

# Update for Parents

April 5, 2018

## Reopening delayed to Tuesday, April 24

**A number of issues** means we need to delay reopening Andrew Jackson Middle from April 16 to April 24.

- ☛ **Issue 1:** Final inspection by the State Office of School Facilities could not be scheduled until Wednesday, April 11.
- ☛ **Issue 2:** All the school’s ceiling tiles cannot be put back until after final inspection.

The inspector must be able to do a thorough above-the-tiles inspection to be sure all electrical connections, fire caulking and ceiling grid assembly are correct.

- ☛ **Issue 3:** We will need adequate time to fix any problems that may be found during inspection.
- ☛ **Issue 4:** Power at Andrew Jackson Middle – as well as at Andrew Jackson High – must be turned off Thursday as part of construction of the new arts focus facility.

This power outage has been scheduled by the contractors and Duke Energy for months and cannot be postponed.

No power that day means we’ll only have Friday to get any issues found during inspection fixed, to get the ceiling tiles in place and to get student desks and other furniture being used at the host schools back to Andrew Jackson Middle and in place.

- ☛ **Issue 5:** We don’t believe this new tight completion schedule will allow us to complete all the after-inspection work and still give teachers the time they need to get in their rooms and do what they must do before the school reopens.

## Again, thank you for your patience

☛ **From superintendent Jonathan Phipps,** “I want to say again to parents, students, teachers and staff at Andrew Jackson Middle and at our host schools how much we appreciate all the support and hard work you’ve put into making this tough situation work.

“You’ve done a great job of making the time in host schools a positive experience and helped us keep student learning on track. We’re so blessed to have a community that supports each other. Thank you.”

## Costs

- ☛ **Our insurance** is covering the costs for clean-up and repairs – exactly why we make sure we adequately insure our facilities.
- ☛ **The estimate** is still around \$3 million.

## Making up days missed

- ☛ Our board will consider during its April 17 regular board meeting forgiving the two days missed by Andrew Jackson Middle students because of the fire.

We’re so glad we haven’t had to miss days for bad weather, and we’re hopeful no weather issues or other issues require us to miss other days before the end of school.

State law allows the board to forgive up to three days.

## Phone numbers

- ☛ Andrew Jackson High..... 803-475-2318
- ☛ Heath Springs Elementary ..... 803-273-3176
- ☛ Kershaw Elementary..... 803-475-6655
- ☛ Superintendent ..... 803-416-8806

