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# School to open April 3

Move-in to happen during spring break

BY BY BEN CONLEY

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No doubt calendars at Easton and Woodburn elementary schools — as well as Monongalia County Schools' central office — have a big, red circle around Wednesday, April 3. That, according to architect Ted Shriver, is the day the above-mentioned schools will come together for their first day in the new Eastwood Elementary.

In order to give teachers time to set up classrooms at Eastwood, the Board of Education voted during Tuesday's regular meeting to let Easton and Woodburn students out of school on March 20-22, taking them into spring break, which begins, March 25, Shriver said.

While students are enjoying spring break, movers will transform a state-of-the-art building into a student-ready school.

Understandably, the excitement level rises as the days tick down.

"I spoke with Principal [Deann] Hartshorn and she said she doesn't know who's more excited, the students or the faculty," Shriver said. "The faculty actually toured the building on Monday and they were just ecstatic about how large the rooms were and how bright and colorful it was."

Shriver said many parts of the school are complete and contractors are knocking jobs off a "punch list" of small items that need to be squared away. He said substantial completion — when the building's ownership is transferred from the contractor to the Board of Education — is set for March 19.

"It's one of those happy, sad, bittersweet kind of things," he said. "It's great to see everybody's efforts coming to an end, but sad in that it was fun working with everyone who put their hands on this and made it a success."