



FAQ: MCANNULTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FAMILIES OF OUR KINDERGARTEN CLASS OF 2026-27

The Baldwin-Whitehall School District is buzzing about all the upcoming renovations to McAnnulty Elementary School!

However, we also know that District parents may have some questions about this exciting project.

Here is a quick FAQ to help ensure that everyone in BWSD has clear and accurate information!

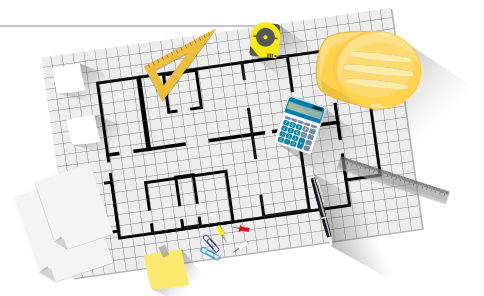
Q: Why is McAnnulty Elementary School being renovated?

A: At BWSD, the safety of our students is always our top priority. When a 2017 Feasibility and Facilities study rated McAnnulty with an overall condition rating of "Fair," with several systems nearing or exceeding their expected lifespan, we identified it as a building in need of significant future repair and modernization. With that goal in mind, in December 2025, BWSD formally accepted construction bids to move forward with a comprehensive renovation of McAnnulty.

Q: What renovations are being planned for McAnnulty?

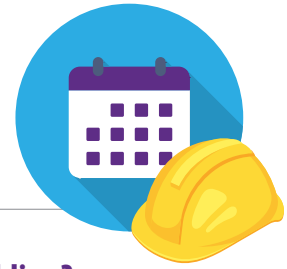
A: The planned renovations at McAnnulty represent a major investment in the building's long-term future. It will address critical infrastructure needs, improve the efficiency of building-wide systems and utilities, and upgrade learning environments, including:

- Replacement of underground water, gas, and sanitary lines, along with exterior concrete repairs and site utility upgrades
- Repair of exterior masonry; replacement of original windows, selected exterior doors, and metal panels; roof replacements in areas not previously addressed; and improved exterior lighting for safety and security
- Interior updates such as new classroom and corridor flooring, ceilings, paint, classroom casework, marker and tack boards, and the conversion of the existing library into a modern media center and flexible learning space
- Mechanical, electrical, and technology upgrades, including new heating and ventilation units to improve comfort and indoor air quality, LED lighting throughout the building, upgraded fire alarm and public address systems, enhanced classroom audio and visual systems, and significant improvements to network and communication infrastructure
- Safety and security enhancements, including replacement of classroom and corridor doors with upgraded hardware and wireless locking systems, and installation of a new emergency generator to support critical systems
- Safe removal of asbestos-containing floor materials in compliance with all regulations. Due to the location of these materials, abatement must occur throughout multiple phases of construction and cannot be limited to summer months



Q: When will the project begin and end?

A: The renovation is expected to span approximately 15 months beginning in June 2026 and ending in August 2027.



Q: Why are McAnnulty's kindergarten classes being relocated to a different building?

A: The project was originally planned to be completed in six construction phases over 15 months. Contractors would have been limited to working in no more than five classrooms at a time, which would have required students and staff to continually and temporarily relocate within the building as work progresses. This would have created an environment of considerable noise, disruptions, dust, and odor. In addition, there are asbestos materials within the building that would need to be removed not only during the summer, but during other periods of construction.

Q: Where are the kindergarten classrooms being relocated to?

A: For the 2026-2027 school year, all kindergarten classes will be taught in dedicated first-floor learning spaces at Baldwin High School.

Q: How will the kindergarten spaces function at BHS?

A: The utilization of space for kindergarten at BHS will include:

- Three direct entrances connect to parking areas for easy arrival and dismissal, with minimal stair use
- Staggered arrival, dismissal, lunch, and recess schedules will avoid overlap with high school transitions
- Restrooms used exclusively by kindergarten students, as well as separate restrooms for staff and for students with additional needs
- Dedicated kindergarten office spaces, including a nurse, principal, secretarial, and social worker area
- Adequate classroom and support spaces for all kindergarten staff
- Exclusive use of auxiliary gym for kindergarten physical education and indoor recess
- Additional outdoor recess areas designated specifically for kindergarten students



Q: Will kindergarteners and high school students be sharing the same spaces?

A: While several first-floor spaces at BHS will continue to be used by high school students, no spaces shall be shared by high school and kindergarten students at the same time. The transition times will be closely supervised to ensure kindergarten and high school students remain appropriately separate and fully supported on their individual learning journeys, with minimal disruptions or distractions.

However, due to the unique potential learning opportunities that this shared space arrangement provides, the possibility for interested BHS students to serve as mentors or offer classroom help for kindergarteners may be considered on a per-case or per-activity basis, in order to provide meaningful and supportive learning experiences for students of all ages.

Q: Will I be able to see the BHS kindergarten spaces before the 2026–2027 school year begins?

A: Yes, we will offer multiple informational sessions for interested kindergarten parents and guardians to ask questions, see the BHS kindergarten spaces, and provide feedback to ensure that all student needs are taken into account during this temporary relocation.

Q: Where can I go to ask questions or learn more about this project?



2026-2027 KINDERGARTEN INFORMATIONAL SESSIONS

Join Dr. Lutz, Superintendent of Schools, and other District administrators at an informational session to discuss the relocation of the 2026-2027 Kindergarten class to Baldwin High School due to construction at McAnnulty Elementary School.

Baldwin Community UMC Preschool

5001 Baptist Road - Pittsburgh, PA 15234

January 26, 2026 - 9:15 AM OR 6:30 PM

Good Shepherd Preschool

418 Maxwell Drive - Pittsburgh, PA 15236

January 27, 2026 - 12:00 PM OR 6:30 PM

Baldwin High School

4653 Clairton Boulevard - Pittsburgh, PA 15236

January 28, 2026 - 10:00 AM OR 6:30 PM

Little Highlanders Childcare

3346 Churchview Avenue - Pittsburgh, PA 15227

January 29, 2026 - 6:30 PM

North Zion Preschool

5100 Brownsville Road - Pittsburgh, PA 15236

February 2, 2026 - 6:30 PM

SHIM Family Center

1400 Lebanon Church Road - Pittsburgh, PA 15236

February 3, 2026 - 10:30 AM

McAnnulty Elementary School

5151 McAnnulty Road - Pittsburgh, PA 15236

February 9, 2026 - 6:30 PM

*Sessions are for parents/guardians of incoming Kindergarten students. Attendees are welcome to a session at any location listed above.

RSVP HERE



bit.ly/BWKinderInfoRSVP