



# ALEXANDER GRAHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL TRANSITION FAQS

## What is the Transition and the Transition Years?

In furtherance of its goals and guiding principles for student assignment, CMS approved attendance boundary changes in 2017 to better balance the demographics and academic opportunities at Alexander Graham Middle School (AG) and Sedgfield Middle School (SMS). This plan changes the feeder patterns for AG and SMS. The Transition, or the changed feeder pattern, will be implemented over three years, the "Transition Years." Newly-assigned sixth-grade students will begin attending AG in 2019-20, with the transition being complete in 2021-22, when students from the new AG homeschool boundary will populate all three grades.

## What is the specific timeline of the student assignment changes for Alexander Graham Middle Schools and Sedgfield Middle School?

Beginning with students who will enter the 6th grade in the 2019-2020 school year:

- The Montclair Elementary and Pinewood Elementary attendance area will attend AG instead of SMS.
- The Dilworth Elementary and Eastover Elementary attendance area will attend SMS instead of AG.

The Selwyn Elementary, Billingsville-Cotswold Elementary and Sharon Elementary feeder patterns remain as currently in place. In 2019-20, all AG students will feed into Myers Park High School with the exception of the students in the Pinewood attendance area west of South Boulevard, who will continue to attend Harding for high school.

## What are the grandfather provisions approved by the CMS board with the student assignment changes?

Students who are in 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> grade during the 2018-2019 school year have default assignments to remain at the schools in which they are enrolled, even though the home school attendance area for their residence may be changed to a different school in 2019-20. Students remaining in their schools through this provision are eligible for transportation. Students who wish to attend their newly assigned schools must apply through the reassignment/transfer process to exercise this option.

## How is AG preparing to handle the Transition Years?

Representatives from AG Middle School Administration, AG PTO and AG SLT are working together to ensure the transition is smooth and successful for all students, families and staff.

Current school infrastructure includes resources that help serve the needs of our student body:

- Strong academic structure and course offerings that will remain in place to reach all students. Standard, standard plus and honors courses offered in language arts and math.
- Experienced staff and teachers, 45% of which have advanced degrees and 37% who have over 10 years of experience.
- Grade-level hallways with core classes taking place in the same area throughout the day.
- School Counselor assigned to each grade, who stays with the students through 8th grade.
- Full-time Nurse
- Bulldogs Matter, our afterschool enrichment program.
- A wide array of sports and clubs.

AG will look to expand these resources as needed with help from CMS and the AG community as the transition is implemented through 2021-22. Some additional requests to CMS include an additional counselor and English Language Learner support.

## How can you support AG during the Transition Years?

Middle school is a time when children are not big fans of seeing their parents at school, but we still need your support and involvement. Help us maintain and build a strong AG community in the following ways:

- Stay Informed – read the weekly AG Bulldog Bulletin and attend AG grade-level events.
- Volunteer – chair or serve on one of the AG PTO committees. Volunteer information is available at [www.agmspto.org](http://www.agmspto.org)
- Be a fan – catch an AG athletic event and join the Bulldog Club.
- Invest in The AG Fund, our financial giving campaign that supports school programming, improvement projects and all PTO Committees.