

April 5, 2022

We shared with you at the end of last semester that Peoria Unified's School Facilities Team was beginning to meet regarding potential repurposing of three elementary school sites. As we move into the second phase of their work, we want to provide you with a more in-depth review of the process and the work that we anticipate will take place next.

Before we share that update, we think it is important to remind our community of the work that has taken place to get us to this point. The district's repurposing work began nearly two years ago after studies identified that low enrollment in certain areas of the district is resulting in school facilities that are significantly underutilized. This has a financial impact, but also has an educational impact by limiting the number of courses that can be offered at certain sites. The district formed a team that began to review the study findings and from their work, identified three sites for consideration of a potential repurpose: Desert Palms, Pioneer and Sky View.

Next, their work was brought forward to the Governing Board and they asked a second team be convened to study the future use for one or all three sites, if they are repurposed. This is the work of the current team of Desert Palms, Pioneer and Sky View staff, parents and community members and this is where our comprehensive update begins. This team began meeting last month and has been reviewing proposed options for the three sites, if they are repurposed. If the team reaches consensus, their recommendation(s) will be presented to the superintendent who will bring it to the Governing Board for consideration of next steps.

From here, only if the Governing Board votes to approve a closure process will the district advance in the process. The district will begin to follow a detailed, prescribed timeline found in ARS 15-341 which includes extensive community input into the process. Through this process, the district will advertise and host public forums and gather feedback from those most affected by the potential changes. The input received will be presented to the Governing Board for final consideration and future action.

As you can see, there are still many steps left in this process. We remain committed to keeping you informed as we progress from phase two, but in the meantime, we have created a section on our [website](#) that will help our community better understand the phases. You can also visit [www.peoriaunified.org/repurposing](http://www.peoriaunified.org/repurposing) for more information. If you have questions, please reach out to your school principal who has been a tremendous partner in this difficult and emotional process.

We look forward to updating you again before the end of the school year.

Thank you,

Kevin Molino  
Chief Operations Officer

Carter Davidson, Ed.D.  
Chief of Student Services