



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 17, 2023

Contact: Dan Juan  
973-914-5519

**Public School No. 3 Closed Due to Safety Concerns**  
*Structural defects cause of relocation of staff and students*

At the Board of Education Regular Meeting last night, it was announced that Public School No. 3, located at 448 Main St., has been closed until further notice as the District plans to relocate students and staff for health and safety reasons. On Friday, July 28th, it was discovered that a part of the first-floor ceiling had collapsed. Although no one was hurt, the incident created an unsafe environment. Parents of Public School No. 3 students received a letter from the District on August 9, informing them about the situation.

Chief Officer of Facilities and Custodial Services Neil Mapp gave a presentation at the meeting that detailed the condition of the building and outlined a plan for relocating the students. There are 302 students enrolled at the school, serving grades K-8, that will be broken up in cohorts.

- A cohort consisting of grades K to 2 students will be relocated to Dale Avenue School located at 21 Dale Ave.
- A cohort consisting of grades 3 to 8 students will be relocated to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Educational Complex located at 851 E. 28th St.
- A single Cog Mild class of 12 students will be relocated to School 28 located at 200 Presidential Blvd.
- Fifty-five enrolled students that lived outside of the School 3 zone will now be sent to their proper neighborhood schools.

Built in 1899, the building is over a hundred years old and will need abatement in order to become usable again. Regarding the repair plans, Superintendent Laurie Newell said that that everything is on hold and that, “our biggest focus right now is to really put all of our energy into making sure that we take care of our youngsters.”

Brenda Ramos, Program Director at the Paterson Education Fund said during public comment, “Thank you all for making the health and safety of our children and staff a priority, specifically at School 3.” She would continue to say that, “all expense related to the cost of this issue should be borne by the state of New Jersey.

# PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*Paterson — A Promising Tomorrow  
Together We Can*



A copy of the presentation can be found on the District website and the School 3 website.

###