



April 16, 2025

Subject: Estimated timetable for Fernwood reopening

Dear Fernwood Families and Staff,

We are writing with an update on the lead renovation work happening in your school building. We have heard your requests for more frequent and detailed information and are committed to providing you with that.

Status of Work

We are pleased to share that as of Tuesday, April 15, renovation and painting at Fernwood Montessori School are complete. The building is now undergoing thorough cleaning, which we expect to last through the weekend.

Moving Forward

- We expect the building will be ready for inspection by the City of Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) on **Monday, April 21**. If MHD clears Fernwood for occupancy, we then plan for teachers having all day Tuesday, April 22, to set up their classrooms. More information will be provided to teachers by Principal Lowell.
- On **Tuesday, April 22**, Fernwood students would still report to Douglas Middle School, where they will be welcomed by Milwaukee Rec, members of our academic team, and an administrator from Fernwood. As with the relocation, virtual learning is offered as an option. If you would like to utilize this option for Tuesday, please contact your child's teacher. Please note that Fernwood administration will be on site at Douglas for the day.
- **MPS expects students and staff will return to Fernwood on Wednesday, April 23.** Please understand that this timetable is subject to change, but, based on your feedback, we want to share what we know right now. If there are any changes to this schedule, we will inform you immediately by email and by phone and on the [MPS Lead Report webpage](#). MPS Transportation will also be ready to transport students to Fernwood on Wednesday, as usual.

Opportunities to Have Questions Answered

We are grateful to all of you who attended last week's virtual town hall meeting. We are in the process of creating an FAQ in response to the questions asked in the chat during that meeting. We are planning another town hall meeting for the schools that remain closed, and that information will be shared with those schools. We welcome further questions at lead@milwaukee.k12.wi.us.

Next Steps

Milwaukee Public Schools is finalizing its lead action plan with the Milwaukee Health Department. Once MHD approves the plan, MPS will share it publicly.

Families are encouraged to follow up with their child's healthcare provider or visit a pop-up clinic for routine lead screening if they have not done so already. For updates, clinic locations, and public health resources, visit mpsmke.com/mpsleadreport or milwaukee.gov/MPS-Lead. Additional resources are available at milwaukee.gov/HEH.

Thank you to every family member and every staff member for your partnership, as we navigate these important measures for the safety of all.

Sincerely,

Office of School Administration