



CHARTER SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

Administration Office 1511 Peach St. Erie, PA 16501

4/20/17

Students and Families
Charter School of Excellence
RE: Middle School Relocation

Dear Students and Families,

The following letter is intended to communicate with you our plans for relocating the CSE-Middle School. A starting point must be provided to give you the historical perspective of the middle school program. In 2004-2005 we opened our doors at the Bayfront Center, directly behind the Blasco Library. This space afforded us the opportunity to create a Maritime theme. However, we were forced to relocate to our current location. We have been treated very fairly by the Directors of the Mount Calvary location, which has served our programming well. However, being centrally located in the city of Erie has always been in our minds and the opportunity to move is upon us.

Space became available at Lovell Place, adjacent to the CSE-Skills Center, and we have taken steps to seek approval to proceed. At the April 19th board meeting for Erie's Public Schools we have been approved to make the relocation a reality.

There is no doubt that the relocation will be a great step forward due to increasing our program needs and services. The highlights below are some examples:

- More efficient programming due to the economies of scale being on a campus setting
- Additional opportunities for middle school electives due to modified staffing patterns
- The entire middle school space will be new construction, our students will have technology infused and air conditioned space to promote an ideal learning environment
- Mentoring programs between middle and high school students
- Maintain the Maritime theme, while modifying our application of the thematic approach in our curriculum
- Provide areas of transition for students from middle to high school
- Increase dual enrollment opportunities for middle school students
- No bus transfers needed with EMTA routes
- Approximately 70% of our existing students will be closer to or the same distance to the new Lovell Place location, although we certainly recognize the 30% that will have the distance added

There is no doubt in my mind that this will be a transition that will serve all the stakeholders who support our mission and our vision. The timeline for the transition is in flux, as there are many details with construction that need worked through. However, our most aggressive plan is to transfer at semester change in the 17-18 school year and our most conservative plan is the beginning of the 18-19 school year.

You will be receiving a letter that will identify a date in May at which time I will conduct an information sharing session and give you all of the information that is current and provide you with a time to ask any questions that you may have.

Change is always a time that brings happiness and concern. Knowing how one fits on the other side of change is important. I see us in a better place on the other side of this change. We will continue to offer safe, small learning environments that provide your children with the opportunity to meet their potential.

Respectfully,

Dr. Nick Viglione
CEO