



Oak Park Elementary School District 97

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TO: Dr. Carol E. Kelley, Superintendent of Schools
Board of Education

FROM: Alicia Evans, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations

RE: Lincoln Classroom Construction

DATE: November 14, 2017

The number of kindergarten classrooms at Lincoln school increased from five to six. The building is at capacity (see note below), which meant options were limited for classroom space. This year, the Spanish immersion class was converted from one classroom into two kindergarten classrooms. The decision to add the additional classroom was made shortly before the first day of school (driven by our preference to have small kindergarten class sizes across the district and our success with shared/partner teaching in other schools, e.g., Longfellow and Mann).

The District provided classroom furniture and a projector is mounted to the new space. However, concerns have been raised about the noise level in the rooms as a result of the classroom activities occurring in both spaces. The divider used to split the room is not the length of floor to ceiling. The administrators and the principals met with the teachers and subsequently visited the room with STR.

Based on information from STR, we can build a permanent wall, add HVAC, fire alarm, call switch, intercom to the other side of the room. In addition, we can add a door for egress to one side of the room during winter break. The estimate is \$60,333. The work will be coordinated by Bulley & Andrew as a change order to the summer 2017 work.

This issue was discussed with FAC at two meetings and FAC also toured the space. Other options were explored such as an accordion wall, adding sound panels and adding a mobile unit. The option that meets the objective of addressing noise concerns that could be done expediently at the best cost is the permanent wall option. Board approval is expected on November 27, 2017. The work will be done during the winter break in December 2017.

SPECIAL NOTE: Please see the attached STR Capacity Review report, which was used to plan the timing of our capital expansion at Holmes, Lincoln, and Longfellow. The analysis for classroom capacity at Lincoln showed the need for only one additional classroom which the District felt it could absorb for a couple of years.