

IFA "All Families" Meeting and Elections

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

- I. **Welcome (Kalena Clarke)**
- II. **Year-In-Review slide presentation (Kalena and other leadership team members)**

See attached slides.
- III. **IFA Elections (Marcy Mistrett)**
 - a. Introduction of process by Marcy Mistrett.
 - b. Marcy asked whether anyone else wanted to place his/her name in the running. No additional candidates were identified.
 - c. Candidates for at-large positions made statements in support of their candidacies to the group. Those running unopposed did not make statements.
 - d. The group had some questions about roles of Board members:
 - i. Why can't we have more board members so all five candidates can serve? A: IFA is now a corporation with bylaws, and those bylaws require a seven member board. If we decide that we want a larger board, we can amend the bylaws, but the current bylaws provide for a seven member board.
 - ii. What is the role of the at-large members? A: The Board members have the authority to bind the corporation, for example, to sign contracts on behalf of the IFA, and to decide how to spend money. There are other volunteer roles (including many of the people here tonight) who are not Board members.
 - e. Collection and counting of ballots by Marcy Mistrett and Lisa Cain.
- IV. **IFA Initiatives and Events**
 - a. **Pride Parade (Athena Kopsidas and Jon Berg)**
 - i. Saturday, June 7 (see flyer)
 - ii. RSVP via web link if you want to participate
 - b. **Shuttle Vendor (Paolo Lopes from Venpor Transportation Services)**
 - i. Details: this is a licensed school bus company (not just a regular bus).
 - ii. Our company works with many other schools, charter and private.
 - iii. Since we are a school bus company, they have to put signs out at each stop, etc., so the Kalmia Road stop may have to move slightly from the current proposal.
 - iv. Bus has seat belts. Parents can put car seats in, but they will have to stay in the bus; they can't be taken in and out every day.

- v. Bus has a security camera. It records on a 30-minute loop.
- vi. Q: Will there be a chaperone? A from vendor: Up to school/parents whether we want to do that. The company provides only a driver, but we may provide chaperones (probably parents, although maybe teachers might want to ride at a reduced rate). A from Zoe: the school will provide the school-end receiving of the students at school, but the school is not committing at this time to having staff on the bus.
- vii. Q: What do you do if there's no one there to meet the bus in the afternoon at the stop? A: We don't leave until the parent arrives. We will call the parent and if they are close we will wait, if not we will either take the child back to school (if it's the early bus route) or just wait for the parent to arrive (if it's the later bus). Also, for older kids, parents can authorize kid to walk home or can authorize the child be released to another parent.
- viii. Q: What are the qualifications of the drivers? A: We follow DC DOT rules, so buses and drivers have to get an endorsement every six months. We are the oldest school bus company in DC. Also, our insurer does a background check every three months. There are twelve drivers, 80% of whom have been with company for 7 years.
- ix. Q: Is it possible to add additional routes later? A: Yes, if there is enough demand we can add routes from other parts of the city.
- x. Q: What is the route exactly? A: basically down 16th Street and over to the school across U Street. The stops are a little in flux based on safety and parking and so forth.
- xi. Q: Can one of the stops be near a metro? A: Have to get special permission from WMATA so not at this time.

V. ITS Admin Updates

a. Principal's Report (Zoe Duskin)

- i. Thank you to IFA and all the parents for a great year. Your support has been incredible and we appreciate it.
- ii. New campus update:
 1. Deborah and Zoe got a hard hat walk through last week. We want to allow parents to see the space, but we don't want to slow construction.
 2. The construction is coming along well and is on schedule.
 3. Transportation issues related to new school: We will be reassembling the Safe Routes to School committee to work on parking, kiss and go, signs, crossing guards, etc. at the new location. Please consider volunteering for that committee.
 4. Managing transition for the kids: Kids are visiting other classrooms and going to end-of-year presentations in other classrooms to help with transitions. We know that parents have questions, too, about what the

new year will be like for the children, but we will have most of those orientation conversations in August after we have gotten into the new space.

5. **Teaching residents:** We are graduating nine residents this year, and they are currently looking for jobs for next year. Most of the ones who have accepted positions are going into DCPS. They are doing this at the same time as they are taking the lead in their new classrooms, so it's a busy time for them.
6. **The fellows from last school year (2012-13)** are presenting the research they have done as part of their graduate coursework on June 12, here at the school, at 5:15pm. (Flyer attached.) Please come!
7. **Recruitment:** We still have a few openings in fifth and sixth grades, so if you know anyone who might be interested please pass that along. The largest group of new families is coming from Ward 5. You can expect some invitations this summer for events in the Edgewood neighborhood.
8. **End of year events:**
 - a. 3rd and 4th graders are going to the White House tomorrow for a sports event about preventing concussions.
 - b. Field day this coming Friday at Meridian Hill Park.
 - c. Learning Showcase is Friday, May 6. There may be popsicles!
9. **Relationship with the YMCA:**
 - a. YMCA has been selected as the aftercare vendor next year. We will continue to work with them for PHD as well.
 - b. YMCA aftercare will be operating on-site at Shaed.
 - c. Details about the aftercare program will be coming in about three weeks.
10. **Questions:**
 - a. **Q: Calendar for next year? A:** We are working on it. First day of school is the day after Labor Day. Full calendar is not yet finalized. We hope to finish within a couple of weeks.
 - b. **Q: Middle school planning? A:**
 - i. We are adding a middle school assistant principal and teacher(s)
 - ii. We are looking also at curriculum, professional development, assessments
 - iii. Next year there will be just one fifth grade and one sixth grade, but as we grow we will have more middle schoolers and teachers, and we will further develop structure of program and layout of classrooms.
 - c. **Q: School nurse? A:** There is a suite for a nurse in the new space, and we will add a nurse next year, probably shared with

Lee Montessori. The process is slow (lots of permitting) so probably not at the first of the year but at some point during the 14-15 year we expect to have a nurse.

- d. Q: What is the goal with the waitlist? A: Our goal is to have all classes fully enrolled and to have a waiting list in every class, in order to provide financial security (because budget depends on enrollment numbers). We are required by law to keep a waiting list and can't decide to cut it off at any specific number.

b. **Building Update (Deborah Williams)**

(A small addition to the discussion about middle school: we will fully launch middle school when the current 5th graders are in seventh grade, and it will be fully enrolled when we have two classes each of 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grades.)

- i. We are so excited to move into the new space! The lease is finally signed and we are fully cleared by the city to move in to the building.
- ii. Slide show photos (attached):
1. Exterior: ugly windows are gone and have been replaced by large, sunny windows.
 2. Playground: we are removing part of the brick façade so that you can leave the building and go directly to the playground
 3. Multipurpose room/cafeteria: large room for aftercare, lunch and PHD. Room has skylights. At the back there is a room that we hope to eventually use for music and dance, but for now it will be additional space for class performances etc
 4. HVAC: it's being completely replaced.
 5. Kitchen: off the multipurpose room
 6. First floor: was open space, but we are adding walls. You can see the lines for them on the floor
 7. First floor window: large, nearly floor to ceiling
 8. Stairwell window: floor to ceiling
 9. View of outdoor play space from upper floor:
 - a. Kaboom is working with us to put in playground
 - b. We expect that they will be on a late September/early October timeframe to put in the playground.
 10. Third floor office space: framing is complete
 11. Front façade: steps are removed
- iii. This building will meet our needs for many years. Upper floor: middle school program and middle school head as well as offices for Deborah, Kate. Second floor: elementary. Ground floor: early childhood.
- iv. Questions:
1. Q: Science lab? A: Yes, on upper floor

