

Our first trip to 1040 Grant St. ft. Preston, Landyn, Eden, and Wren, July 21st, 2016

Before encountering our new school for the first time, we watched several videos taken by Mandy in which the building was walked through in varying states of construction. Mandy shared these videos with the children to spark conversation and ideas regarding the new space, and to familiarize the children with the idea that we were going to visit. Curiosities while viewing the videos included the horses, the classrooms, and the loud noises the workers were making. With these thoughts in mind, we embarked upon our visit to the new Nest.

On the ride to 1040 Grant St., Mandy explained to the children that we were leaving Ormewood Park. She pointed in the direction of some of our favorite places to visit: Brownwood Park, the Urban Farm, the little library in front of Ormewood School. As we entered the Grant Park neighborhood, Mandy mentioned some destinations the children may already be familiar with: the park and the zoo.

When we arrived at the location, the children were anxious to see the horses, but didn't mind waiting on that excitement, as Mandy suggested that we explore our new playground. The group of children immediately ran the expanse of the flattened soil covering the playground, all the way down to a shaded area full of foliage. It was here that Preston heard a train in the distance: "a train!" he said, as he placed his hand up to his ear. Mandy explained that we would be able to hear trains regularly at our new school.



We finally entered the building through a door leading into the 2 year old room. The children did not say much but their eyes darted around the expanse of the long room. Eden's face expressed curiosity as she looked towards Rachel and Mandy.. Wren heard music in the room to our right...



...in this room, a worker was high up on a ladder painting near the ceiling. The worker was listening to energetic music and the children began to joyously dance and run in a circle in the middle of the room. There was another very tall ladder in the room, so Rachel mentioned that our new school needs very tall ladders because the ceilings are so high up. The children then noticed the infant room...





In the infant room, the children rolled around on the carpeted area. Mandy explained that the half-wall in the infant room is to separate the nap area and the play area.