

# PRESS RELEASE

KANSAS CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
2901 TROOST AVENUE, KANSAS CITY, MO 64109  
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## MEDIA ADVISORY

### Kansas City Public Schools Issues Statement Regarding the Greenwood School Site

**Kansas City, Oct. 31, 2018:** Kansas City Public Schools is proceeding with the demolition of the Greenwood School building after an extensive public engagement process.

In 2015, the South Round Top Neighborhood Association and Historic East Neighborhood Coalition requested KCPS demolish Greenwood School. KCPS proceeded with this request, identifying funds, completing an environmental assessment and bidding out the demolition/abatement work. As KCPS prepared to approve the demolition contract in June 2018, South Round Top reversed its original request for demolition. KCPS delayed action on the contract for one month providing an opportunity to submit a viable reuse proposal in accordance with Repurposing proposal guidelines.

Without a viable reuse proposal, KCPS moved forward and approved the demolition contract in July in order to address safety and blight concerns, many of which were reinforced by Greenwood's adjacent residents. KCPS will continue to engage with neighbors and other community stakeholders around possible redevelopment of the site prior to marketing it.

Important dates and public engagement regarding Greenwood School:

- 1997 – School closed
- 8/2008 – School declared surplus
- 2008-2010 – Block Real Estate Services marketed school site for KCPS (prior to Repurposing)
- 7/14/2011 – Repurposing site tour
- 11/1/2011 – Repurposing technical assessment report out
- 8/2012 – Block began second round of marketing the site
- 6/2015 & 11/2015 – South Round Top Neighborhood Association/HENC requested demo

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- 2/2016 – Site identified for demolition in master plan
- 4/2016 – Asbestos abatement report completed
- 4/20/18 – Demo bid issued
- 6/2018 – South Round Top Neighborhood Association requested delay of demolition
- 6/26/18 – Demo contract pulled from board agenda and South Round Top Neighborhood Association advised to submit repurposing proposal by 7/13/18
- 7/12-7/20/18 – KCPS staff inquired with EDC/City staff (Land Bank/Homesteading Authority) about property transfer options
- 7/16/18 – Six-month extension request received from the neighborhood association
- 7/25/18 – KCPS approves demolition contract with HECO
- 8/25/18 – KCPS and demolition contractor held community meeting on-site to review demolition/abatement process and timeframe
- Week of 8/27/18 – Abatement work began
- 9/24/18 – Dr. Bedell, KCPS staff and School Board members meet with neighborhood association regarding the project
- 9/25/18 – Dr. Bedell, KCPS staff and School Board members meet with community members to discuss the project
- 10/9/18 – KCPS held second community meeting on-site to provide a project update
- 10/30/18 – Demolition began