

August 13, 2019

Dear ACSD Community,

Over the course of the 18-19 school year, the ACSD Board has been actively involved in a [facilities master planning process](#) to create a long-term blueprint and plan for meeting the changing facility needs of the District to support ACSD's vision and mission. The Facilities Master Plan process arose out of our [Grade Configuration Report](#) in 2017, which identified that creating a 6-8 grade middle school required looking holistically and thoughtfully at the impact of this change on enrollment patterns, facilities and bond investment, demographic trends, financial costs, and educational opportunities. The ACSD Board plans to complete the Plan by the end of September, and is currently forming action steps to create a comprehensive roadmap for facilities investment.

As part of establishing the Plan, the Board has taken action to include in the Facilities Master Plan a 6-8th grade Middlebury Union Middle School grade configuration for the 2021-2022 school year. This change will enable students to begin the Middle Years Program (MYP) in grade 6, which follows the design of both the International Baccalaureate MYP and the structure for much of the national curricula we use in ACSD. ACSD educators will be working over the course of the next two years to determine the specifics of the 6-8th grade model to provide an exceptional three-year experience for our students.

We are excited about the opportunities this change creates, and look forward to sharing more details and engaging our community as we move forward over the next two years.

Enjoy the last weeks of summer!

Sincerely,

Peter Burrows
ACSD Superintendent