

MT 19-20 Transition School Plan



2019-2020

Parent transition plan information for

New Mark Twain Elementary School

August 2019 – December 2019

Relocation will allow for completion of the construction project (new building, demolition, parking lot, playgrounds, site work) by November 30, 2019. Move-in will occur during December 2019, and classes will begin at the new Mark Twain Elementary School after winter break in January 2020.

- **Grades PK – 1st at Thomas Jefferson Campus**, 610 Holmes St., Bettendorf
- **Grades 2nd – 5th at Ross College Campus**, 2119 Kimberly Rd, Bettendorf

Accommodations for Families with Children at Both Buildings

- **Fall Parent Teacher Conferences**
Teachers at both campuses will work together to accommodate parent schedules and meet with them at convenient times for their families.
- **Drop-off and Pick-up**
We will have a lenient arrival time for families with students at both campuses, understanding that parents may be dropping off students a bit late. Likewise, we will provide supervision for students whose parents have to pick up at both locations. We will communicate with parents to ensure that all students are accounted for at all times.
- **Class Parties**
Our winter parties will be scheduled so that parents with children at both locations can attend their children's respective parties.

Before and After School Program

There will be a staffed program at each campus, with drop-off and pick-up times that accommodate parents' schedules if they have children at both campuses. The Steamer Success Academy (SSA), a 21st Century Community Learning Center, will operate before and after school at both the TJ and Ross campuses. Pick-up/drop off times will be accommodated for families who have children at both sites as needed.

Scheduling (Specials, Interventions and Extensions, Lunch, Recess)

Students at both the Ross campus and TJ campus will have the same specials classes (PE, music, art, library, and guidance) as all other students in the district. PE will be held in a designated physical activity space or outside, when appropriate for the curriculum and the weather. Library classes will be held in the library, while music, art, and guidance will be held in individual classrooms. Intervention and extension time will be provided for all students following district parameters. Lunch and recess will be scheduled so that students have ample time to eat and to play with their peers in other grade level classrooms.

Transition Activities

Teachers from MT and TJ are already collaborating with each other during early release Wednesdays on a weekly basis. In addition they are planning activities that will promote community building among their classes, and their ideas include:

- Digital Literacy Clubs
- Pen Pals
- Pay It Forward Project
- Shared Field Trips
- Digital Projects/Presentations

Building-wide activities are also being planned, including:

- A combined Kindergarten Round-up will be held at Thomas Jefferson on March 1, so that parents and new kindergarteners can meet staff from both schools.
- A “fly-up” day will be held during May, after class rosters for each section have been developed with input from all teachers. Students will be brought together to meet their teacher and classmates for the fall.

Transportation

*Please see accompanying document MT 2019-2020 Transportation Plan. **Out of a concern for student safety, Ross College Campus students are not allowed to walk or bike to school.***

Ross College Campus

2119 Kimberly Rd, Bettendorf

Security

Security for the site will meet the district standard for all elementary buildings. All visitors will enter at the front entrance, which will have a secure vestibule. We will utilize our secure buzz-in entrance system and Raptor Visitor Management System. In addition, we will have a camera security system monitoring the exterior of the school. All classrooms and offices will be re-keyed to a new master system to provide emergency locking by teachers and staff. Exterior playground areas will be surrounded by 6' fencing and protected by concrete barricades. No student will leave the building without being accompanied by an adult. Students will be dropped

off and picked up (by bus or car) at the front entrance only, and adult supervision will be provided during these times.

Sharing Location with College - Ross College and Mark Twain Elementary will operate independently in separated areas as separate schools. Mark Twain will occupy the south side of the building. A secure file wall will exist between the two entities, with no access from one side to the other. There will be a separate entrance for each school. The parking lot will have designated parking spaces for Ross and for Mark Twain patrons, providing a separated parking area for each.

Classrooms

Each of the three class sections at each grade level will have its own room. There are spaces for special education, Title 1 and academic interventionists, orchestra and band lessons, and a library.

Food Service

A food service space has been designed in the building. Hot lunch (including regular and alternate options) will continue as in the past. Students will go through the lunchline in the food service space, and then return to their classrooms to eat together, with staff supervision. Appropriate cleaning procedures will be in place to ensure that food allergies are addressed and safety maintained.

Offices

The school will have office space for our counselor, instructional coaches, nurse, and the main office. Visitors to the school will enter the main office for check-in before entering other areas of the building.

Restrooms

The school has men's and women's restrooms inside the building. A mobile restroom trailer will also be on site to ensure that we can comfortably accommodate all students and staff during peak times, such as restroom breaks. Each and every child will be accompanied by an adult when using the mobile toilet facility.

