



Aspire Public Schools’ overall mission is to open and operate small, high-quality public charter schools in order to:

- Increase the **academic performance** of underserved students,
- Develop **effective educators**,
- Share **successful practices** with other forward-thinking educators, and
- **Catalyze change** in public schools.

Aspire ERES Academy

Education | Responsibility | Empowerment | Success

Aspire ERES Academy Overview

Aspire ERES is a K-8th grade public charter school that has been serving the Fruitvale area for 10 years. We believe in preparing all students for access to a college education. Aspire ERES “Founding Families” and staff created our name around our school values: E for education, R for responsibility, E for empowerment, and S for success.

Our Aspire ERES vision is that

*all of our graduates are critically literate and empowered,
ready to leverage college to create a more just world.*

Aspire ERES currently serves 223 students in grades TK-8. The student body is made up of:

- Oakland Residents: 97%
- Students Who Receive Free and Reduced Price Meals: 95%
- Students with IEPs: 11%
- English Language Learners: 55%
- Race/Ethnicity of ERES Student Body: 92% Latino, 5% African American, 2% Two or More Races, 1% Asian
- Race/Ethnicity of the Fruitvale neighborhood near the new Derby facility: 84% Latino, 7.6% African American, 0% Two or More Races, 4.5% Asian, and 3.1% White

Our Families	Our Community
<p>Aspire ERES families are highly satisfied with their children’s education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 94% of families would recommend ERES to others. • 90% of families believe that “My child is learning what he or she needs to know in order to succeed in later grades and after high school.” • 90% of families return each year. 	<p>Aspire ERES community partnerships:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oakland Promise kinder2college Program • OUSD Safety Patrol Program • Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana Hispana • BARK • BEAM • CalSAC • WeThrive • Oakland Discovery Center • GoEnnounce

For more information, please contact Anne Okabara, at 510-390-6060 or anne.okahara@aspirepublicschools.org.



Aspire ERES Future Plans: Expanding and Investing in Our Community

Aspire ERES Academy applied for and received a \$30M grant from the State of California through Proposition 1D to build a new facility in order to provide our current and future public school students and families with the caliber of facility and campus components they deserve, such as appropriate parking and outdoor space.

We have identified a new potential long-term site at Derby Ave at E15th Street, 1.1 miles from our current site.

Current School Site	New Proposed School Site
<p>Current Enrollment: 223 Students (TK-8)</p> <p>Aspire ERES has operated in our current constrained facility for 9 years. Our current facility can only serve up to 250 students; therefore, we currently have 180+ students on the waitlist. We want more families to have access to an Aspire ERES education, should they so choose.</p>	<p>Long-term Enrollment: Up to 620 Students (TK-8) <i>(The additional space in the new site will allow for up to 40 additional students per grade level.)</i></p> <p>In the new proposed site--a 45,942 square foot, three-story TK-8th grade site--we would be able to grow enrollment slowly over a period of 3-5 years to accommodate up to 40 additional students per grade level, including greater capacity to accommodate younger siblings of current Aspire ERES students. We look forward to partnering proactively with the local district and the community at large to ensure that families' needs are being met by whichever neighborhood school option suits them best.</p>
<p>Current Facility: ERES is currently located in a cramped facility near Fremont High School on Courtland Avenue that requires extensive maintenance, poses certain threats to learning time (such as flooding), and includes very minimal play space for student movement.</p>	<p>Future Facility: \$30MM California state grant The new site is 1.1 miles from the current site and is in a location that is well-served by public transportation (BART & AC Transit).</p> <p>The new site includes dedicated indoor/outdoor play space, dedicated science labs and art classrooms, wrap around support spaces including Special Education and mental health, a middle school rooftop patio and a drive through drop off/pick up zone.</p>

