



BCSC Announces \$12 Million Renovation to Modernize Facilities and Classrooms at Parkside Elementary School

Parkside Elementary School is excited to announce the start of a nearly two-year renovation to its facilities and classrooms that will set students up for success with a state-of-the-art, collaborative learning environment. Learn more about what the renovations will bring to Parkside, below.

A New STEM Lab

One of the most exciting aspects of the renovations is a new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) lab that will enhance instruction and provide hands-on opportunities for learning. Just this year, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that employment in STEM occupations is projected to grow 8.8% by 2028. At Parkside, we will take a proactive approach in preparing our students for future challenges and opportunities.



More Natural Light



Our modernization of the school's classrooms will provide a learning environment for students consistent with the best practices in education. We know students perform better in environments with natural light, with [one study this year from the California Energy Commission](#) showing that classrooms with the most daylighting had a 20% better learning rate in math and 26% improved rate in reading compared to classrooms with little or no daylight.

Increased Space Dedicated to Mental Wellness

At Parkside, we believe schools are about more than rote memorization and learning. We view each student holistically, understanding the importance of building resilience and effective communication skills at a young age. We understand that a student's emotional intelligence is a vital component of their healthy development. Creating more space dedicated to mental wellness will support these qualities.



Single-User Locking Restrooms

At Parkside, we believe all schools should be a safe and welcoming environment for all children. Renovating the restrooms helps to provide the most comfortable environment for our students, so that they are free to focus on learning, growing and becoming their best selves.

FAQ's

As we go through the renovation process, we know you may have questions. Below are some frequently asked questions to provide more clarity about the changes. Please feel free to reach out to Principal Chris Smith if you have any additional questions.

- Why is the renovation work necessary?
 - The renovations will create a safe and welcoming environment for students to learn in a creative and engaging way that reflects the best practices in education. The new spaces will be more accessible, flexible, and energy efficient.
- What are the key features associated with the renovation?
 - Key features include a STEM lab, emotional wellness center, flexible learning spaces, and enhanced technology.
- Exterior site improvements When is construction starting?
 - Major work on the renovation is set to begin October 2022.
- How long will the renovation take?
 - The renovations are scheduled to be completed in 2024 and will take place across multiple phases.
- How will my student at Parkside be affected during the renovation process?

- o We will make every effort to minimize disruptions to students' learning. We will use fall, winter and spring breaks for any required shutdowns. However, there will be times during the school year where certain areas and facilities will be closed off to students. All classes will continue, and accommodations will be made to replace the areas that are closed off.
- How will the historic architectural elements within the building be modified during the renovations?
 - o The unique architectural elements of the building, such as the use of interior beams, will be preserved.
- How do I stay updated on the project developments?
 - o Follow Parkside elementary on our social media channels [linked logos: [Parkside Elementary \(@1400PS\) / Twitter](#) / [\(5\) Parkside Pirates | Facebook](#)]. We will also be launching a new app called the Parent Square app where we will distribute important information to parents.