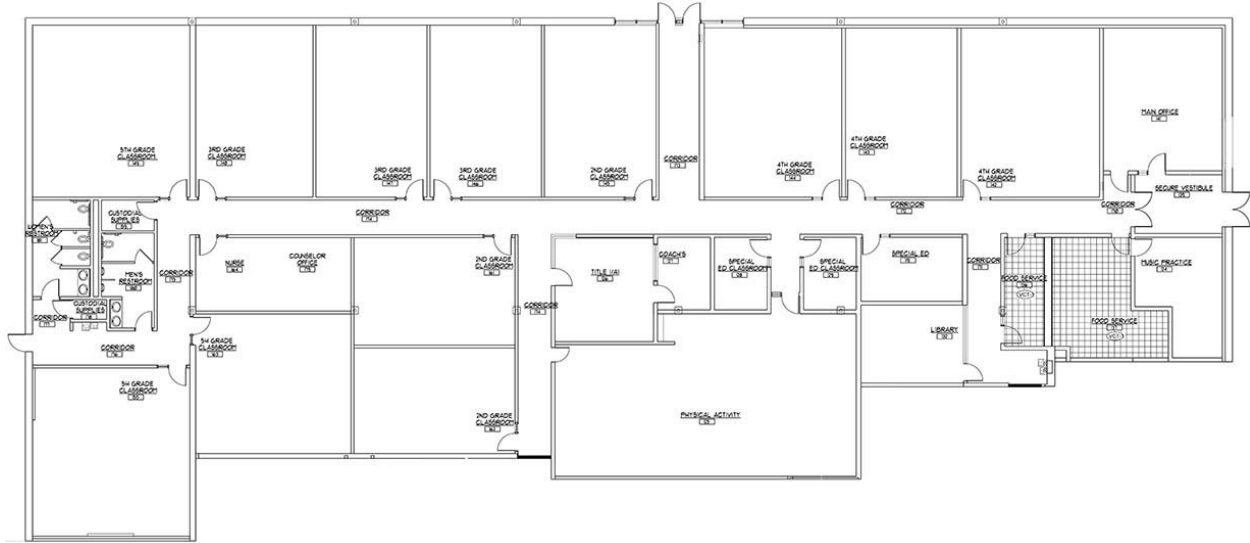


Transportation

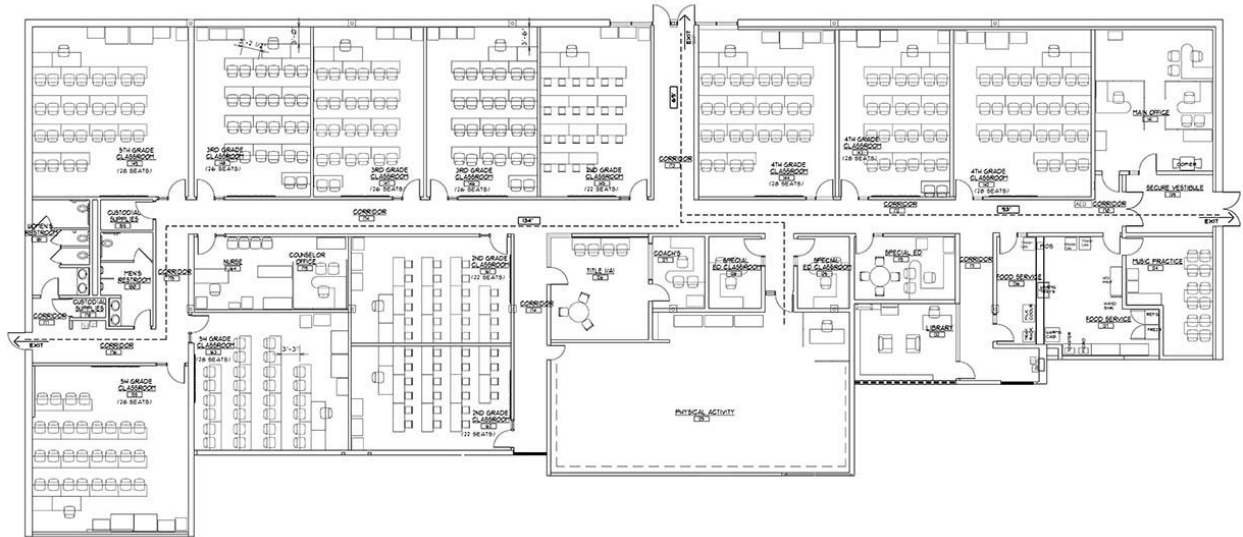
Please see accompanying document MT 2019-2020 Transportation Plan. Out of a concern for student safety, Ross College Campus students are not allowed to walk or bike to school.