2. Q: Are we on schedule? A: Yes, as of now we are on schedule.
3. Q: Will food be prepared on site? A: No, we will have a contractor bringing in the food. It will be a warming kitchen only.
4. Q: Have there been any major problems so far? A: Yes, we were told the HVAC was okay but we have determined that we needed to replace it.
5. Q: Security? A: There will be key cards required to enter the building beyond the reception area. At certain times of day the doors will be open so that parents can drop off, pick up, etc, but during the school day only the receptionist can let people in.
6. Announcement about before care and time of arrival: Next year children can be dropped off as early as 8am. Children can eat breakfast in the multipurpose room until 8:30, at which time they can go to their classrooms.
7. Q: Computer labs, library? A: We won't have a computer lab but will have portable computers/tablets that can be spread around the building. We will also continue to have libraries located near the classrooms, at least for the two years that we will share with Lee Montessori. After that we may reconsider.
8. Q: Can families who are Ward 5 residents help with relationship building with community? A: Yes, we will open up our space to outside organizations when there are no kids in the building. We've been advised that those orgs will need to have their own insurance. We will be in touch about opportunities to come to the neighborhood (for example, for a neighborhood cleanup day) to help build community in the neighborhood. We will also need to be good neighbors and not block neighbors' cars in, park illegally, etc.
9. We will need help packing! Please look for invitation to help with packing.
- v. Survey! Please complete the survey online or via the paper form (attached).



IFA "All Families" Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

- I. Welcome 6:00 – 6:05 pm

- II. IFA "Year in Review" Presentation 6:05 – 6:30 pm
 - a. Goal #1: Raise & Expend Funds
 - b. Goal #2: Foster ITS Community
 - c. Goal #3: Support Student Recruitment
 - d. Goal #4: Support ITS Staff
 - e. Goal #5: Enhance Family Experience
 - f. Goal #6: Foster Information Sharing

- III. IFA Elections 6:30 – 6:50 pm

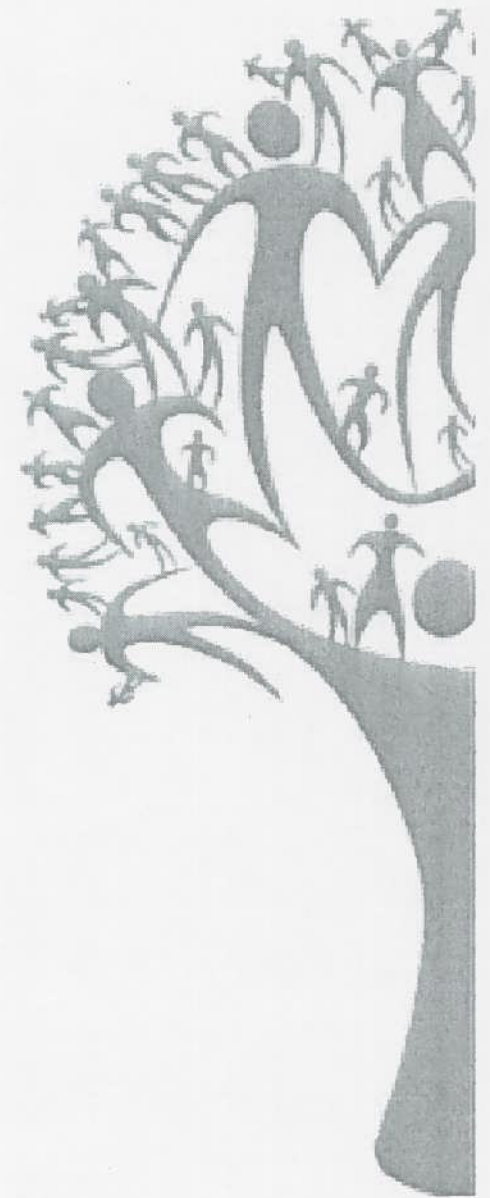
- IV. IFA Initiatives & Events 6:50 – 7:15 pm
 - a. Pride Parade Announcements
 - b. Shuttle Vendor Presentation

- V. ITS Admin Updates 7:15 – 7:45 pm
 - a. Principals Report
 - b. Building Update

- VI. Open Discussion 7:45 – 8:00 pm

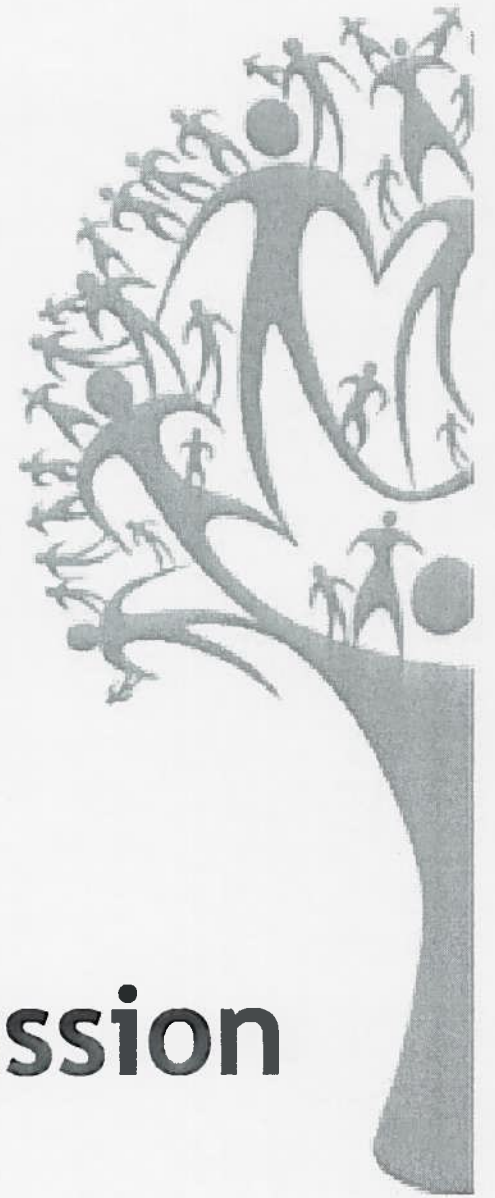
*Inspired Families Association (IFA)

2013 - 2014 Year in Review



***The Inspired Teaching Family Association (IFA) is dedicated to supporting the Inspired Teaching Public Charter School. We strive to promote the school's mission by fostering collaboration between families and staff.**

***Mission**



- ***Goal #1:** Raise and expend funds to meet needs identified by the school
- ***Goal #2:** Create more opportunities for school and family social interactions
- ***Goal #3:** Support student recruitment efforts
- ***Goal #4:** Support the needs of our teachers and staff
- ***Goal #5:** Enrich classroom experience and support facility improvements
- ***Goal #6:** Provide an open forum for sharing information that impacts students and families



