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CR Taylor Families Get Answers

By Justin Foss, Reporter

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CEDAR RAPIDS - After weeks of uncertainty, the families in the Cedar Rapids school district are being told how the flooding has changed their schools.

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As you might remember, the flood waters damaged Taylor Elementary School.
Administrators said the building won't be ready until next year.

Since then, it's a been a controversial debate and some parents are scrambling to find out where their kids will go.

Saturday, parents waited to get those answers at the Back to School Rally.

"I'm excited to move forward for the children," said Shelia Schoenherr, the parent of 3 students at Taylor.

The district said after this rally they would be able to provide parents with a better picture of which schools students would be getting shuffled to.

But, those answers didn't come without one last show of frustration and anger at not re-opening Taylor,

which was badly damaged in the flooding. Some of the Taylor families even brought signs, one said, "Is economics worth human cost?"

The rally organizers asked those parents not to bring the signs inside. The school district is telling the parents that their kids are watching how they react to this, and any negativity that doesn't promote moving forward, isn't helping anyone.

Saturday's rally will help the district collect all the information on where families are living, letting the district make a plan for where to put students.

"Our goal in the next week or so is to try and get that information out, district wide, so that everybody knows which school they'll be going to at the start of the school year," said Associate Superintendent Jay Marino.

Families that weren't directly affected by the flood have already been told which schools their kids will go to, according to Marino.

Email Justin Foss at Justin.Foss@kcrg.com

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