Ross College Campus *Click on images to view larger files.*

Interior View with Rooms Identified

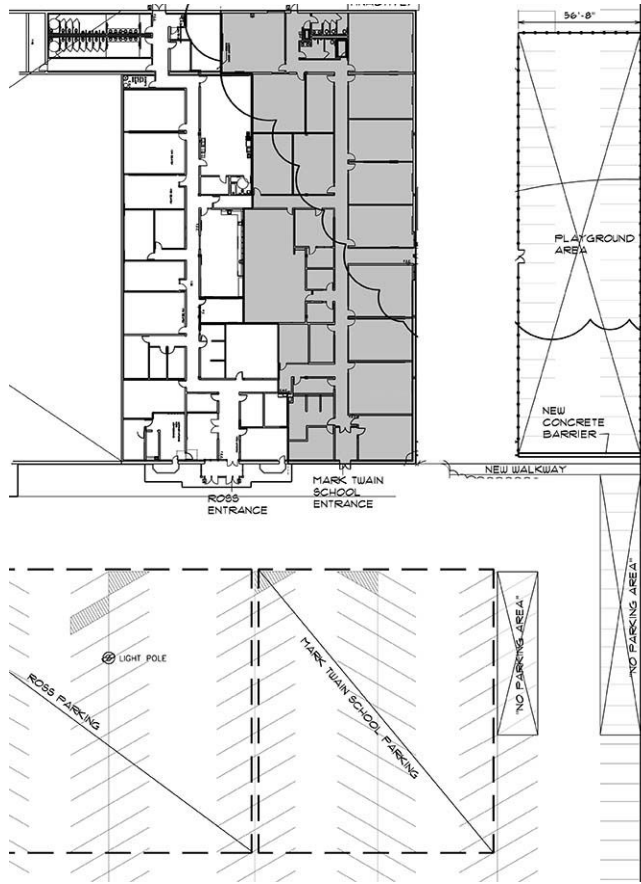


Interior View with Furniture Placement



Exterior View

Mark Twain Ross College Campus in dark grey, playground on right. Designated MT parking in front of school.



Mark Twain Elementary @ Ross College Decision

Bush Construction, Legat Architects, and the BCSD Building Committee evaluated three different options for the completion of demolition of existing Mark Twain Elementary school, parking lot, playground, and site work and determined that a temporary relocation was the best choice.

Advantages:

- No students on site during demolition and peak construction of building – safer site
- Minimizes student distraction from construction activities
- Plenty of parking and drop off area
- Project 100% complete by EOY 2019 including playgrounds, sitework, parking lot
- No parking and drop off area issues for new building

Cost Implications:

Lease Costs - \$312,000

Moving Expenses - \$30,000

IT Connections - \$15,000

Owner Costs - \$40,000

Savings - Mark Twain not in operation - <38,000>

Total Estimated Costs - \$359,000 (*Transportation costs included*)

Other Options Considered

- **Temporary Trailer Facility** - Relocate Mark Twain Elementary and Thomas Jefferson in grades 2nd through 5th students to temporary trailer facility.
- **Demolition and Site Work Spring 2020** - Complete demolition of existing building, parking lot, and site work March 15, 2020 to July 31, 2020. New school would be turned over to district Nov 30, 2019 and would start spring 2020 to complete demolition, parking lot, and site work.

Mark Twain Elementary

2019-2020 Transportation Plan

Ross College/Thomas Jefferson

2-6-19

Current Transportation/Enrollment

- **Mark Twain:** 311 Enrolled; 34 Transported; 5 Bus Stops in School Boundary Zone
- **Thomas Jefferson:** 150 Enrolled; 32 Transported; 6 Bus Stops in School Boundary Zone

Proposed Changes August-December 2019

Communication

- **February:** MT/TJ Parent 2019-2020 Info Meeting
- **March:** Letters sent out to parents from Mark Twain and Thomas Jefferson inquiring about transportation needs for first semester.
- **Spring:** Parent meeting to review the transportation plan.
- **Unpack Your Backpack 2019:** Transportation staff will be on site to help with any questions or concerns.

Additional Vehicles

- Two Additional 84 Capacity Buses: Two new buses are scheduled for purchase and delivery after July 2019.
- The two buses that they will replace will be retained until January 2020 when they will be traded-in.
- These buses along with current space available on the Thomas Jefferson and Mark Twain buses should allow for over 200 additional students.

Additional Drivers

- Two additional temporary drivers. Employment from August through December 2019.

