

Ambler Gazette

Goodbye event set for Glenside school

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The final days of students walking through the halls of Glenside Elementary are fast approaching.

The 52-year-old building will be torn down over the summer and rebuilt.

For those who went to the school, however, the progress is bittersweet.

“We have people that come back and visit after college and they say that this is the one place that felt like home to them,” said Cindy Goldberg, a second-grade teacher at the school.

For those who have spent many years at Glenside, teachers and staff, past and present, Goldberg is organizing an event to say goodbye. A reception and walkthrough of the school will be held June 23 for those who want to see the building one last time before it’s gone forever.

“It’s important because there are so many people who have history at that school and they have so many good memories there, and to be able to walk through one last time would be so nice for them, I think,” Goldberg said.

The doors will open for former and present faculty at 6 p.m. and at 6:30 p.m. for alumni and community members. A group of fourth-graders will be singing at the start of the program, and then there will be a chance for people to speak about what Glenside Elementary meant to them.

“We’re hoping that people will speak from their hearts, former principals, former superintendents and people who went there for the last 52 years,” Goldberg said.

The construction of the new school is expected to last about two years. In the meantime, Glenside students will attend classes in the Glenside Elementary Modular—known as the GEM—which will be above Elkins Park School on New Second Street.

But Goldberg and others who have emotional attachments to Glenside hope that the old

sense of community transfer to the new building.

“I think that there is just something about Glenside, it’s really a community school. I used to call it Mayberry. The principal that used to work there called it the greatest little secret on earth because it’s like a community there. It’s something out of another time,” Goldberg said.

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