



Northshore School District

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Elementary and Secondary Education North Region

Obadiah Dunham, Assistant Superintendent

January 22, 2019

Dear Fernwood Families:

I am writing to inform you that for the 2019-20 school year Fernwood Elementary will not have space to house kindergarten classrooms. Kindergarten students that reside in the current Fernwood boundaries will need to attend other Northshore School District elementary schools as follows:

If your school of residency after the boundary changes of 2020-21 will be:	For the 2019-20 school, year, your kindergartner will attend:
Canyon Creek Elementary	Canyon Creek Elementary
Fernwood Elementary	Frank Love Elementary
New Elementary on Maltby Road	Frank Love Elementary

In all scenarios described above, kindergarten students will experience a full-day of kindergarten, and will be provided transportation to and from their neighborhood bus stops. Morning and afternoon childcare, through Northshore YMCA, will be available to kindergarten students on the Fernwood campus as it is for students in first through fifth grade.

District staff have worked this year to identify solutions that would allow kindergartners to be taught on site at Fernwood, but the growth in this part of the district continues to make it impossible. We are several classrooms short of the number needed to accommodate all students within our Fernwood boundary.

Frank Love and Canyon Creek Elementary are prepared to welcome your student next year. The staff at both schools have a long and positive history of nurturing our youngest students and have the capacity and experienced staff to meet the needs of your family.

In the 2018-19 school year, we were able to accommodate two classes of kindergarten students whose siblings were attending Fernwood. At this time, based on enrollment projections, we do not anticipate that we will have the capacity to do this in 2019-20. However, we will continue to monitor registration information and analyze space availability in the coming months.

We recognize that moving kindergarten students to a neighboring facility impacts families. We believe this decision, in the short term, will help us meet our commitment to create a more reasonably sized school, and help us maintain the quality academic programming you have come to expect from Northshore. Because of the generous support of our community, we anticipate opening the new school on Maltby Road and completing the expansion of Canyon Creek Elementary in time for the 2020-21 school year. Based on our current projections, when these projects are completed Fernwood Elementary will be able to serve all of its neighborhood students K-5.

Sincerely,

Obadiah Dunham
Assistant Superintendent

cc Kate Bradshaw, Fernwood Elementary
Katy French, Frank Love Elementary
Bruce Denton, Canyon Creek Elementary