Bus Stops

- Neighborhood stops will be added in the following areas
- **Mark Twain Neighborhood** (Blue are temporary stops)
 - Valley Vista Dr & Fair Ave
 - Fair Ave & Fairmeadows DR
 - Parkway Dr & 20th St
 - 1800 Block of Parkway Dr
 - Elmwood Ln & Elmwood Ave.
 - 21st St. & Glenn Ct.
 - 14th St. & Broadview Dr
 - Fairlane Dr & Lakewood Dr.
 - 15th St. & Alcoa Ave
 - Mark Twain Elementary

- ***Thomas Jefferson Neighborhood** - Current Route 5 (Red are permanent stops that will be added)
 - 21st & Grant St
 - 19th & Central
 - 17th & Central
 - Lourdes Catholic School
 - 12th & Holmes
 - 10th & Hall
 - 8th & Holmes
 - 4th & Grant
 - 4th & Holmes
 - Broadlawn & Crestline Dr.
 - Pineacre & Crestline Dr.

Elementary Transportation Procedures

- Parents register all students on district transportation request on website - <http://bettendorf.k12.ia.us/services/transportation-operations> | [Direct link to transportation request](#).
- Based on transportation map showing stop locations, parents will select the stop closest to their home.
- Bus passes will be issued to all students who have registered for transportation by the school that they will attend. *New bus passes will need to be issued once Mark Twain school opens as some stop locations will be eliminated, district walk limits will be in effect and Thomas Jefferson will no longer be listed as a school. Bus passes show stop location, stop times, bus number and school the student attends.
- Students are transported to the designated transfer site at Middle School. Those students who need to transfer to another bus will be allowed to do so once all buses have arrived and stopped. Buses will depart only after all students have loaded. Additional staff will be on hand to assist the first two weeks of school and during the transition into the new Mark Twain.

Items to Remember

- **Prior to registration:** Check transportation web site to determine stop location closest to student's home.
- **During school registration:**
 - **Mark Twain alternate site** - Parents wanting busing, register for transportation for the first semester only.
 - **Thomas Jefferson** - Parents wanting busing, register for transportation for the first semester only. Busing limits will still exist for the first semester (2 miles from the school).
- **Early October:** All students attending Mark Twain, who choose busing as their option, will need to register for transportation. The two mile busing limit will exist. Temporary stops added for Mark Twain alternate site will be eliminated as they fall within the busing limit.

Transportation F.A.Q.

1. What are the school walk limits for elementary students?

The current walk limits for elementary students is 2 miles from their school.

2. What is the current cost if you choose busing and live within the walk limits?

The cost is \$100.00 per semester for transportation to and from school. One way transportation is available for \$50.00 per semester

3. Where does my student get on/off the bus and at what time?

The district website shows all bus stop locations as well as the pick-up/drop off times. Parents should check this site prior to registering for busing to determine which stop is closest to their home. <http://bettendorf.k12.ia.us/services/transportation-operations> | [iDirect link to bus stop map](#)

4. How does my student get a bus pass?

Once the parent has registered for busing, the school that the student attends will issue the bus pass. It is important that all students attach this pass to the outside of their backpacks so, if necessary, they can be easily identified and assisted to their correct bus at the transfer site.

5. If my student needs to transfer to another bus, how will they know which bus to go to?

The transfer site has signs up with school names on them. In the morning, students will be directed to go to the sign of the school they attend. In the afternoon, they will be directed to their pick up/drop off bus on their bus pass. Additional identifying markers can be added to signs or buses if necessary. During the first two weeks of school, additional school staff will be on hand to assist students. Drivers are instructed to check all bus passes of students who do not transfer off of their buses as well as students getting on their bus.

6. My student normally walks to Thomas Jefferson/Mark Twain but will now need busing. Is there a charge for this?

- All students who will be attending the Mark Twain alternate site and Thomas Jefferson will receive free busing if the parent chooses this as an option to get their student to school. Once the school opens, the district walk limits will be in effect and those students within the limit who wish to continue busing will have to pay.
- Students who will be attending Thomas Jefferson until it closes, and live within the district walk limit will not get free busing. Once the school closes, all students who live outside of the Mark Twain district walk limits will receive free busing if the parent chooses this option. This will include most of the students in the current Thomas Jefferson school boundary.

7. Rather than add stops, would it be better to have one central location that students could come to?

- The additional stops will be much more convenient for parents as these stops will be closer to the student's home.
- A central location brings a lot of students, parents and cars to that stop which makes it more dangerous for students trying to get on and off the bus as students may have to move between cars.

8. Can I continue to bring my student to school if I choose not have my student ride the bus?

Yes. Parents will continue to have the option to transport their student to school if they choose to do so.

Questions

Contact Tim Mesick, Transportation Supervisor, (563) 332-8600, tmisick@bettendorf.k12.ia.us

