



CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ALBANY
Edmund J. O'Neal Middle School of Excellence

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Kandie Antonetti – Principal
Timitra Rose – Assistant Principal **April Stokes** – Assistant Principal

March 8, 2019

Dear Families:

I am writing to urge you to attend an important meeting at our school **this Tuesday, March 12**, to learn more about enrollment options for next school year that our Board of Education discussed at its meeting Thursday. Tuesday's meeting will begin at 6 p.m. in our cafeteria. We also are inviting families from Sheridan Preparatory Academy to attend this meeting.

The board is considering options that would reduce our school's enrollment in 2019-20 and for the next several years. We have learned in the 18 months that our school has been in operation that our building cannot serve the temporary enrollment pattern the district put in place when it opened O'Neal. Our school would grow by about 50 students in 2019-20 under the current enrollment configuration. The board is looking at options to reduce that while continuing to provide high-quality educational opportunities for all of our students. Here are the options the board is considering. We will discuss these options in detail Tuesday:

- Students currently in grade 5 at Arbor Hill Elementary School and North Albany Academy would stay at their elementary schools for sixth grade. Students from Philip J. Schuyler Achievement Academy and Sheridan Preparatory Academy would continue to enroll at O'Neal beginning in sixth grade.
- All students scheduled to attend sixth grade at O'Neal in 2019-20 would attend sixth grade at North Albany Academy. North Albany's elementary students would re-enroll at other schools in the district to accommodate this new temporary middle school.
- Students currently in grade 5 at Schuyler and North Albany would attend sixth grade at North Albany. Students currently in grade 5 at Arbor Hill and Sheridan Prep would attend sixth grade at O'Neal.

In addition to reducing the overall enrollment at O'Neal, the board also is considering these options to address the district's budget deficit for 2019-20, and declining elementary enrollment at district schools on the north side of the city. You can visit www.albanyschools.org for more information.

Please attend Tuesday's meeting. The board is very interested in hearing from you as it looks to finalize a decision in the coming weeks. The board's next full discussion of these options will be at its March 21 meeting at North Albany Academy. Please plan to join us for that meeting as well.

Sincerely,

Kandie Antonetti
Principal