

FREDERICK DOUGLASS BUILDING

October 25, 2023 | Community Meeting



COMMUNITY QUESTIONS

Q: Is the new entrance facing North Warwick Avenue for Joseph C. Briscoe Academy and Frederick Douglass High School?

The new entrance facing North Warwick Avenue is for Briscoe students only. Douglass students will enter from the east side of the existing building at their new main entrance. It is possible Douglass will use the auxiliary gym after school, but during the day it will be utilized by Briscoe. We are tearing down the current JROTC wing, and the Briscoe addition will replace that.

Q: Why is the courtroom being pushed to the fourth floor from the third? I'm concerned with how this may impact the legacy of the program as well as accessibility.

Modifications have been made to accommodate both schools, and we made sure to highlight the courtroom in that process because of its rich legacy. It is a standalone classroom, compared to something like a math class or department that requires more space on the floor. Also, the Douglass community can access the space by elevator and stairs.

Q: I am concerned that our JROTC program will be affected by this new design. Will the new square footage accommodate our needs?

Yes, there will be two JROTC classrooms on the ground level of the building, along with an office, storage spaces for uniforms and supplies, armory, cadet office, book storage, and changing spaces. We will follow up on the square footage.

Q: What will the future outdoor learning area (currently the garden) in the new design consist of?

The intent of the outdoor learning area is to have varied spaces for outdoor learning and a greenhouse with plant beds for Briscoe. The space's design is still in development, but it will be a flexible collaboration space. The outdoor area between the Briscoe addition and dining wing will be for the Briscoe students. The outdoor area at the back of the building where the existing tennis courts are currently located will be an outdoor learning area for Frederick Douglass.

Q: Will Joseph C. Briscoe Academy be able to do sports programming at Frederick Douglass High School?

We encourage you to reach out to the principals for more information as the school administration will make decisions regarding sports programming on campus.

For more information, visit our website, baltimore21stcenturyschools.org, or email us at 21stcenturybuildings@bcps.k12.md.us.