***IFA GOALS**

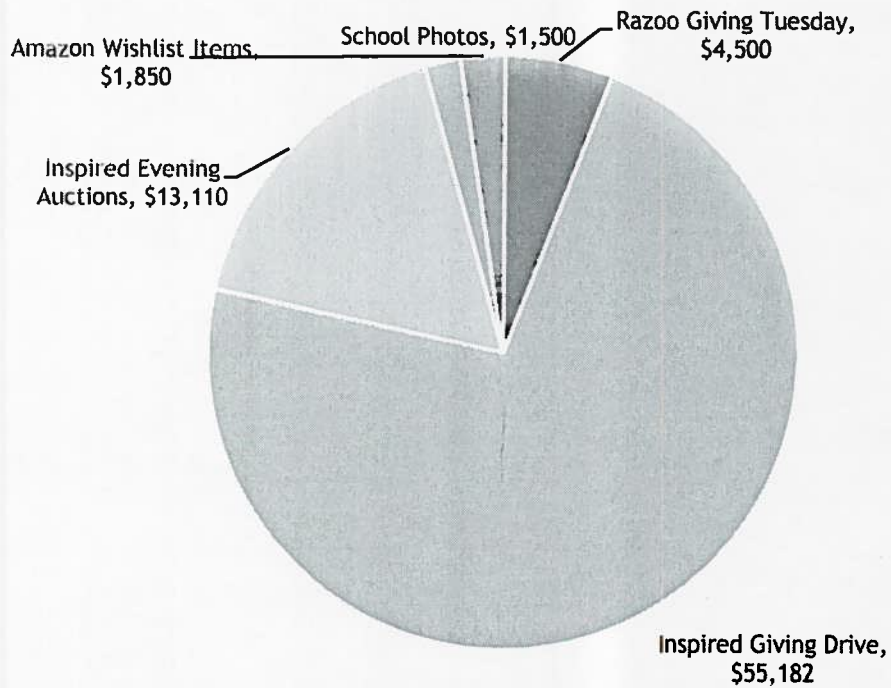
IFA Board Members

President	Kalena Clarke	Member at Large	Nichole Swearingen
Vice President	Allison Acosta	Member at Large	Kirsten Hubschmann
Treasurer	Stephen Sipos	Member at Large	Rachel Papantonakis
Secretary	Lucy Newton		

IFA Coordinators and Committee Chairs

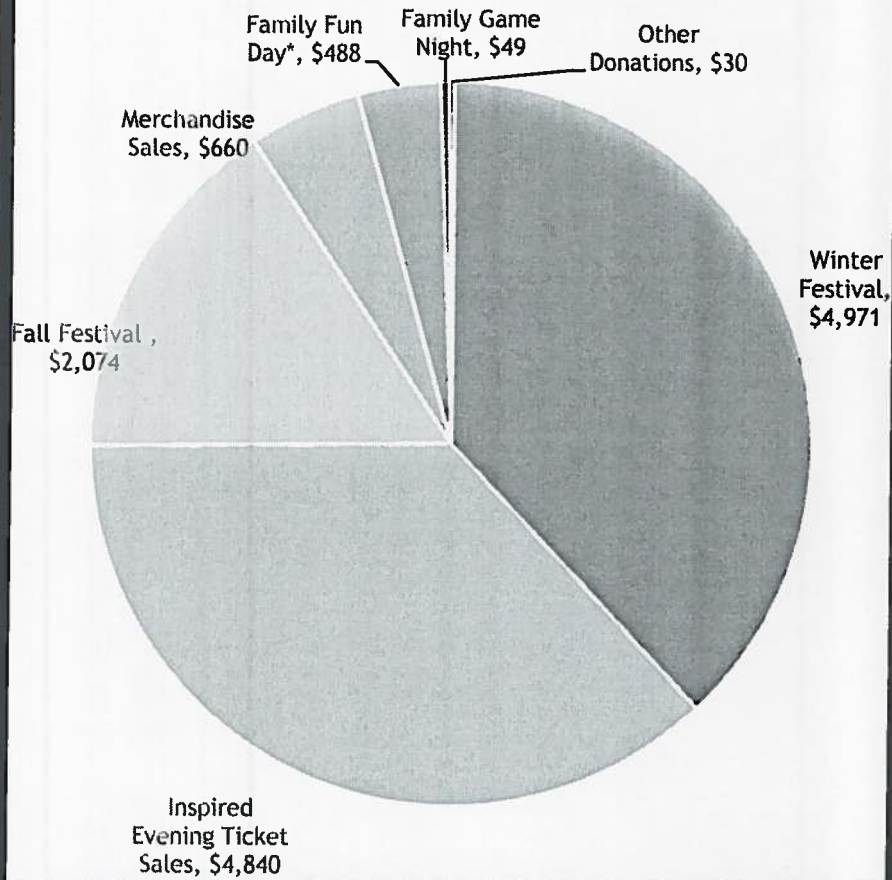
Recruitment Committee	Marcy Mistrett & Julia Howell Barros
Social Committee	Kirsten Hubschmann & Meaghan Mountford
Staff Appreciation Committee	Michelle Sinkgraven
Communications	Nichole Swearingen
Webmaster	Nicole Kresge
Safe Routes / Kiss & Go	Gayle Wald
Library Committee	Lisa Cain
Inspired Giving Committee	Rachel Papantonakis & Lucy Newton & Merry Alderman

**IFA Fundraisers for Inspired Teaching School 2013-
14 SY
(\$76,142)**



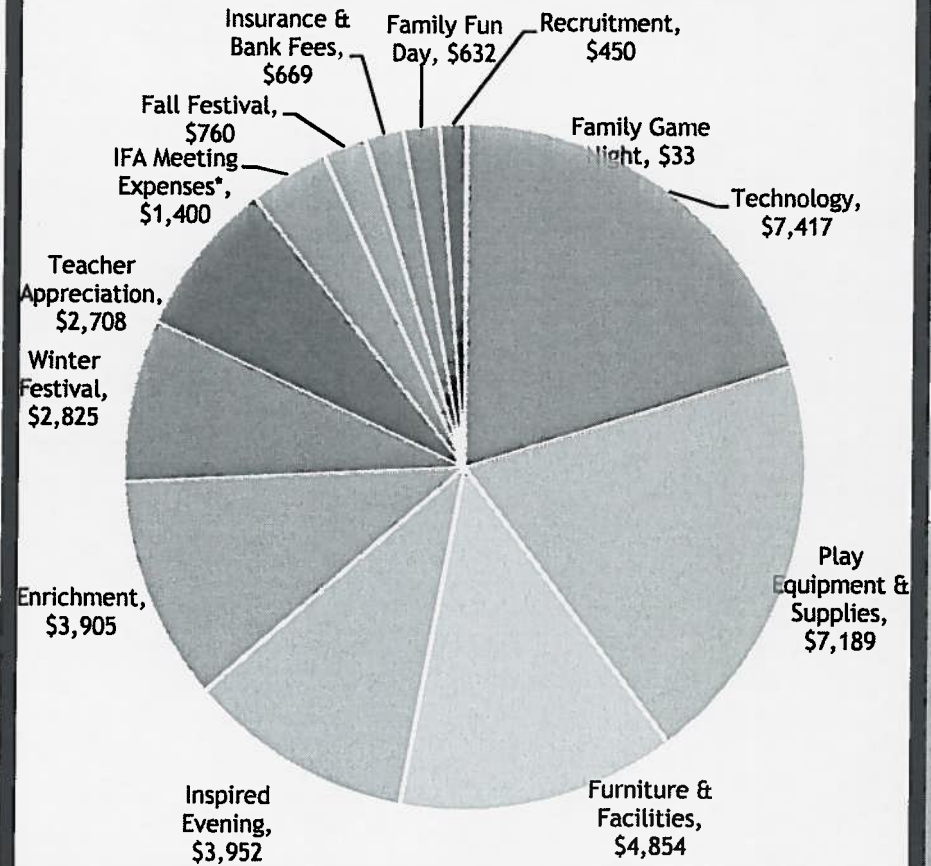
*** RAISE FUNDS TO SUPPORT SCHOOL**

IFA Income SY 2013-14 (\$13,112)



**2013-2014 SY
Beginning Balance
\$64,137**

IFA Expenses 2013-14 SY (\$36,794)



