School board builds temporary school for displaced students

Students at Dr. Samuel A. Mudd Elementary School will relocate to a transition school while their facility is being renovated.

Waldorf, MD - Charles County Board of Education is doing something rather unique, building a temporary school to house the students displaced while their school is being renovated.

Students at Dr. Samuel A. Mudd Elementary School in Waldorf will be relocated to the old John Hansen School in Waldorf for the 2017-18 school year.

Charles County Public Schools is building a transition school on John Hanson Drive in Waldorf between J.P. Ryon Elementary School and John Hanson Middle School.

The renovation of Dr. Mudd will begin June 2017.

The school is expected to reopen in August 2019.

“We’ve used the area as a transition school before,” CCPS Media Relations Katie O’Malley-Simpson explained.

A transition school is a temporary school building used to house students while their school is undergoing renovation and expansion.

The transition school is built from modular units and connected to provide the look and feel of a traditional school. It will have 32 rooms to be used as classrooms, administrative offices, a media center and meeting spaces.

A multipurpose room to double as a cafeteria and gym is also being constructed.

Plans include space for the Judy Center, a nurse’s office, a separate kitchen where food will be prepared on site so that children can continue to participate in the CCPS meals program. Alpha Best will continue to provide before- and after-school care.

Grade-level teachers will have individual classrooms, but for certain classes the teachers will come to the students.

The transition school was first built in 2000 when CCPS began renovating J.P. Ryon, O’Malley-Simpson said.

When that renovation was completed, Ryon students returned to their refurbished school and the facility was used for the Lifelong Learning Center and by Hanson Middle Schools.

“The building was struck by lightning two years ago and part of the building was destroyed,” O’Malley-Simpson explained. “That is now being replaced,” she added.

Plans include renovating restrooms and replacing mechanical equipment in the older section before Dr. Mudd students can return.

CCPS has secured all permits and work on the multipurpose room began last week. The new modular units are due to arrive in September.

Hash Construction of La Plata will be completing the installation of modular units.

The transition school is expected to be completed around winter break.

Students will not relocate until the end of the school year as to minimize disruption.

Contact Joseph Norris at joe.norris@thebaynet.com

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