COLLINGSWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

collsk12.org

6-12 Unified Campus Initiative

Supporting Student Success

Community Information Sessions

January 2026

Mission/Vision Statement

By building on the strengths of our diverse school community,
Collingswood/Oaklyn Public Schools commit
to providing an inclusive and supportive environment that
inspires and empowers every student.

To foster the qualities necessary
for students to serve as contributors
to an equitable and socially just community.

Driven By Our Values



Student Success



Equity & Inclusion



Team & Family

We are a values-driven school district that prioritize and integrate core values into our policies, practices, and overall culture.

Overview

Given the fiscal environment schools have experienced over the last several years, we seek to leverage the strengths of each individual school to maximize efficiency while ensuring that we continue to provide students with an outstanding educational experience.

The Collingswood School District is engaging in a robust, community-involved process to consolidate the middle school (grades 6–8) and high school (grades 9–12) into a single, **unified 6–12 campus model.**

The unified campus model will be designed to support positive school culture, enhance academic continuity, offer expanded programs, and utilize shared resources more effectively.

What is the Purpose?

The merger is driven by a commitment to student success and responsible fiscal stewardship. Specifically, the unified 6–12 campus aims to achieve the following goals:

- **Seamless Academic and Social Experience**: Create a smoother, continuous educational path for students from grade 6 through high school graduation
- **Strengthen Academic Pathways**: Improve the alignment of curriculum and increase student access to advanced and accelerated programming currently housed at the high school
- **Reduce Transitions and Increase Consistency**: Establish a single, cohesive school culture and consistent set of expectations, reducing the disruption students currently face when moving from middle school to high school
- **Improve Supports**: Strengthen resources dedicated to ensuring college and career readiness for all students earlier in their educational journey
- **Enhance Efficiency:** Proactively address financial pressures and enrollment patterns by achieving greater efficiency in staffing, space utilization and service delivery

Unified Campus Examples

The merger of Collingswood Middle School and High School into a unified 6–12 campus aims to provide a rigorous, personalized experience for all students. Currently at least (40) consolidated campuses exist in New Jersey. Listed are a few examples of well-established unified campus models in the region:

- **Julia R. Masterman School (Philadelphia, PA)**
  - Serves 1200 students, Grades 5-12
  - Offers Honors & AP courses, Extracurricular activities, sports, etc
- **Haddon Heights Jr/Sr High School (Haddon Heights, NJ)**
  - Serves 938 students, Grades 7-12
  - Offers Honors & AP courses, Extracurricular activities, sports, etc
- **Infinity Institute (Jersey City, NJ)**
  - Serves 300 students, Grades 6-12
  - Cambridge International Education Program
- **Denver School of the Arts (Denver, CO)**
  - Serves 1000 students, Grades 6-12
  - Offers Honors & AP courses, Extracurricular activities, sports, etc
- **Audubon Jr/Sr High (Audubon, NJ)**
  - Serves 746 students, Grades 7-12
  - Offers Honors & AP Courses; Performing Arts, Applied Arts, Tech Ed, & Business

Timeline: Phase 1 (Sept - Nov)

Phase	Timeline	Focus Area	Leadership Tasks	Communications
1. Strategic Kickoff	Sept–Nov	Planning Framework: Leadership Structure, Vision, Stakeholder Engagement	• Form Steering Committee • Appoint Project Manager • Set guiding principles, establish goals and timeline.	Internal/External
	Oct 30th	Staff Presentation	• Present Initiative to CMS/CHS Staff • Answer questions • Solicit Staff participation	Internal
	Nov 3rd	Community Update	• Unified Campus Initiative newsletter.	External
	Week of Nov 17th	Meeting Orientation	• Identify Steering Committee • Establish working groups: Staff, Students, Parents	Internal

Timeline: Phase 2 (Nov - Dec)

Phase	Timeline	Focus Area	Leadership Tasks	Communications
2. Facilities & Staffing Review	Nov–Dec	Physical Space & Safety: Building Use	• Conduct building site visits • Draft age-zoning and hallway flow map • Review security and emergency plans • Update maintenance and capital improvement priorities. • Review facilities utilization • Audit/Asset map staff certifications	Internal
	Nov-Dec	Community Engagement Sessions and Work Groups	• MS Faculty & Staff • HS Faculty & Staff • School Administrators	Report out during BOE Meetings and Meeting Highlights.

Timeline: Phase 3 (Jan - Feb)

Phase	Timeline	Focus Area	Leadership Tasks	Communications
3. Academic & Program Alignment	Jan–Feb	Curriculum & Instruction: Pathways, Support Services	• Map vertical 6–12 curriculum pathways. • Align course sequences, grading, assessments, & electives • Review special ed/504 continuity for inclusion opportunities	Community Info provided. Parent Info Sessions held. Faculty Meeting updates.
		Site Management & Operations	• Identify management structure • Align roles & responsibilities • Determine staffing shifts, surpluses, and shared positions • Identify training needs/ summer work	Internal
		Community Engagement Sessions and Work Groups	• MS/HS Students • Parents & Guardians • Steering Committee	Report out during BOE Meetings and Meeting Highlights.

Timeline: Phase 4 (Mar - Apr)

Phase	Timeline	Focus Area	Leadership Tasks	Communications
4. Operations & Policy Design	Mar–Apr	Scheduling & HR: Daily Schedule, Discipline, Safety	• Build shared master schedule with unique middle & high blocks- • Update handbooks, plan hall flow, bell schedule, and emergency protocols.	Internal FAQ for staff roles- Parent message about scheduling process- Staff feedback channels open. Share draft 6–12 handbook, open policy comment period

Timeline: Phase 5 (May - June)

Phase	Timeline	Focus Area	Leadership Tasks	Communications
5. Orientation & Culture Building	May–June	Climate & Belonging: Launch Readiness, Community Identity	• Develop new student leadership structure (6–12 council) • Create shared behavior matrix (PBIS, Restorative Practices) • Schedule Unity Events (assemblies, clubs, mentorships) • Plan orientation events, assign peer mentors	Social media campaign, “One Campus, One Community”- Weekly highlights of student voices- Family engagement night. Release “What to Expect” guidance

Timeline: Phase 6 (July - Aug)

Phase	Timeline	Focus Area	Leadership Tasks	Communications
6. Transition & Launch	July–Aug	Operational Readiness: Final Preparations, Rollout	• Finalize rosters, room assignments, and signage. • Test lunch waves, fire drills, and hallway flow • Orient new staff and finalize handbooks. • Conduct site visits, distribute resources, and adjust as needed	Host welcome days, launch videos, and campus leader welcome messages

Timeline: Phase 7 (Aug - Sept)

Phase	Timeline	Focus Area	Leadership Tasks	Communications
7. Launch & Adjustment	Aug-Sept	Unified Campus Launch: Opening Prep	• Conduct staff PD on shared culture, behavior norms, safety • Prep technology systems, bus routes, IDs, lunch accounts • Final evaluation of readiness checklist	Video recap of progress- Welcome kits for students- Live Q&A for parents

What's Next?

As we plan for the transition to a unified campus for grades 6-12, a select group of committed staff members are actively participating in the planning, design, and subsequent implementation of a unified campus model for SY 26-27.

A steering committee comprised of school and district administrators, union leaders, and PTA leaders is also being established to provide additional oversight into the process.

As new information is developed, the school community will be updated.


COLLINGSWOOD
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
IT'S WHERE YOU WANT TO LEARN