**2013-2014 SY
Ending Balance
\$40,455**

***Fall Festival - Oct.19**

***Winter Festival - Dec.7**

***Family Game Night & Potluck - Feb 22**

***Inspired Evening - Apr.5**

***Family Fun Day - May 3**

***Monthly Family Coffees**

***Fostering ITS Community**



* Held monthly Open Houses - including one for Spanish speaking families

* Held ITS information sessions:

–Charter School Expo

–Sunday MoTH School Information Day

–Mary’s Center Panel

* Helped in the update of various ITS marketing materials

* Community Based Organization Partner Breakfasts

* Recruitment Statistics

- 621 Prospective Students Waitlisted

- Waitlist for Pre-K - Fourth Grade

*** Support Student Recruitment**



* PD and Family Conference Days

- * Oct: Organized families to write “We Think You’re Sweet Because...” Notes
- * Nov. 1: Lunch donated by Sweetgreens
- * Dec. 13: Snacks provided by IFA
- * Mar. 13: Lunch donated by Busboys & Poets
- * Mar. 14: Lunch provided by IFA
- * June 13: Snacks provided by IFA

* Amazon Wish Lists

- * Dec. Collected and shared classroom Amazon wish lists to Families (\$1800 worth of wish list items were granted)

* Staff Appreciation Week

- * May 5: Organized Potluck Lunch provided by Families
- * May 7: Organized Snacks brought in by Families
- * May 9: Organized Potluck Breakfast provided by Families and provided Thank you Notes and Amazon Gift Cards

*Support Staff

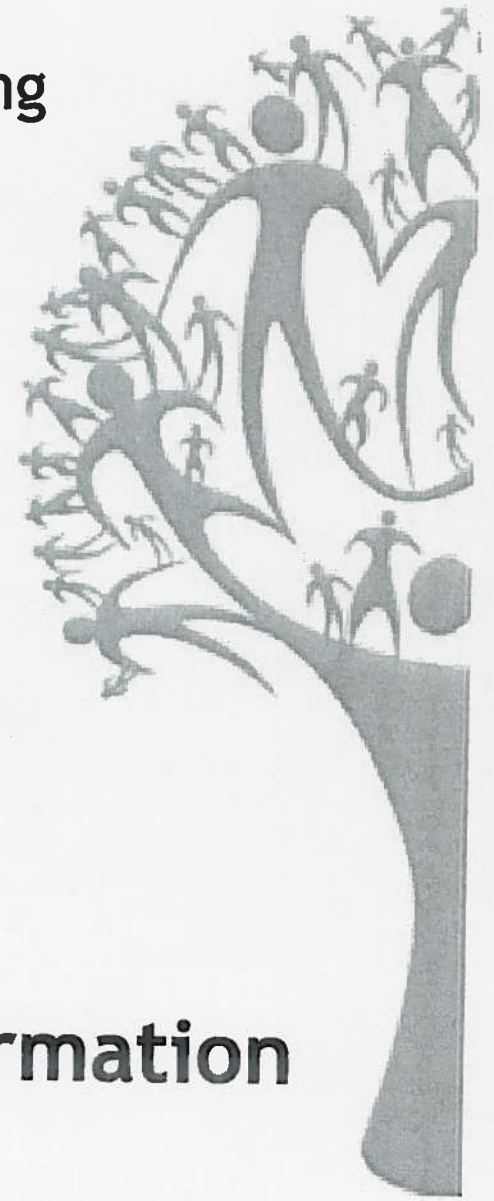


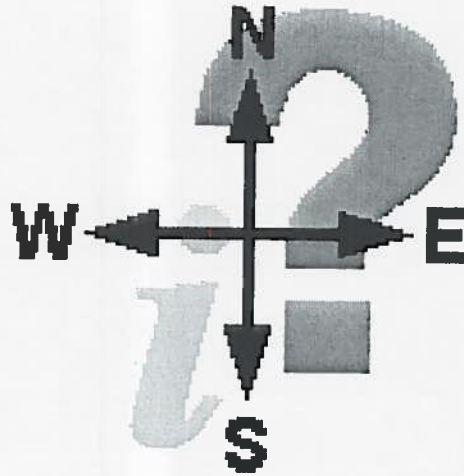
- * Helped to establish a continuing partnership with the YMCA
- * Kiss and Go - Worked with families to establish program framework
- * Martha's Table - multiple donations of goods leftover from event
- * Participated in planning committee for Harrison Playground renovation
- * Developed sustaining relationships with local vendors and businesses
- * Organized School Photo Process

*** Enhance the Family Experience**



- * Hosted bi-monthly “All Families” IFA Meeting
- * Provided updates on events to All Families via flyers in orange folders or email
- * Managed IFA website
- * Maintained bulletin board
- * Worked with staff to incorporate important family events into school calendars and newsletters
- * **Provide Vehicles for Sharing Information**





*** Questions /Comments**

**Inspired Families Association Election
to select the Board of Directors for the 2014-2015 school year**

PRESIDENT (please vote for only one candidate)

- Kalena Clarke
- _____

VICE PRESIDENT (please vote for only one candidate)

- Allison Acosta
- _____

SECRETARY (please vote for only one candidate)

- Lucy Newton
- _____

TREASURER (please vote for only one candidate)

- Stephen Sipos
- _____

MEMBERS AT LARGE (please vote for only THREE candidates)

- Kirsten Hubschmann
- Meaghan Mountford
- Yashika Okon
- Rachel Papantonakis
- Nichole Swearingen

- _____

- _____

- _____

VPI Vendor
Investments LLC

Paulo Lopes
General Manager

Tel: 202 641 5470
Fax: 202 540 9040
plopes@venporllc.com
info@venporllc.com

POBOX 320402
Alexandria VA 22320



School Bus Transportation

www.venporllc.com



Main

About Us

Services

Contacts



For over 10 years Venpor has successfully provided safe, reliable, cost effective, and on-time school bus transportation for both public and private companies in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. The key to our success has always been our Professional, Knowledgeable, and Safety minded Drivers. The responsibility for safety is the foundation for our continued success in the school bus transportation industry.

REQUEST A
FREE QUOTE!

WE CAN TAKE YOU
THERE

- ➊ Student Transportation

- ➋ Employee Shuttles

- ➌ Summer Camps

- ➍ Events





School Bus Company Washington DC

Welcome to Venpor LLC! Our mission is to provide you with safe, reliable, and affordable services to meet all of your transportation needs. We specialize in bus transportation for public and private institutions, and we're proud to serve the students, parents, and schools of DC, Virginia, and Maryland. We also offer transportation for camps, field trips, sporting teams, airports, corporations, individuals, and other various transport requests.

We make safety our number one priority and our partners benefit from our dedicated team of experienced professionals. We take pride in our core values of honesty, integrity, and reliability to provide you with safe and efficient transportation services. The needs of our customers always come first and we're honored to be a leader in the communities in which we serve.

ABOUT US

As a leading transport specialist, Venpor LLC is the right partner for all of your transportation needs. We offer bus, van, and limo services for schools, individuals, and corporations. Our experienced drivers and professional office staff have been serving Virginia, DC, and Maryland for over a decade. We are fully licensed and insured.

SERVICES

With our modern fleet of busses, vans, limos, and sedans, we have everything to take you where you need to go. Our friendly and professional staff is available to accommodate all of your transportation needs.

