



POTTSGROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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SUPERINTENDENT

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February 1, 2010

Dear Ringing Rocks Parent/Guardian:

Many of you are aware that a major renovation/construction project is scheduled to begin at Ringing Rocks Elementary School this June, 2010, as soon as the school term ends. The construction project will require 18 to 24 months to be completed. All internal systems will be upgraded, additional classrooms and a new cafeteria will be built, and the main office will be remodeled and expanded.

Pottsgrove School District Administration has been investigating the options for school operation during the construction work. The three options that we considered were:

1. Keep school operating at Ringing Rocks during the construction project.
2. Lease the St. Pius High School property, and relocate the entire school to St. Pius High School during construction.
3. Lease modular classrooms and place them at another school in the district.

Option 1, keeping the school operating at Ringing Rocks during construction would extend the construction time by three to six months, and would add approximately \$900,000 to the cost of the project. In addition, there are concerns for student safety on an active construction site with this option.

Option 2, leasing of the St. Pius property for 24 months, would cost the district approximately \$744,000. When the cost of utilities is added to this option, the cost for student relocation would be close to \$1,000,000 for the two year period.

Option 3 appears to be the most cost effective choice at this time, costing less than half of options 1 or 2, and the school board has asked administration to pursue this option. We are currently looking into adding eight modular classrooms to Pottsgrove Middle School, and relocating grades 1 to 5 to this site for the duration of the project. Kindergarten students from Ringing Rocks would attend either Lower Pottsgrove Elementary School or West Pottsgrove Elementary School during this time.

Obviously, there are many details to be worked out, including schedules, room locations, staff assignments, playgrounds, etc., etc. Administration will be communicating with staff and parents throughout the planning process and we will do

everything that we can to make this transition time run as smoothly as possible for all concerned. The February 23rd School Board Meeting will be moved to the Ringing Rocks Elementary School. At that meeting Gilbert Architects will provide an update with regard to the project scope, design and timeline. Parents and community members are encouraged to attend this meeting.

Thank you.

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