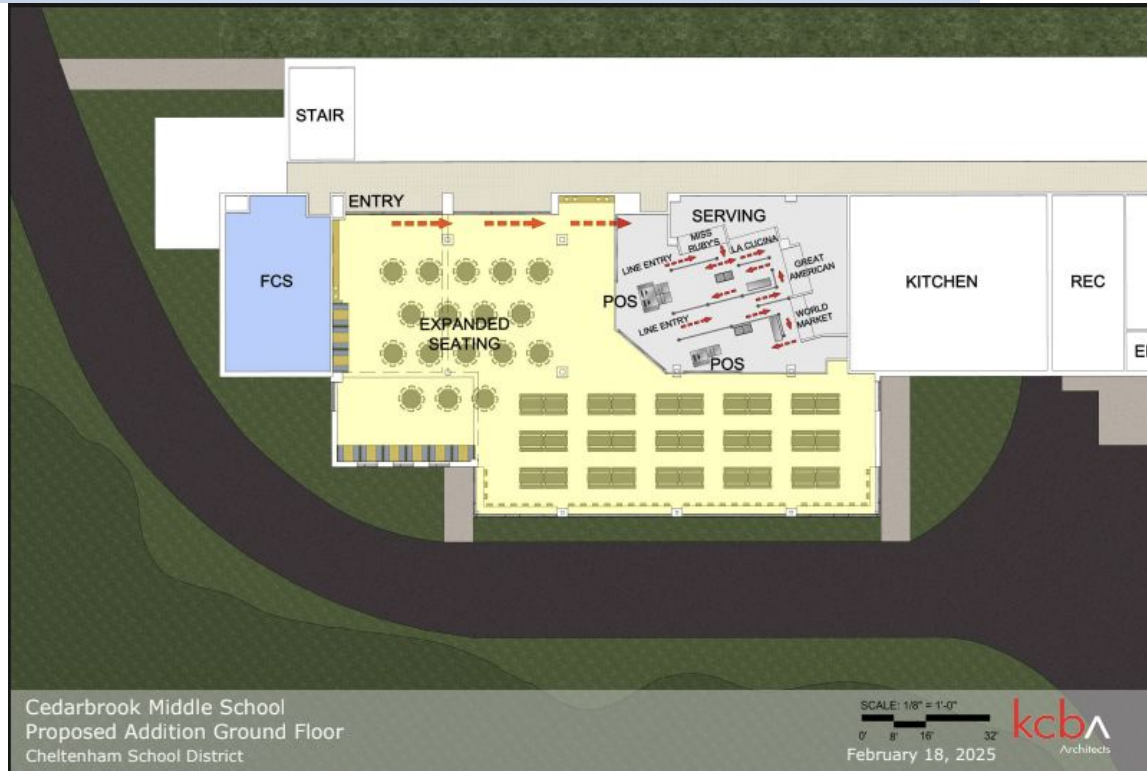


Cedarbrook Plans: 2nd Floor





Cedarbrook Plans: Ground Floor





Glenside Elementary School: Additional Classrooms





Glenside Plan: 1st Floor



Public Comment



THANK YOU!