- School Bus Transport
- Field Trips
- Camps
- Sporting Teams
- Airport Transportation
- Other Transport Requests

For more information on pricing, services, and references, please contact:

www.venporllc.com

info@venporllc.com

Tel: 202 641 5470

Fax: 202 540 9040

SCHOOL BUS RULES

- a. **Students should always be at the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.**
- b. **While waiting for the bus, students should stand clear of vehicular traffic and should keep all books and personal articles off of the roadway.**
- c. **Students must always sit in their assigned seats. Violators of this rule will receive a referral. The seat will be the responsibility of the student to which it is assigned and any damage will be investigated.**
- d. **Acceptable classroom conduct is to be observed: quiet conversation is permitted.**
- e. **The driver is in charge of the bus at all times.**
- f. **Students must remain seated while the bus is in motion.**
- g. **Students must keep all body parts (hands, arms, head, etc.) inside the bus at all times.**
- h. **No eating, drinking are allowed on the bus.**
- i. **Students must wait until the bus has come to a complete stop before attempting to enter or exit the bus.**

Frequently Asked Questions

Who should I call if the bus does not arrive on time?
After ten (10) minutes you should call the Bus Transportation at (202) 641 5470 speak to the dispatcher

What information should I have ready when I call?
You should know your child's route number as well as the child's name and stop location

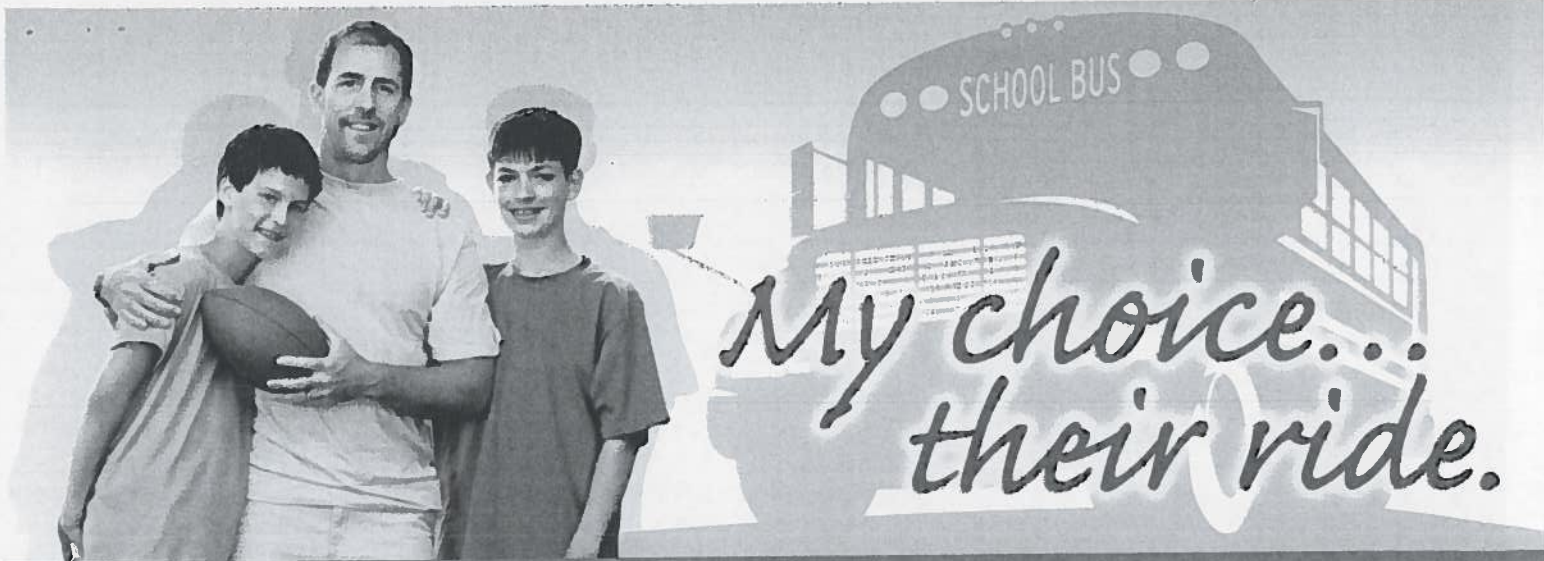
What are the hours of operation at Transportation?
The dispatch area is staffed from 6:30 am until 5:30 pm on school days.

Will my child have the same driver every day?
Your child may have different drivers for the AM and PM routes. This is necessary since most drivers provide service for at least two trips during every shift. In addition, the variety of school programs and calendars has a severe impact on driver assignments. Similarly, some of the students receiving transportation services are highly mobile and frequently change addresses.

Can I require that my child only be released to me at the bus stop?
Only certain designated students "must be met" service. For all other students the parent/guardian is responsible for meeting the bus if they deem it appropriate. The parent/guardian should contact the school to ensure the names of babysitters, siblings or others who will meet the student are documented.

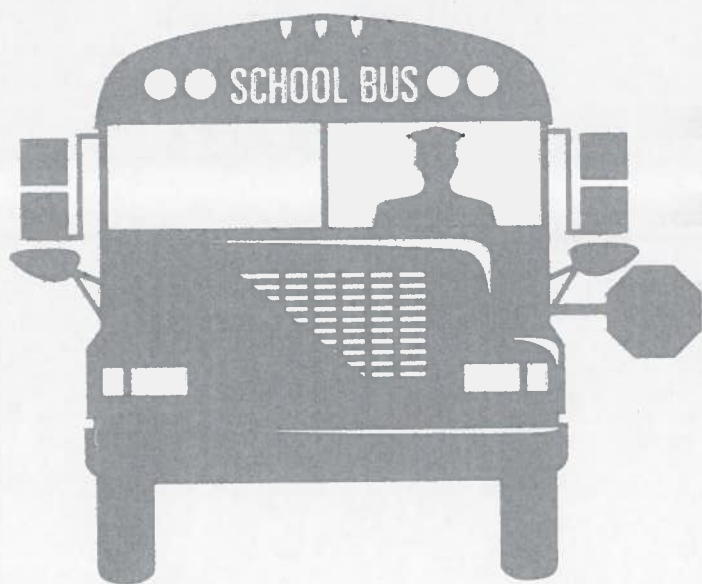
Why is the bus late and why wasn't I called?
Some of the situations that could cause lateness include traffic, road closures, weather, vehicle breakdowns or a late prior route. Since we operate close to 85 bus stops, it is virtually impossible to contact parents when the bus is slightly late. However, we are in radio contact with all of our buses and when we determine the bus will be 30 or more minutes late, we attempt to contact the parent/guardian.

I have a question regarding a bus stop location or pick up/drop time. Who should I call?
Please contact Bus Transportation at (202) 641 5470 or by email at polpes@venporllc.com



*My choice...
their ride.*

FACT: School buses are designed to be safer than passenger vehicles in avoiding crashes and preventing injury.
SOURCE: AMERICAN SCHOOL BUS COUNCIL



**CRUSH STANDARDS,
SIZE AND HEIGHT**

Trained in student behavior management

**FLASHING
RED LIGHTS**

Participate in pre-employment and random drug/alcohol testing

**WELL-TRAINED AND
SCREENED DRIVERS**

Frequent driving record checks

**CROSS-VIEW
MIRRORS**

Trained in loading and unloading

**REINFORCED
SIDES**

Trained in security procedures

**BRIGHT
COLOR**

Trained in emergency medical procedures

**STOP SIGN
ARMS**



Today's school buses are built with safety in mind. They are tougher, cleaner and more diligently maintained than ever before. School bus drivers are required to receive special security and medical training, and undergo regular drug and alcohol testing to provide a safe ride for your child. And school bus traffic laws are strictly enforced. Find out what you don't know about school bus ridership. Learn the facts and play it safe. Visit schoolbusfacts.com for more information.