Our Current School Site is Inadequate

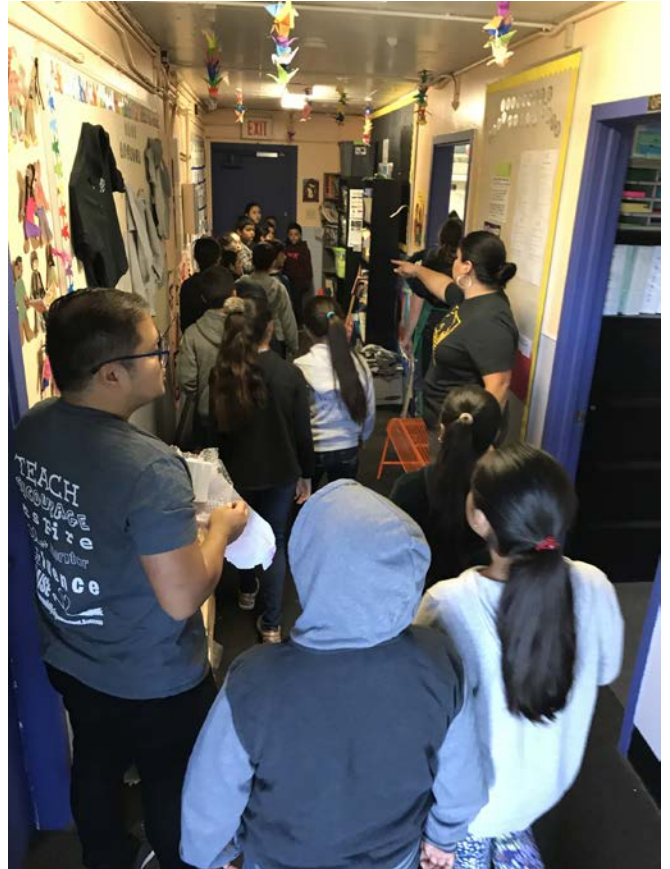
Our facility is dated, cramped and requires extensive maintenance. Our students and team endured flooding from rain and plumbing issues, limited ventilation, and inadequate space for wrap around services.



The current building includes only 9 classrooms that are significantly smaller than standard specifications. Our students have very little space to move around within the classroom.



At left, our fifth-graders head down to the church basement for lunch.
At right, our main school hallway and transition areas are often congested.



Our current 223 students have a limited 30'x50' play area for soccer, basketball, and "track."



Our New Facility

Our new facility includes standard-sized classrooms, dedicated science labs, art classrooms, indoor/outdoor play space, a middle school lounge area on a rooftop deck, dedicated family space and a full battery of spaces for counseling, speech therapy and other wrap around services.



Aspire ERES Academy *New School Site* | Frequently Asked Questions

Who does Aspire ERES Academy serve?

ERES currently serves 223 students in grades TK-8 and primarily serves the Fruitvale, Jefferson, Fremont, and Fairfax neighborhoods, but students and families also commute from other areas of East Oakland. Aspire ERES serves a high-needs population; 95% of students qualify for free or reduced priced meals, 92% of are Hispanic or Latino, and 5% are African American. 11% of students served are supported through an Individualized Educational Program and Special Education services.

Will a new school be opening at Derby and Fruitvale?

No, the proposed sale of the Derby Street parcel is not associated with a new school. Aspire ERES Academy is an existing public charter school which was founded in 2009 and will relocate from 1.1 miles away to Derby Street. ERES has operated for the past 9 years at 1936 Courtland Ave, in the Fruitvale neighborhood in East Oakland. Aspire ERES was founded in response to community requests when the Dolores Huerta Learning Academy was closed.

Why does the Aspire ERES community need a new facility? Why can't ERES stay in their current facility?

The school facility is extremely small and constrains the school program in many ways, including limiting enrollment and collaboration with only one class of students per grade. ERES students learn in very small classrooms. The school facilities do not provide an appropriate educational experience especially for middle school students. The limited outdoor space includes no green space. The current site requires excessive maintenance, has flooded multiple times, and is shared with a church.



How are we planning to invest in the educational opportunity of Aspire ERES scholars and families?



