

## School 1 building plans change

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For most of 2016, the Rochester City School District has been grappling with its plans for the soon-to-be-renovated School 1 building at Cobb's Hill Park. School 1 wants to stay there, but the district already said Children's School of Rochester (School 15) would be moving in instead.

A final answer may be at hand, and it likely won't make anyone happy: neither of them gets the building. In a letter to parents, the school board said it has reached "tentative consensus" on a new plan, to be discussed further at a public meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday. The plan, as described in the letter, would put both elementary schools in the former Madison High School building on Genesee Street, north of Wilson Magnet High School. That building now houses the elementary-level Wilson Foundation Academy and Rochester Early College International High School. According to the letter, schools 1 and 15 would land at the new building once "high school students currently there transition to a new location."

The only high school students in that building are the Early College students. The letter doesn't mention where their new location is; in fact, it's not even addressed to Early College parents. There is also no indication of what will happen with the School 1 building, which is supposed to be ready by 2019. The new plan is unlikely to appease School 1 parents, who have lambasted the district over its failure to communicate ever since learning from the newspaper in May that they were being ousted from their building.

"We don't know if there's a plan to merge the two schools, or if 1 and 15 will be sitting there for who-knows-how long. ... "Obviously there's a lot of gray area."

"There's a lot of things I'm very concerned about with this move. ... This whole modernization project started off as something good, but now it's all about the economy and it's really sad our children are caught up in it. ... No one can give precise answers; it's just people beating around the mulberry bush."