

School Closings and Rezoning General Frequently Asked Questions

If my child's school is on the list, when will it close?

Schools that are closing will remain open for the rest of the 2017-2018 school year. Students in those schools will transition to their new school when school begins in the fall.

Why is my school closing instead of another?

The closings are to help with our financial issues. In choosing specific schools, declining enrollment over the past few years, a change in the projected population in the area around the school (fewer school-aged children in the school's zone), or the cost of keeping the school open (the number of needed repairs) may have been part of the consideration.

There are other schools that fit the same profile, why my child's school?

It may have to do with location. Schools that are more centrally located, that have easy access for buses and cars, that may have larger cafeterias, libraries or other advantages are often picked to be consolidated with other schools around it.

What are the advantages for my child moving?

Schools that have a larger population earn more services. Larger schools often earn extra teacher units, counselors, librarians, assistant principals, and have an easier time getting extracurricular activities started. The schools students are transferring to also generally will have newer or better facilities than the schools that are closing.

Where will my child be going to school now?

In the coming days, there will be informational meetings at each school that is scheduled to close. At those meetings the details of school assignments, transportation and schedules will be discussed. The dates and times of these meetings will be posted on our website and you will receive information from your school and through phone calls, emails, and the media.

But I heard that the new schools don't want my child since she came from another neighborhood.

That is simply not the case. Over the summer, schools who will be getting new students will have a Welcome and Orientation session where students and parents can tour the school, meet teachers and staff, and even have a chance to make new friends. This will allow transferring students to feel more at ease when school begins.

How can I get answers to questions I have about these changes?

At this time, we don't have specific answers on where students will go or transportation details. Those answers will be given at the informational meeting at your school. If you have a general question that wasn't addressed here, you can send your question to parentinfo@mps.k12.al.us. If an answer is available to your specific question we will do our best to answer it.