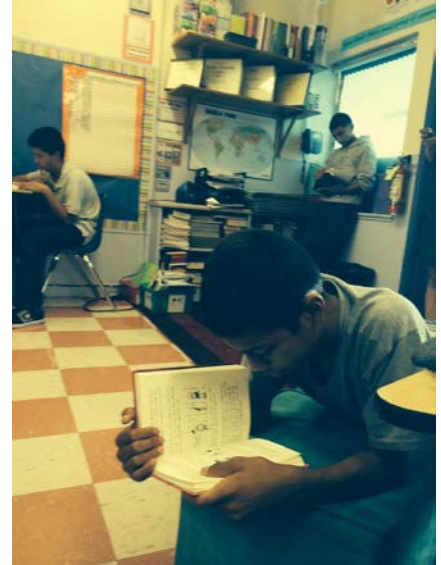
Aspire ERES Academy applied for and received a \$30M grant from the State of California through Proposition 1D to build a new facility. We have identified a new potential long-term site for ERES at Derby Ave at E15th Street, 1.1 miles from our existing site, which will allow our current families to remain a part of our community. Our students and families are dedicated to Aspire's mission and program and have remained with ERES for many years despite our inadequate facility. They deserve a new facility with all of the appropriate amenities to operate a TK-8 school.

We are extremely excited about this opportunity for our community, students, and families! We have been working for the past three years through the design and approval process for our project with the City of Oakland and Division of the State Architect. We have already acquired two privately owned, adjacent parcels of land, and cleared numerous planning and environmental hurdles. We have been collaborating extensively with the City of Oakland Planning Department staff, the Department of the State Architect, our architects, and school community members to develop a design that meets the city and state

requirements and reflects the program specifications so that our school community can thrive. In April and May of 2018, we received unanimous approvals from both the City of Oakland Planning Commission and Community and Economic Development Committee. Once we receive final approvals, we will begin building our new facility from the ground-up. Depending on the timing of final approvals and construction progress, we anticipate an 18-24 month construction timeline before opening.

What is the plan for enrollment at Aspire ERES Academy? Will the new site disrupt the surrounding schools?

ERES currently enrolls 223 students and has 180+ students on the waitlist. The students on our waitlist live in various neighborhoods across East Oakland with the majority from the surrounding neighborhood of the current ERES school and the Fairfax area. There are also a handful of students on our waitlist from West Oakland and other districts. When planning student enrollment, we focus on families who have already applied and are waitlisted. We are eager to work with the surrounding community to gather input on enrollment strategies. In addition, once we are closer to a clear opening date, we would work with our authorizing district to construct an enrollment plan that allows the school to grow slowly over time. We anticipate it would take 3-5 years after opening to reach full capacity. We also are confident that the Fruitvale area offers a diversity of school options and that while our program will appeal to some families, others will continue to choose from the options in the neighborhood.



Why doesn't ERES move into an OUSD facility or a different location?

We applied to OUSD for facility space through Prop 39. Unfortunately, we received Prop 39 offers that are split between multiple sites. We have been unable to receive or accept an adequate offer to date. Our families and team have expressed their strong desire to relocate the school to a nearby space. Our facilities team spent over 5 years searching for space to lease or build in Oakland that is in close proximity to the current facility. We also explored leasing existing private space. However, none of our efforts to find a suitable space to lease or build were fruitful before locating the multiple parcels on Derby Ave.

How is Aspire collaborating with OUSD to ensure quality schools in every neighborhood?

We are proud to have collaborated with OUSD in a variety of ways to support quality schools and equitable outcomes for students in all neighborhoods over the past 18 years in Oakland. Aspire has actively participated in instructional partnerships with OUSD schools and in the Equity Pledge working groups, including signing on to the OUSD equity commitments.

Aligned to the Equity Pledge commitments, we also participate in Enroll Oakland Charters, a common enrollment system to support family access and opportunity to understand school options and the application process. We welcome the opportunity to continue to collaborate in service of students access and opportunity, particularly in light of the communities we serve, who have been traditionally lacked access to high quality educational opportunities. We appreciate the many years of support of the students, families, community, community and civic leaders for this project. We continue to believe that all of our Oakland students deserve diverse, high-quality educational options and facilities.