Dear Maxfield Elementary School families and staff,

As you may know, Envision SPPS is an initiative to align our school buildings with well-rounded education programs so we can ensure all students have access to high-quality learning opportunities regardless of which school they attend.

Currently, far too many of our students—particularly students of color—do not receive the strong, well-rounded education they need to put them on the path to thrive in school and their careers. As we’ve shared before, the reasons for this are complex, but declining birth rates and increased competition from schools outside of SPPS are among the biggest challenges. Schools and programs with too few students make it too difficult to provide those students with a well-rounded education.

Tonight, SPPS administration is presenting its recommendation to the Board of Education to co-locate, re-locate, combine or close some schools and programs. Tonight’s meeting is at 4:30 p.m. and will be streamed live; a recording of the meeting will be available on Tuesday.

Your school is one that will be affected by these recommendations, specifically: Jackson Elementary School is being recommended to close and students in the community program would relocate to Maxfield Elementary School. If approved by the Board of Education, Maxfield students would welcome Jackson community students in fall 2022.

These recommendations will be voted on by the Board on November 16. To answer questions and listen to concerns, a series of information sessions and public hearings will be scheduled before the Board vote. Dates, time and locations will be posted on the Envision SPPS website this week. Schools directly impacted by recommendations will also have meetings to specifically discuss these changes and answer questions—dates and times for these meetings will be provided soon.

We know school program changes may bring up concerns and questions, and we want to hear about them. But we also know your school community will welcome these new students and families and your school will be able to offer an even stronger, more well-rounded program.

To learn more about how student enrollment and a well-rounded education are so closely tied, please visit the Envision SPPS website and videos. Questions about Envision SPPS can be sent to envision@spps.org.

Sincerely,

Jackie Turner
Chief Operations Officer, Division of Operations
Saint Paul Public Schools