

My team and I have been working on developing solutions for the limited amount of space available in our school buildings. Two RFPs were posted recently requesting proposals for space to accommodate the growing student population at Chandler Elementary School and a space to house the Advanced Academy. As a result of our persistent efforts, we have identified internal solutions to accommodate both, Chandler Elementary and the Advanced Academy, without the need to lease any additional space. The solution will require a series of moves during the summer.

As you know, we currently lease space at the Y on Main Street for Chandler Elementary. This internal solution will save and/or avoid a cost to the district of \$1,000,000 over the next five years. We are meeting today with all parties involved in the proposed moves to articulate our vision for next year and to plan a series of site visits in the next couple of weeks. The site visits will allow each party to evaluate the space proposed and to make recommendations to the administration.

The proposed moves are:

1. Chandler Elementary School will move to the Fanning Building on Chatham Street and will accommodate all students.
2. New Citizens Center (NCC) and the Adult Learning Center will move to Chandler Elementary building on Chandler Street.
3. Challenge Academy (Grades 7 and 8) will move to NCC's current location on New Ludlow Street with opportunity for expansion.
4. Reach Academy (Grades 9 and 10) will merge with the Gerald Creamer Center to best align programs and services for high school students.
5. Parent Information Center (PIC) will move to the Durkin Administration Building. This move will enable parents to register and/or receive assistance from one location in the city.
6. Child Study department will move from Fanning Building to PIC location on Main Street.

We anticipate that these moves can be accomplished during the summer months. The Fanning Building will need some retrofitting to accommodate the elementary level population – i.e. height of stair railing bars, toilets, etc. I will keep you informed about my discussions with the schools, programs, and departments involved in these relocations.

As per the Advanced Academy, we will be able to accommodate the program within the Burncoat High School (BHS). Principal Will Foley has identified space at the school for the Academy to grow overtime. This internal solution will avoid a lease cost to the district of \$1.8 to \$4.3 million dollars over the next five years.

We continue to plan the opening of the Advanced Academy for September 2016. However, FY17 budget constraints may delay the Academy's opening until September 2017.