

Harrisburg School District

HARRISBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT CELEBRATES RIBBON-CUTTING FOR NEWLY RENOVATED AND EXPANDED STEELE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HARRISBURG, PA – On October 1, 2024, the Harrisburg School District held a special Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for its newly renovated, revitalized, and expanded Steele Elementary School, located at 2537 N. 5th Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110. The ceremony was attended by District administrators, faculty, staff, students and their families, Harrisburg High School's NJROTC, the project architect, contractors, and the Harrisburg community.

Steele was originally opened in 1916 and expanded in 1922. It was named for William S. Steele, a principal of Harrisburg's Central High School. It closed in 2011. (**Source: Historical Society of Dauphin County**).

Steele reopened for the 2024-2025 school year as one of Harrisburg's six neighborhood elementary schools with the capacity to serve nearly 400 Kindergarten through 5th grade students and families who reside in the Uptown section of the city. The expanded space will help meet the District's growing student enrollment needs and bring a sense of pride back to the neighborhood.

The \$21.6 million renovation project was made possible with funds from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) that Harrisburg School District received during the pandemic.

THE PROJECT INCLUDES:

- ♣ Renovation and expansion of the existing school structure
- ♣ A modern heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system
- ♣ State of the art classrooms with updated technology
- ♣ New white boards, visual instruction boards, and a media center
- New windows and doors that bring more natural light into expanded educational spaces
- New parking lots, playgrounds and play equipment, along with new sidewalks

The school also has a dedicated group instruction room, as well as art, music, and Special Education classrooms, plus a dedicated cafeteria, kitchen, and more!

District administrators worked in concert with the architect firm of Crabtree, Rohrbaugh & Associates and Fidevia Construction Management & Consulting to create a 21st century student-centered school building that puts the educational needs of our students first.

On September 3, 2024, the Harrisburg School District officially opened Steele Elementary School to hundreds of eager learners, families, and a dedicated team of administrators, teachers, and staff who are committed to providing students with an excellent education that inspires a love for learning.

ABOUT HARRISBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Harrisburg School District, located in South Central Pennsylvania, is a culturally diverse public PK-12 school district and is part of the Capital Area Intermediate Unit #15. The district spans approximately 12 square miles and has an enrollment of approximately 6,400 students who attend 12 schools. The district is overseen by a Court Appointed Receiver. The reopening of the newly renovated Steele Elementary School and the planned reconfiguration of other District elementary schools in September 2024 will return the District to operating six neighborhood K-5 buildings, three middle schools and two high school campuses. The SciTech campus of Harrisburg High School was recognized in 2018 as a National Blue-Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. This is an application school for students in grades 9-12 as is Marshall Math Science Academy for students in grades 6-8 with a focus on STEM. Additionally, the District operates a separate K-12 blended learning school known as Cougar Academy and a K-12 cyber learning program called the Harrisburg Virtual Learning Academy (HVLA). Harrisburg School District students in grades 9-12 are also able to attend Dauphin County Technical School or Capital Area School for the Arts (CASA) by application.

