



June 21, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Happy Summer! I wanted to reach out and let you know some exciting news about Walker's Needham Campus. We have received approval from our Board of Directors to move forward with some renovations to our residential building and our school buildings. These new structures, once completed, will allow us greater flexibility in planning for our programs and services, and provide additional space for recreational and educational activities for the children in residences and classrooms. We are extremely grateful to our Board of Directors for helping to make these exciting additions possible and we are incredibly grateful to our staff, students and families for inspiring us to work towards making dreams a reality as we plan for our students' and for Walker's future.

Construction is scheduled to begin the first week of July and should be completed by next summer.

There are three phases of construction, including:

Phase 1 – Creating the “Residential Connector”. This exciting structure will fully unite the existing two residential buildings. Additionally, the new space will include commercial laundry; a family meeting area; additional recreation space; several new offices; and new construction will allow us to convert all bedrooms to single bedrooms.

Phase 2 – Creating a “Multipurpose Space”. We are eagerly anticipating this new structure which will be located in the center of our field and will become our new gymnasium.

Phase 3 – Creating new Classroom Space in the “New School”. Our “Old School” building is ready to retire from use as classroom spaces. Once the new Multipurpose Space is completed, we will make the current gymnasium in the “New School” into six new classrooms, allowing us to move the four existing classrooms out of the “Old School”. Phase 3 will not start until Phase 2 is completed.

Walker has been working with architect Michael Whitmore from Roundel 47. Roundel 47 is known for their work with schools like Walker and we are excited about the design. Bowdoin Construction is the General Contractor for all three phases. Bowdoin has experience working with schools like Walker. For Bowdoin and for Walker, safety is our utmost concern.

We plan to provide periodic construction updates to parents and families on our website.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Very Truly Yours,

Edie Janas

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