

College View Academy, Union Adventist plan land swap

College View Academy, a private K-12 school, and Union

Adventist University are planning to trade spaces.

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Commission on Wednesday will consider an application to add more than 15 acres to Union Adventist University's property boundaries — an area currently occupied by College View Academy.

Under the proposal, submitted by Lincoln engineering firm Olsson on behalf of the university, the current College View Academy would be demolished to make room for an athletic complex to be operated by Union Adventist University.

The private school's new building would be constructed just to the east of its current — and where Union Adventist University maintains its Forty-Niners Memorial Sports Complex with baseball and soccer fields.

In a statement to the Journal Star, College View Academy Principal Sarah Wilson said the possibility of expanding and strengthening Christian education in Lincoln is inspiring. She said it shows a commitment to investing in the next generation of College View Academy's students.

“A future K-12 campus represents more than a new building — it represents an opportunity to provide students with an exceptional

Christ-centered education in an environment where they can grow academically, spiritually, socially, and physically,” the statement said.

Union Adventist University's athletic complex would be relocated to the site of the current College View Academy school building at 5240 Calvert St., which is slightly closer to the Union Adventist University campus.

In a letter to the Planning Commission, Olsson said the proposed swap “will support the long-term growth and development of the Union Adventist University campus.”

Illustrations shared with the Planning Commission show the university would build two soccer fields, a baseball field, three pickleball courts, a parking lot with 75 stalls and a maintenance building. The parking lot, with an access point on Calvert Street, would be shared between College View Academy and Union Adventist University, according to the plans.

Currently, Union Adventist University allows the public to rent its outdoor recreational facilities for an hourly rate. The plans state that public and semi-public land uses would continue.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church operates both College View Academy and Union Adventist University, formerly known as Union College. The two institutions were founded together in 1891 and separated their curricula in 1907.

College View Academy enrolls about 200 students from kindergarten through 12th grade. Union Adventist University enrolled nearly 800 students in 2024.

The Planning Commission is expected to vote on the application during Wednesday's meeting.