

District 10 Middle School Merger

APPROVED ACTION

West Ashley Middle School and C.E. Williams Middle School will merge with all District 10 middle school students (grades 6-8) located on the new C.E. Williams Middle campus that is opening in August 2020. This was approved by the CCSD Board of Trustees on January 27, 2020. The CCSD staff will engage with District 10 stakeholders to develop a long-term middle school plan by June 2020. The Board will include any associated facility needs as part of the November penny sales tax referendum for capital projects.

EXPECTED BENEFITS

- Equitable offerings across for all D10 middle school students to support both the arts and advanced academics.
- Closer proximity to West Ashley High for access to high school courses and the new West Ashley Center for Advanced Studies opening in 2021.
- Better access for all District 10 students to athletic fields, fine arts facilities, and extracurricular activities.
- Better planning between middle school teachers and high school teachers in the same subject area.
- Use of high school teachers to deliver some advanced academic courses at middle school.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

	Students	Current Student Demographics		
C.E. Williams Middle 6-8	657	47% White	39% African-American	57% Poverty
West Ashley Middle 6-8	608	28% White	57% African-American	75% Poverty
Total District 10 Grades 6-8	1265	37% White	50% African-American	66% Poverty

- All students from Ashley River Creative Arts Elementary (majority White) and most zoned students from St. Andrews Math & Science Elementary (majority White) partial magnets feed directly into C.E. Williams despite being closer to West Ashley. Conversely, students from at least one predominantly African-American neighborhood must go past C.E. Williams to get to their zoned school at West Ashley.
- The District 10 Constituent Board has considered ways to rezone the attendance areas for better balance, but neighborhood geography makes that nearly impossible. The District 10 Board recommended the consolidation into one middle school attendance zone.

