

## **E-Blast**

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Austin Elementary School

Eagle's E-Blast

## Austin Renovation/Build Update

On Wednesday, September 30, the Austin Elementary School Council met with several members of the County including Superintendent Green and the District COO Joseph Williams. As the leadership changed over the summer, the new leaders have been reviewing some projects that were already in the works - one of these projects is the Austin renovation/rebuild.

The District is reconsidering the option to build a new Austin Elementary in a new location with a capacity of 900 students to meet future growth. The construction of a larger school on our current property is impractical for a variety of reasons including usable acreage, traffic patterns and swing space needs.

Location is obviously the most important factor to the Austin families. The District has identified a "few" potential locations for the new school in close proximity (within 3 miles) to our current location. All locations under consideration were not disclosed to the Council per DeKalb County School System policy due to the sensitivity of real estate matters. The District recognizes the number of walkers at Austin and a key consideration in selecting the location is minimizing impact to walkers. The District states that its intent is to keep all current Austin families in the Austin attendance zone.

The construction timeline starts mid-2016, with the new Austin completed by the school year starting in August 2018. The students will stay at the current Austin during this time.

Mr. Williams is willing to speak with the Austin community, so stakeholders can ask him questions directly. The School Council will make you aware of this date as soon as it is set. The Council will continue to keep the Austin community updated on any new information.

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