

# Youngstown City School District

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## **FAQ:** Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Revitalization Plan

### **Why are you making these changes to our school district?**

This is all about doing the right things for students. Every change was made to provide better support and more choice to our students and families.

### **How do you know this plan will work?**

YCSD is in Academic Emergency. We cannot afford to continue doing what we have always done. This plan was designed around the needs of our students. It starts on the first day of school and continues until graduation day.

### **How do I know where my student will go to school next year?**

**Elementary students:** Our elementary schools will house grades K-5. About 120 students currently assigned to MLK will be reassigned to Harding or Williamson. Parents will be notified by letter regarding this change.

### **Students in grades 6-12: Families will have options.**

- **Middle school students:** The district will have two 6-7<sup>th</sup> grade academies located at **Volney and Wilson**. Parents will be notified by letter regarding student assignments. These academies offer a safe, secure nurturing environment to bridge the transition to middle school.
- **P. Ross Berry will become an 8-9<sup>th</sup> grade academy.** This secure academy will focus on academic rigor, social-emotional support and behavior expectations. Teachers will interview and be selected for this school.
- **Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics** program located on the Chaney campus will require an interview for acceptance. Grades 6-12
- **Visual Performing Arts** program located on the Chaney campus will require an interview and/or audition for acceptance. Grades 6-12
- **Rayen Early College: located on Chaney campus. Eligibility for the program will follow past procedure**
- **East Campus of Business, Education and Law** will house students in grades 10-12. This program will include a full array of coursework including art, music, physical education, advanced placement courses and College in High School.

## **What about athletics?**

Youngstown City Schools will field one football team, one basketball team, etc. Although the programs will be housed at East, all teams and related activities will be open to ALL students across the district.

## **What if my child is in a special education program?**

We suggest you call the special education department to talk about your child's assignment. Refer to the Action Sheet for the appropriate phone number.

## **Will my child be transported to school?**

If your K-8 student lives over one mile from school they will be transported. Grades 9-12 transportation will be determined at a later date. Transportation information and school start times will be provided to families later this summer.

## **How do I apply for these programs?**

A student interest application form is in the mail. Students will have the opportunity to select a program or school. If the program requires an audition or interview, families will be notified of acceptance by the end of May 2011.

## **How will you ensure that our children are safe?**

Safety and security of our students will be one of our highest priorities. We will work collaboratively with the local law-enforcement agencies and local government. We will also work with students to help them understand the consequences of their behavior on the bus and at school. We will also ask our parents to play a major role in identifying where and when there may be potential problems. It will require the entire community working together.

## **When will we know the details of the plan?**

Many of the details will not be known until this summer. First we have to get the interest application forms back from families, which are due April 15. From that point on, we can begin to make assignments, schedule transportation, work out meal plans and determine school start times. We ask for your patience as we work out all the details. This is a major change and we have a lot of work yet to do.

