

Council Rock gets ready for full-day kindergarten

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In preparation for its launch into full-day kindergarten in 2021, Brighton Central School District began work on one of its school buildings this week.

New fencing is being installed and outdoor items such as old playground equipment and goal posts are being removed from Council Rock Primary School, 600 Grosvenor Road, this week, according to a message shared on the district's website. Underground utility surveys also began this week, and a temporary gravel construction road and staging area will be installed later this month.

Council Rock is the only school in the district that offers kindergarten, district spokesman Daniel Goldman said, but limited space has prevented the school from offering a full-day program.

"The reason that we haven't been able to is because we didn't have the space," Goldman said. "Council Rock is essentially at capacity."

The construction is part of the Brighton Facilities Improvement Project, which will allow for an addition to be built onto the school's south side over the next two years.

The school will also receive a new entrance and main office, cafeteria and library, and updates will be made to existing classrooms, Goldman said. Updates will also be made to the building's mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, and the parking lot and bus loop will be reconfigured.

Brighton voters approved the facilities improvement project in May 2017. Construction

on Council Rock is expected to be completed in 2021 in time for full-day kindergarten to begin that fall.

Brighton is the only district left in Monroe County without a full-day kindergarten program, and one of only a handful in the state without it.

Last fall, the Pittsford Central School District finally implemented its full-day kindergarten for the first time after a state-funding boost provided a workaround to a failed budget vote.

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Kindergarten teacher Lori Lusk walks with students into Allen Creek Elementary School in September, after Pittsford switched to full-day kindergarten. The move left Brighton as the only Monroe County district without full-day kindergarten. JAMIE GERMANO/ROCHESTER DEMOCRAT AND CHRONICLE