**LEARN THE
FACTS**
PLAY IT SAFE
schoolbusfacts.com



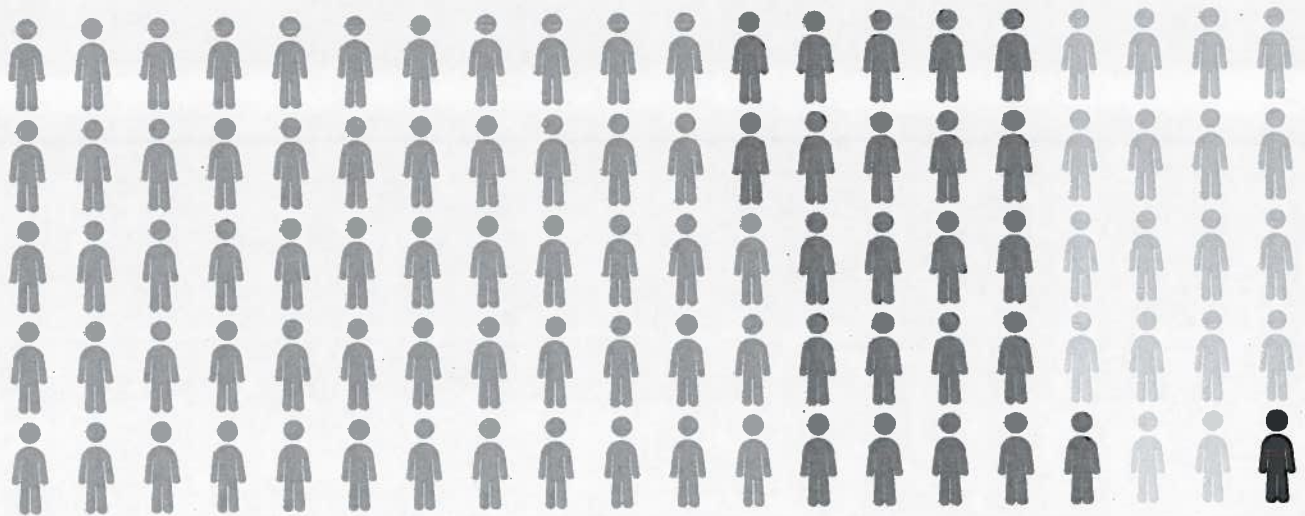
FACT:

School buses are the safest mode of transportation for getting children back and forth to school.

SOURCE: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

STUDENT FATALITIES ANNUAL AVERAGE DURING NORMAL SCHOOL TRAVEL HOURS

TRAVELING BY TEEN DRIVER (58%) (23%) TRAVELING BY ADULT DRIVER



TRAVELING BY SCHOOL BUS (1%)
NHTSA FARS 2001-2008 (FINAL), 2009 (ARF)



Students are about 50 times more likely to arrive at school alive if they take the bus than if they drive themselves or ride with friends. But did you also know that your child is much safer riding the bus than being driven by you? Add in the environmental and financial benefits, and it's hard to find a reason to send your kids to school any other way. Find out what you don't know about school bus ridership. Learn the facts and play it safe. Visit schoolbusfacts.com for more information.

LEARN THE FACTS
PLAY IT SAFE
schoolbusfacts.com

Center for **Inspired Teaching**

Action Research of New Teachers:

Sharing the findings of the 2012 Inspired Teaching Fellows

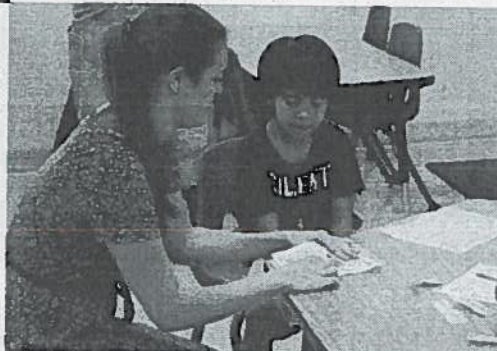
The 2012 Fellows spent the school year embracing inquiry as a professional stance and engaging in teacher-inquiry projects, exploring complex topics that affect their classrooms:



How can art encourage language development in young children?

What structures enhance the development of empathy in students?

Does "shoe culture" influence student achievement?



How does teacher voice affect student engagement?

Open house:
Thursday, June 12, 2014
5:15-6:30pm

Inspired Teaching Demonstration Public Charter School
1328 Florida Ave NW Washington DC 20009
RSVP to mara@inspiredteaching.org



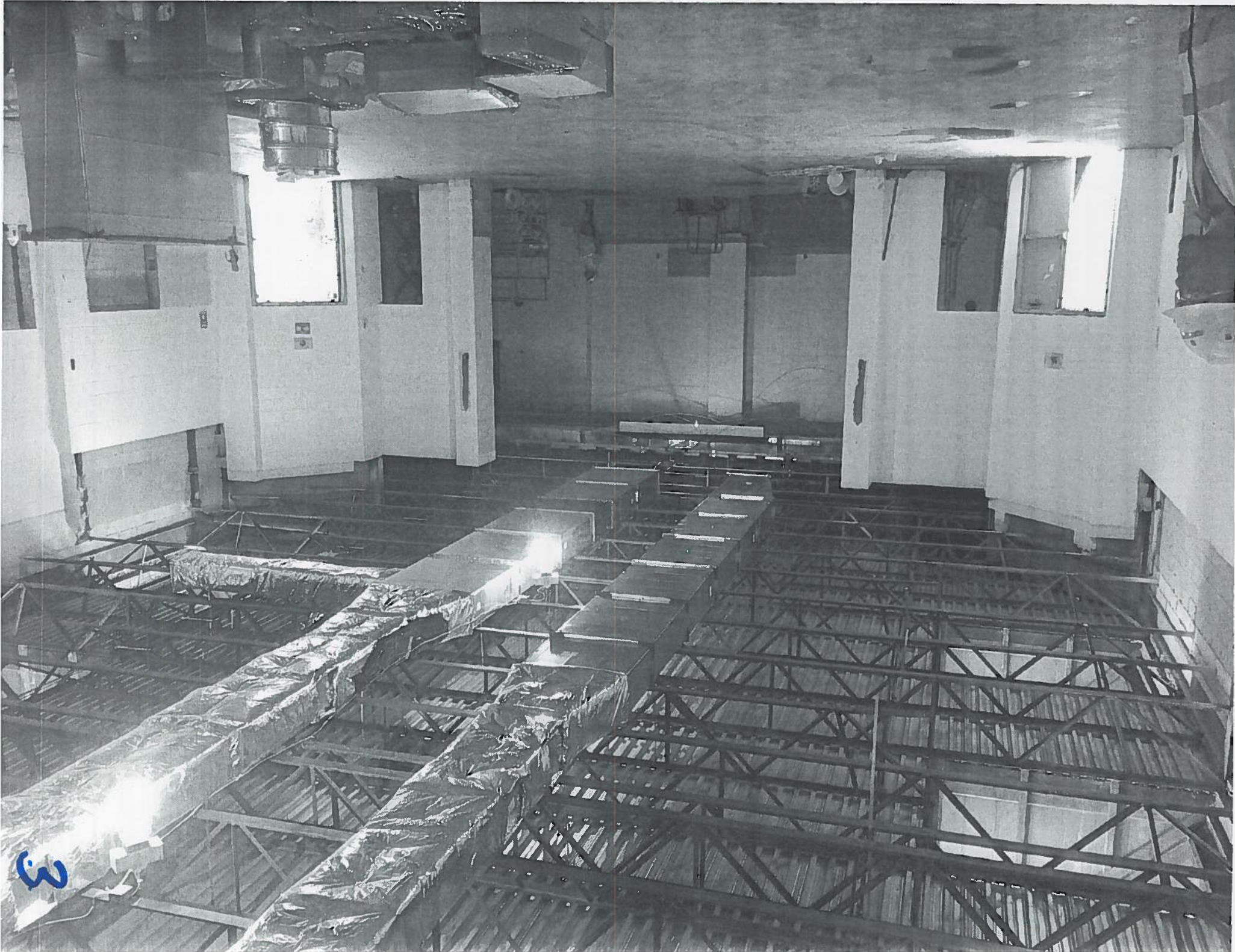
Join us to learn more about the findings of these questions, and more!

