



July 7, 2022

Superintendent's Message: Muir Update

Dear Muir Parents / Guardians and Staff,

I hope you and your family are taking some time to be together and enjoy summer, following a busy school year. I want to provide you with an update on various aspects of our multifaceted move of Muir students, staff, furniture and school materials.

Student placements

Students who reside within the Muir ES boundary who have not submitted an intradistrict transfer are slated to attend Will Rogers Learning Community.

Families who submitted an intradistrict transfer form should have received communication from our Student Services Department via the Informed K12 application system. We have worked to provide families with their first choice in placement; however, due to school and class enrollment, we might not have been able to provide a family's first choice. We understand the needs of our families, and we are working with on a case-by-case basis for the optimal placement. This is a process, and we are doing all we can to ensure a place for every student. Families attending Muir through an interdistrict permit have been assigned a placement based on space availability at one of the Santa Monica area schools other than Will Rogers. We are pleased that we are able to provide space within SMMUSD for all previously enrolled Muir families to continue within our District.

Through our process, we have identified that fourth grade has a higher level of student placement concerns than any other grade. With this in mind, we are now able to open an additional fourth-grade class at Grant ES that will accommodate families who we could not accommodate at Will Rogers and who want to continue in the JAMS pathway. We have heard from a few families who have expressed this interest, and we are happy we are now able to accommodate this request. Student services is in the process of re-assigning some additional fourth graders to Grant ES. These notifications are being sent out via email from Informed K-12, so please keep an eye on your email inbox for school re-assignments.

Note that at all schools where Muir students have been placed, those students will be merged into classrooms with their other students in their grade level and will not be in distinct classes of Muir students only. This will help Muir students and families be included into their new school and become active members of their new school community.

Transportation

We understand that this is a concern of some families who were able to walk to Muir as their neighborhood school. We will have more information regarding transportation in the coming weeks.

Child Care

If you have a student previously enrolled in Muir child care through our Child Development Services program, you will be contacted directly.

FAQ

We are working on a Frequently Asked Questions document and will share in the coming weeks. This will be a living document that we will expand as questions arise on this transition.

Let's Talk

We are reaching out to families on a case-by-case basis with regard to placement. If you would like to reach out to comment or share your family's personal situation and request for change, please submit to Let's Talk. www.smmusd.org/Superintendent Select "Muir Transition" as the topic.

Staff Update

We will be emailing staff separately with information on the move of classroom and office materials, furniture, books and other items, to your assigned new location. You will hear from the Human Resources Department regarding your new assignment.

We appreciate the ongoing patience by the Muir community as we navigate this challenging transition.

It is our goal to make this as smooth as possible for all students, staff and parents. We will keep you informed as we progress through this process.

If you have a new neighbor in the Muir neighborhood looking to enroll in SMMUSD for the fall, please direct them to permits@smmusd.org for campus placement information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ben Drati, Superintendent