

Lewis F. Cole Middle School
Grades 5 and 6 Planning
FAQs

Q - When will the Grade 5 and 6 addition open?

A - The Grade 5 and 6 addition is scheduled to open in September for the start of the 2019-2020 school year.

Q - Will the parents, guardians and students be provided an orientation?

A - Yes. There will be separate orientations for Grade 5 parents/guardians, Grade 6 parents/guardians, Grade 5 students and Grade 6 students. These four separate orientations will take place in Spring 2019 prior to the end of the 2018-2019 school year at locations to be determined. Accommodations will be made for parents, guardians or students who are unable to attend one of the orientation meetings. Specific dates and other information will be provided to all parents and guardians in April 2019.

Q - What will be the agenda for the orientations?

A - The orientations will consist of a presentation by the middle school's administrative team related to all topics covered in this FAQ information sheet. A walking tour of the new addition cannot take place until a Certificate of Occupancy is awarded to the Board of Education by Fort Lee Building Department.

Q - What will the schedule structure look like for Grades 5 and 6?

A - The schedule structure will directly mirror the current structure at the four elementary schools.

Q - Will the students in Grades 5 and 6 be separated from students in Grades 7 and 8?

A - Yes. The new addition for Grades 5 and 6 have completely separate facilities including their own gymnasium, cafeteria and classrooms.

Q - What teachers will the students have in Grades 5 and 6?

A - The current planning moves all of the Grades 5 and 6 teachers in place now at the four elementary schools to the middle school setting.

Q - Will the start and end times to the day be staggered?

A - The current plan is to have the Grades 7 and 8 school day start and end approximately 25-30 minutes prior to the Grades 5 and 6 school day begins and ends.

Q - Do I have to drop off my children in the morning separately if I have a child in the 5 / 6 wing and another child in the 7 / 8 wing?

A - No. Accommodations will be made for this circumstance so that only one drop off occurs.

Q - Will there be one principal for all four grade levels?

A - Yes. However, the current assistant principal position from all four elementary schools will be transferred to the middle school. The middle school will possess three administrators (1 Principal and 2 Assistant Principals).

Q - Will the school offices be separated?

A - Yes. There will be separate entrances and main offices for the two wings.

Q - Will the students in Grades 5 and 6 be issued Chromebooks?

A - The students in Grades 5 and 6 will have access to classroom sets of Chromebooks. However, they will not be permitted to bring them home.

Q - Will a bus be provided for students in Grades 5 and 6?

A - Yes. Free bus service will be provided for students who live two or more miles from 467 Stillwell Avenue.

Q - Will aftercare be provided for students in Grades 5 and 6?

A - Yes. The same aftercare structure currently at place in the four elementary schools will be provided.

Q - Will there be separate PTOs for the 5 / 6 and 7 / 8 students?

A - Yes. We will start with two separate PTOs and merge resources where necessary.

Q - Will students in Grades 5 and 6 be provided recess?

A - Yes. At least 20 minutes of recess will be mandated by the N.J. Department of Education starting in September 2019.

Q - Will students in Grades 5 and 6 have lockers?

A - Yes. Lockers will be provided for all students.

Q - Will the Grades 5 and 6 students have a separate school nurse?

A - Yes. A nurse will be provided for students in Grades 5 and 6.

Q - Will there be the same level of security in the Grades 5 and 6 addition as is currently in the 7 and 8 building?

A - Yes. The 5 / 6 addition will possess its own security guards separate from the guards in the 7 / 8 wing.