Center for Inspired Teaching is working to redefine the role of the teacher. If teaching is to attract and retain bright, passionate men and women who are up to the meaningful and critical work, then we must make teaching the sort of profession that truly values teachers' intellects as well as their emotions.

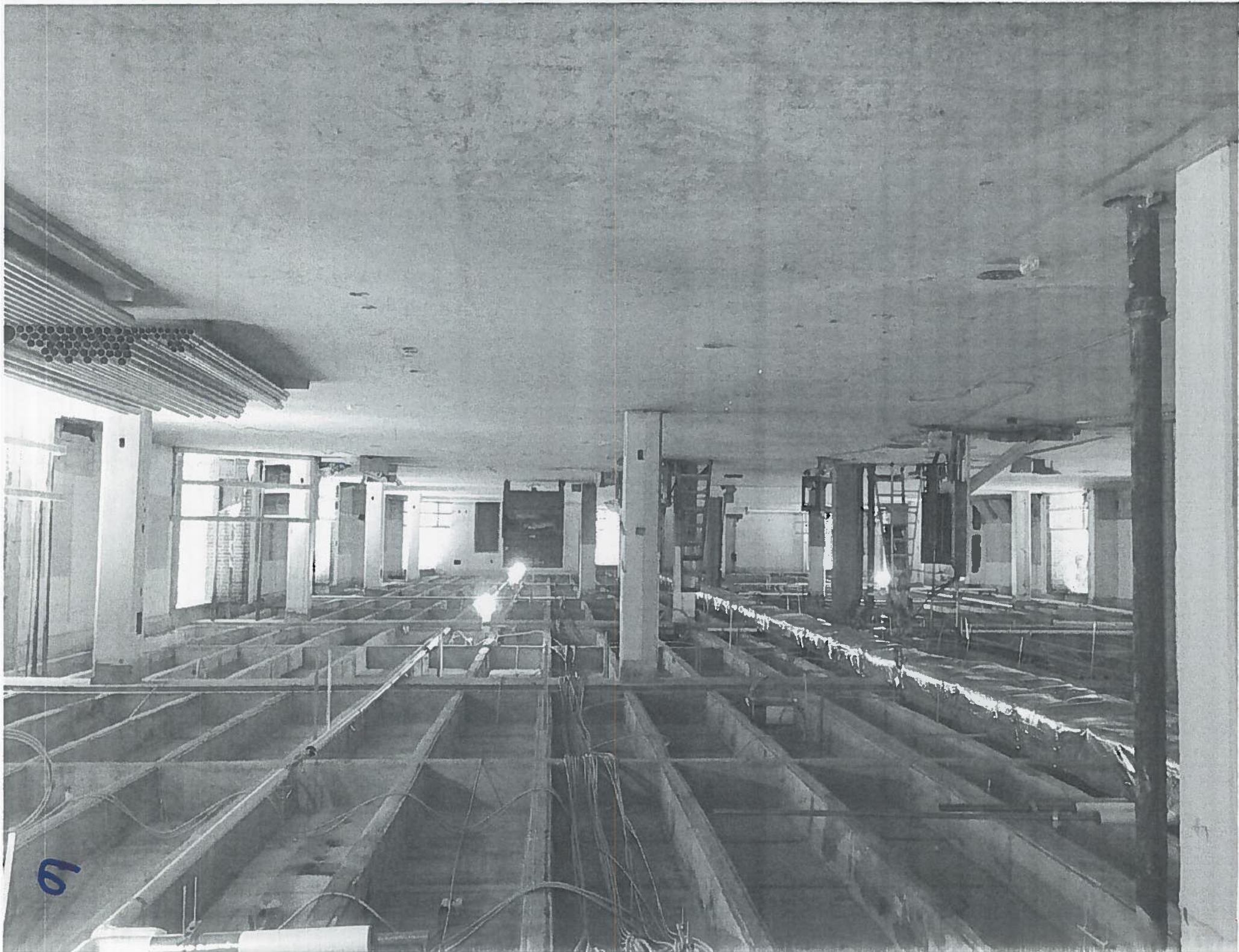
As one of the final assignments of the Inspired Teacher Certification Program, Fellows design, conduct, and share a classroom-based research project. This experience works to make the practice of teaching visible and public, allowing Fellows to demonstrate a commitment to building a better school experience for all children.

inspire
teach
CHANGE





3



69

7





8





ERNESTINE SHAED
RENOVATION

LONG FENCE

ON THE EXTREMELY
DANGEROUS
SCHOOL, PLEASE
KEEP RESPECT

LONG FENCE

11

ABOUT US

Welcome to the second community report for the Inspired Teaching and Lee Montessori Public Charter Schools Project at Shaed.

As a reminder, both schools are public schools that are free to all District residents and are excited to become a part of the neighborhood. We'd like to continue to share more about the schools so you can continue to get to know us.

The mission of Inspired Teaching Public Charter School is to provide a professional learning community of master teachers and teacher residents that ensures that a diverse group of students achieve their potential as accomplished learners, thoughtful citizens, and imaginative and inquisitive problem solvers through a demanding, inquiry-based curriculum. The standards-based curriculum and student goals are centered on the 4 I's: Intellect, Inquiry, Imagination, and Integrity.

The mission of Lee Montessori Public Charter School is to foster a lifetime love of learning and cultivate independence among DC school children, using the student-centered Montessori Method, an evidence-based approach to closing the opportunity gap.

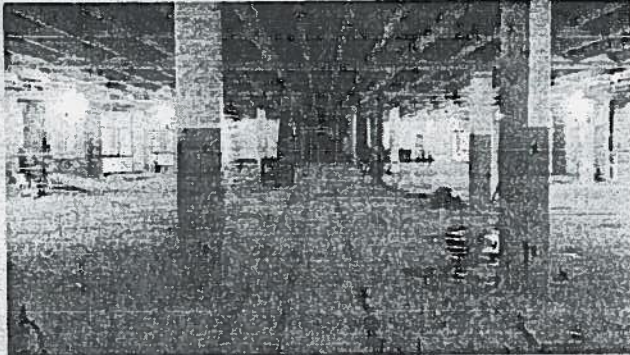
PROJECT & SCHOOL NEWS

- Both schools will continue to accept student applications through www.myschooldc.org.
- We are awaiting results from the DDOT traffic study of the Edgewood Community to inform the parking and pick-up/drop-off plan.
- The project is tracking 35% CBE (Certified Business Enterprise) participation.
- The lease has been executed for the building.

