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ABOVE: (I to r) Deborah Rashell and Linda LeDay, teachers at Bañuelos Elementary School, share their excitement about the new building with principal Renee Meyer during their recent preview of the school

LEFT: (I to r) Amanda Tharp, P. E. teacher, and Kourtnie Thierry, P. E. aide at Dr. Johnny T. Clark, Jr. Elementary School, locate the gym on the map of their new school during the recent tour for faculty and staff members.

Faculties Tour New Schools

Excited about the prospect of moving in, faculty and staff members of the three new Goose Creek CISD elementary schools were recently treated to a preview of the buildings that will become their "homes" in the near future. Dr. Antonio Bañuelos Elementary School, Alamo Elementary School and Dr. Johnny T. Clark, Jr. Elementary School are on target to open their doors to Goose Creek students on the first day of school, August 25th, and their soon-to-be occupants are ready to prepare for the arrival of their students.

Linda LeDay and Deborah Rashell are two of the teachers who will be Bañuelos Bulldogs, and they appreciated the invitation to tour the school

"I'm really glad for the new challenge and the opportunity to build relationships with children, families and staff members," said LeDay. "Some of my former Harlem Elementary students will be going to school here, and I can't wait to give them a big smile on the first day of school.'

"They are not clean and polished yet, but they're complete," said Randal O'Brien, deputy superintendent for administrative services, about the schools, as he spoke to the faculty members at a breakfast in their honor prior to the tours. "The key point for us is getting into the building and making sure we have a safe environment.

As desks were being assembled and finishing touches were being completed on the inside of the building, Julie Voytek, campus instructional specialist, looked around her, expressing her gratitude for the new elementary school.

"I'm so excited about our new school! Thanks, community, for providing this for us," said Voytek.



(I to r) Debbie Gerza, Julie Voytek and Linda Deshotel, faculty members at Alamo Elementary School, give a "thumbs up" as they tour the new school,

At Clark Elementary, faculty members studied the maps they were given and set out like children on a scavenger hunt, locating their classrooms and offices.

"I'm excited to be in my new library, and I can't wait for the Clark Cowboys to get here," said Deidre Richard, Clark's librarian, as she looked around the room, picturing how it will look when she is able to unpack her boxes.

In the next few days, the items on the punch lists will be checked off, keys will be distributed and teachers will scurry around putting up bulletin boards, arranging furniture and making sure each space is inviting-and the smiling faces of the students on the first day of school will make it worth all the effort.

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