



## Mergers



## Moves



**Merge Valley View and Kenneth Clement into a single Boys Leadership Academy at the Mary Bethune Building**

# Recommendation: Merge Valley View and Kenneth Clement into a single Boys Leadership Academy at the Mary Bethune Building

Overview of School Action



**Merging Valley View and Kenneth Clement into a single Boys' Leadership Academy at Mary Bethune will benefit both schools through a better condition facility and higher-quality student experience, including additional courses beyond art, music, and PE – along with expanded sports**

## Offering a Single Boys' Leadership Academy

- Continuing to offer a single gender option for boys at the K-8 level is aligned with CMSD's vision for K-8 specialty school options
- Enrollment both current programs is low and declining, making the continued operation of two separate Boys' Leadership Academies unsustainable
- Students will continue to have the option of transportation from any home address to this district-wide specialty model

## Moving Kenneth Clement Boys' Leadership Academy to Mary Bethune building

- Both BLA schools are currently in poor condition buildings; moving into the Mary Bethune building will provide students with immediate access to a building in better condition
- The Mary Bethune building is proximate to Kenneth Clement and in the same region as Ginn Academy
- Mary M. Bethune will be renamed Kenneth Clement Boys' Leadership Academy to continue to promote the specialty model of this school

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## School Data



|                                        | Kenneth Clement          | Valley View | How the data informed the recommendation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>K-8 Enrollment</b><br>(SY 24-25)    | ● 143                    | ● 160       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Enrollment at both schools is very low</b> compared to the 450-student target for K-8s</li> <li>450 is the level at which a school can sustainably offer more opportunities for students</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Enrollment Trend</b><br>(2019-2025) | ● -5%                    | ● -19%      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Enrollment at both schools is declining</b>, with Valley View's declines outpacing the district median (-12%)</li> <li>While Kenneth Clement's decline is less than the district median (-12%) , any enrollment declines for schools so significantly underenrolled warrant close consideration</li> <li>Trends will be monitored closely to ensure that there is sufficient demand for sustaining this model</li> </ul>                                                                                                                |
| <b>Building Condition Score</b>        | ● 48                     | ● 46        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both current buildings are <b>unsatisfactory</b> and would need significant investments to stay open</li> <li>The Mary Bethune building is in fair condition (score of 75) with planned upgrades to move it to good condition</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Building Planning Capacity</b>      | ● 320                    | ● 315       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both <b>buildings are too small</b> to hold 2 classes per grade which limits enrollment and means the buildings will not be able to offer a robust student and staff experience, regardless of investments</li> <li>Even in these smaller buildings, <b>enrollment is below the buildings' planning capacity</b>, requiring resources that could otherwise be used for students and staff</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Choice Options</b>                  | Boys' Leadership Academy |             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CMSD has a long history of offering single gender options, a rarity in public school districts</li> <li>In addition to our K-8 options, we also offer boys a single gender environment in high school at Ginn Academy</li> <li>Male students currently served at Bethune have strong options at nearby neighborhood schools, including their paired welcoming school (Daniel Morgan), or can take action in the School Choice process to stay in their current building if a Boys' Leadership Academy is the right fit for them</li> </ul> |

### K-8 Enrollment

- Strong (>450)
- Low (360-450)
- Very low (<360)

### Enrollment Trend

- >0% growth
- 0-12% decline
- >12% decline

### Building Condition Score

- Like New/Good >80
- Fair/Poor 60-80
- Unsatisfactory <60

### Building Planning Capacity

- Below 450

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Student Experience

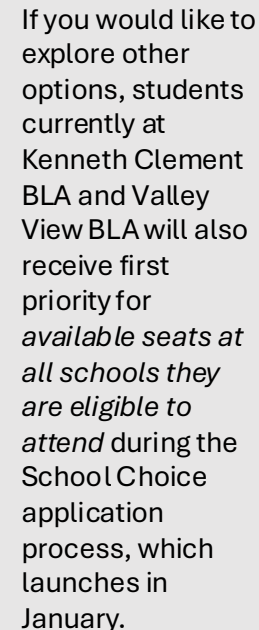


Merging Valley View and Kenneth Clement into a single Boys' Leadership Academy at Mary Bethune will allow all students access to additional courses beyond art, music, and PE – along with expanded sports

|                                                                                                       | Valley View BLA<br>SY 2025-26 | Kenneth Clement BLA<br>SY 2025-26 | Boys' Leadership Academy (merged)<br>SY 2026-27 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <b>Course options</b> | 3                             | 3                                 | 4 or more                                       | } Students from <b>both schools</b> will have more academic and extracurricular opportunities available to them, in part because the <b>improved building condition offers a path to more sustainable enrollment to support expanded course and sports options</b> |
|  <b>Sport options</b>  | 3                             | 3                                 | 4 or more                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

## Additionally, in school year 2026-27, Boys Leadership Academy will offer:

-  More options and better participation in **clubs and extracurricular activities**
-  **Continued student supports** to meet the academic, physical and mental health, and language needs
-  Space and support for students served in **self-contained special education and PreK classrooms**



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Looking Ahead



## Transitioning school

Valley View students in grades K-7 have a reserved seat at Kenneth Clement BLA at Mary Bethune.

## Welcoming school

Kenneth Clement students in grades K-7 do not need to participate in School Choice to remain at the school in its new location at the Mary Bethune building.

Both groups will also receive first priority for *available seats* at all other schools during the School Choice application process.

In addition, current male students at Bethune who want to stay at this location will be able to enroll in available seats.

**All current 8th graders across CMSD will continue to be supported in making a high school choice.**

*Special education single classrooms will still be offered at multiple schools in every region. Families whose children are in these specialized classrooms will get additional outreach and support to enroll.*



## School choice

Families can use the CMSD School Finder and School Choice Book to better understand their options starting in December.

School Choice will launch in January and run through the end of February.



## Leadership

Principals for the 2026-27 school year will be appointed in December.



## Staff

Staff assignments will be confirmed in Spring 2026, following the School Choice process.

School staff teams will be merged in alignment with our contractual obligations, enrollment, and the needs of the merged student community.



## School community

Students, families, and staff will have opportunities to connect and collaborate around the future of the unified school community over the course of the spring and summer before the start of the 2026-27 school year.