

CMS Building Update - 3/13/25

cmsbondconstruction.com

- [Presentation](#) was recorded and will be uploaded on website on Friday, 3/14/2025

Dennis LaCaria

3/27 - JT Williams meeting (move to Marie G Davis)

Vincent Spencer

Architects gave an overview of the timeline and construction to be done

Area A - Administration

- Under renovation this summer
- 3 steps to enter the reception area/remainder of school

Two Life Skills Classrooms (Area C & E)

- Kitchen and laundry areas in both classrooms

Courtyard Amenities

- Existing maze, playgrounds, gardens
- Adding picnic tables, storage, raised planter beds
- Able to utilize the Grier Heights Park as well (use agreement)

Phase 1 - permitting/bidding/construction of admin area and entrance this summer

Cotswold ES construction begins fall of 2025 and goes through Summer 2027

Phase 2 - beginning of 2027 - permitting/bidding of Lifeskills Classrooms and additional sitework at Billingsville

- August 2027 - Chantilly moves to Billingsville

General Q & A

Summary of what questions were asked are *italicized*.

- *Fully funded already*
- *New Montessori furniture and materials will be purchased*
 - Purposely waiting for Montessori renovations and materials until Cotswold is in their building
- *Will expand program*

- 400-500 students total
- *Bell schedule*
 - Subject to change every year; this is a CMS decision. No discussion currently about changing the current bell schedule for the Montessori program.
- *Trailers*
 - Will be removed
- *How will the construction maintain Billingsville's history?*
 - Use of Grier Park and continued improvement of courtyard
 - Original school will stay standing
- *Upper El students need large classrooms to maintain the Montessori approach to learning. How will this be maintained at Billingsville?*
 - Static size, but exterior door in every classroom to allow students to learn outside of the classroom
 - This is the same as Sedgefield
- *Growth plan for the school*
 - Will begin expanding in 2027
 - Lottery will continue to work the same way where any student can enter during their Primary years, but only students who have been in Montessori will be able to apply to the Montessori lottery as it grows
 - CMS student assignment oversees this policy (not the Bond/Construction team present at this meeting)
- *Foreign language*
 - Do not know if this could be incorporated within our program
 - However, as the Montessori program grows, there are more opportunities for the curriculum and classes offered to expand
- *Montessori garden beds*
 - On par with Sedgefield
 - Time frame is now to talk about these sizes
 - **Request** - area for "grow lights" so students can grow seedlings and then plant them in their gardens (similar to what Upper El did this year)
- *Ms. Christie*
 - Chimed in to highlight some of the "other" types of questions like curriculum, gardens, etc.
 - Ms. Sandra does a lot during the summer months to approve construction updates, etc.

- Sedgefield were the guinea pigs which has been helpful so we are learning from them what to ask for and what not to ask for
- *Traffic study of the Billingsville area given the congestion/busyness of Randolph Rd.*
 - Always conduct and review
- *PTO raise capital prior to for updates*
 - Dennis recommends “getting into the house before starting to buy the furniture” for it
- *What happens if the timeline is delayed? Is there a cutoff time when adjustments can no longer be made?*
 - As long as Cotswold is open, there is no delay for our move
 - We could stay at Chantilly if needed
 - 1 year warranty on work, so Dennis and team can continue to come back to respond to things
- *Plan for Chantilly once we leave*
 - State of NC - have to build large parking lots for schools with lots of green space, etc.
 - Floodplain here so we cannot build another school
 - Meck County Park & Rec
 - Berry Hill - well/septic tank
 - There is always a potential option that it could be sold for development
 - This would come down to CMS and the county looking at their financial needs to determine if that would be beneficial (that’s if an offer is made)
- *Quick look at a picture of a Sedgefield classroom*
 - Images in the presentation have desks and chairs. CMS team followed up after the meeting with photos of the Sedgefield classrooms – which match our current Montessori environment with works, open space, and some tables.
- *Does Grier Heights support this move?*
 - Supported the move and families there wanted the program brought to them
- *Given all of the changes being made to Billingsville’s entrance, is our current school secure? What are we doing here for the next two years?*
 - We have a secure building that meets safety standards
- *With Billingsville being next to a public park that we and others can have access to, what are the safety measures?*
 - Worked out through the county and CMS as a shared space
- Pre-K, K, 1 - have to have bathrooms in the classrooms and access to the outside

- Door to exit in every classroom