UPCOMING & ONGOING SITE ACTIVITIES

- Interior demolition is complete. Noise levels resulting from demolition activities should decrease.
- Off-hours security has started.
- Material deliveries will be increasing over the next few weeks. You may notice additional large trucks driving to and from the building.
- PEPCO is expected soon to set-up temporary power. This will only affect the school building.
- Window removal is complete. Safety barriers are in place until the new windows arrive.
- Interior walls are being located while mechanical ductwork is being hung on the ceilings.

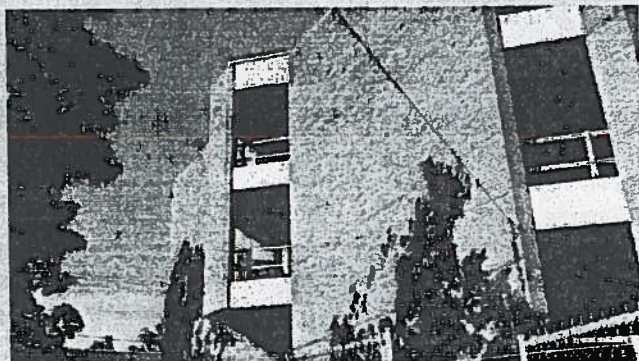
IMAGES



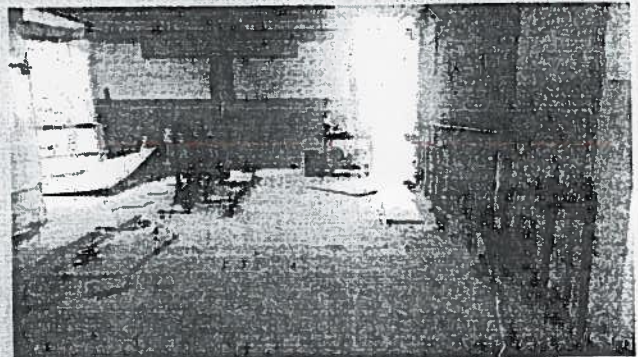
April 30, 2014: demolition almost complete (carpet, ceiling tiles, outdated mechanical and electrical systems.)



May 21, 2014: wall framing and above ceiling rough-ins begun (new plumbing lines, mechanical ducts, electrical conduits, etc.)



May 23, 2014: window openings, after being measured, await new windows



May 21, 2014: preparing plumbing lines for new toilets

BASIC SCHEDULE

Work Hours: 7 A.M. to 7 P.M. Mondays through Saturdays (No Holidays)
Target Completion: August 2014

POINTS OF CONTACT

Construction Issues:
Chris Marro
Forrester Construction
Site Superintendent
240-750-4143

Non-Construction Matters:
Inspired Teaching Public Charter School and
Lee Montessori Public Charter School
202-779-9745
shaedschool@inspiredteachingschool.org

The Inspired Teaching School

Family Feedback Survey – Spring 2014

Dear Inspired Family Member,

As we come to the end of our third year, we are seeking your feedback! Please take a few moments to share your thoughts on your experience in our classrooms, at our Learning Showcases, Family Fun Days, and community gatherings. We will be using your input to inform our planning for the years ahead. This survey is anonymous. **If you have more than one child enrolled at Inspired Teaching School, please fill out one survey for each child.**

Thank You!

1. Please select your child's class.

Pre School Big Cats	Pre School Giraffes	Pre K Elephants
Pre K Zebras	Kindergarten Giant Pandas	Kindergarten Sly Foxes
1 st grade Lightning Lions	1 st grade Double-Headed Rattlesnakes	2 nd grade
3 rd grade	4 th grade	5 th grade

Reflecting on your child's experience in the classroom, please rate the accuracy of the following statements:

2. Relationship building					
<i>To what extent do the following statements reflect your child's experience in the classroom this year? (5=very accurately; 1=not at all accurately)</i>	5	4	3	2	1
My child has a positive relationship with his or her teacher.					
My child is treated fairly and with respect by his or her teacher.					
My child has formed positive relationships with his or her classmates.					
My child feels physically safe in the classroom.					
My child feels emotionally safe in the classroom.					
I feel welcomed in my child's classroom.					

Please add any comments you have about Relationship Building:

3. Facilitation of Learning					
<i>To what extent do the following statements reflect your child's experience in the classroom this year? (5=very accurately; 1=not at all accurately)</i>	5	4	3	2	1
My child engages in meaningful learning experiences at school.					
My child has developed new knowledge and skills since the beginning of the year.					
My child's teacher has helped my child to grow emotionally this year.					
My child has received excellent math instruction this year.					
My child has received excellent reading instruction this year.					
My child has received excellent writing instruction this year.					
My child has received excellent science instruction this year.					
My child has received excellent social studies instruction this year.					

Please add any comments you have about Facilitation of Learning:

4. Communication

<i>To what extent do the following statements reflect your child's experience in the classroom this year? (5=very accurately; 1=not at all accurately)</i>	5	4	3	2	1
My child's teacher provides easy-to-understand communication.					
My child's teacher responds to my communication within one business day.					
My child's teacher is approachable.					
My child's teacher keeps me informed about my child's progress.					
The Learning Showcases helped me understand what my child is doing and learning in school.					
After talking with my child's teacher, I have ideas about how I can support my child at home.					
Family conferences are useful and productive.					
Classroom newsletters are useful and informative.					
I know how to find out the answers to my questions.					

Please add any comments you have about Communication:

5. Skilled observation

<i>To what extent do the following statements reflect your child's experience in the classroom this year? (5=very accurately; 1=not at all accurately)</i>	5	4	3	2	1
My child's teacher knows my child as an individual.					
My child's teacher uses materials and methods that interest my child.					

My child's teacher instructs in the way my child learns best.					
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Please add any comments you have about Skilled Observation:

6. If your child participated in Learning Support programming, such as a meeting of the Student Support Team or any special education services, please comment on what you think the Learning Support Team did well and what you think they could improve next year.

7. The family experience					
<i>To what extent do agree with the following statements? (5=strongly agree; 1=strongly disagree)</i>	5	4	3	2	1
My child has formed friendships with students from other classrooms.					
I feel welcome when I enter the school.					
I have positive relationships with other families at the school.					
The school provides opportunities for the whole community to come together.					
My child feels known by school staff other than his or her classroom teachers (e.g. principal, administrative assistants, specials teachers, other classroom teachers, etc.).					
Families are provided opportunities to become involved with the school.					
Learning Showcases helped me to understand more about what my child's class is learning.					

Learning Showcases helped me to understand what other classes of students are doing.					
My child is challenged at school.					
My child feels respected at school.					
My child loves to learn at school.					

Please add any comments you have about the Family Experience:

Reflecting on your family's experience, please rate the degree to which the following principles and values are visible and concrete in your child's classroom and throughout the school:

8. Instruction at the Inspired Teaching School is challenging, engaging, and student-centered, and students achieve at high levels.					
<i>To what extent has the Inspired Teaching School made the following statements visible and concrete? (5= very visible; 1=not at all visible)</i>	5	4	3	2	1
Learning should be student-centered and student voice is primary.					
Each child should be challenged to reach his or her full potential as a learner.					
Students learn by doing.					
Students should have the opportunity to learn by working collaboratively, individually, and through child-initiated play.					
Questions and inquiry are apparent in my child's learning experiences at school.					
Students are assessed for meaningful learning.					
Social-emotional learning is highly valued.					
The larger community and world outside of individual classrooms is a key component in student learning.					

Please add any comments you have about Inspired Principles and Values:

8. When you describe Inspired Teaching School to others what do you say?

9. Is there anything else you would like to share?

**Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey!
Your feedback is invaluable to us.**