

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

Dear Bard DC Community,

The start of a new school year is filled with anticipation and excitement. We know this is particularly true for your school community as this is Bard DC's inaugural year as a District of Columbia Public School. We hope that you are settling in and are having an exciting and enriching school year.

As a new school, DCPS opened Bard DC in the Davis building for SY19-20 with a vision to identify a permanent site for the school long-term. This fall, DCPS will engage Bard DC staff, students, families, and community members as we prepare to make a long-term location decision. DCPS commits to advocating for a facility option that best suits Bard DC's needs and captures feedback we learn from this engagement process. We are currently evaluating long-term facility options East of the River based on a number of factors including building availability, access, and location.

While DCPS works to identify and prepare a site that will serve Bard DC's long-term program and enrollment needs, the current plan is for Bard DC to be located at Davis for SY20-21. With this decision, we aim to provide continuity and minimize the number of moves for current Bard DC students and families. We understand that Bard DC will be adding a grade the following year and increasing in enrollment. DCPS is committed to working with you all to provide the appropriate accommodations for Bard DC's growth by building out additional space in the Davis building for classrooms and enrichment spaces and increasing the number of student lockers.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding and look forward to working with you to ensure that the upcoming school year at Davis continues to provide the best possible environment for the school community. DCPS will host a series of staff and parent meetings at Bard DC to discuss this SY20-21 location update and hear from the school community about their facility needs and priorities, with the first one on Monday, November 18th at 5:30 PM in Bard DC's multipurpose room. DCPS will host another meeting in Spring 2020 to discuss the long-term location priorities. We hope you will join us there; if you have questions or feedback in the meantime, please feel free to reach out our team at Andrea.Swiatocha@k12.dc.gov. Thank you for your engagement in this process.

Sincerely,



Andrea Swiatocha

Deputy Chief, Facilities