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ALLSTON BRIGHTON

Gardner Pilot Academy in Allston to add 6th grade in fall, become K-8 in 2013-14 academic year

Posted by Matt Rocheleau December 20, 2011 03:01 PM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

Eyeing plans to become a full K-8 school in the next two school years, Gardner Pilot Academy in Allston will add two sixth grade classrooms next September, expanding from its current offering of classes for pre-kindergarten through 5th grade students, school officials announced this week.

One of around 20 pilot schools in the Boston schools district, the school plans to later add grades 7 and 8 and become a full K-8 school in the 2013-2014 school year, according to the school.

“This expansion marks another exciting milestone in the great history of our school. Families and staff have worked long and hard to make the dream of K-8 a reality, and we are excited to offer our students an outstanding, well-rounded education through the middle school years,” the pilot school’s principal Erica Herman said in a statement.

Current students at the school are guaranteed middle school seats. A limited

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Current students at the school are guaranteed middle school seats. A limited number of additional seats are available to other families living in Allston, Brighton and other neighborhoods in the North Zone of Boston Public Schools.

Last month, Boston's school committee approved a recommendation from city schools Superintendent Carol R. Johnson to expand the academy as part of a [broader facilities plan](#).

"Boston families value the educational continuity that K-8 schools offer," the superintendent said in a statement. "The School Committee and I are delighted to expand the tremendous full-service programs offered at Gardner Pilot Academy through Grade 8."

Registration for open seats in K1, or pre-kindergarten, for 4-year-olds, K2, or kindergarten, for 5-year-olds, and the school's new Grade 6 begins in January. For information about the public school district's school choice process, including registration dates and requirements, visit www.bostonpublicschools.org/register.

Gardner Pilot Academy will hold a school tour for prospective families on Jan. 12, at 9 a.m. Families can also call the school to arrange tours at other times by contacting Elba Mendez at 617-635-8365.

Located on Athol Street in Allston, the school serves nearly 350 students with regular school hours between 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.gardnerpilotacademy.org.

E-mail Matt Rocheleau at mjrochele@gmail.com.

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