



July 8, 2015

Construction Task Force Makes Strides Negotiating with Toll Brothers

For background information about the planned construction near SOF and the School's response over the past several months, see the [SOF Construction Task Force website page](#). To contact the task force, email SOFTaskForce@gmail.com.

The construction task force, represented by parent member Michael Propper, our principal, Stacy Goldstein, and High School Director John Fanning, has made progress in negotiating more favorable conditions with Toll Brothers for the upcoming construction. New agreements have included:

- Egress and carting for all demolition work will take place on the 23rd Street entrance, rather than 22nd street.
- Demolition is scheduled to begin on July 15th rather than early September which was Toll Brothers' original timetable. With considerable negotiation, SOF enabled Toll Brothers to begin earlier in order to ensure that the bulk of the demolition be completed by the start of school.
- Demolition work will begin closest to the school so that any remaining work will be farthest and thus less disruptive at the time school begins.
- Toll Brothers will incorporate noise mitigation in their plans for remaining demolition and construction during the school year.
- A School Construction Authority Manager/Engineer along with any representative of the school we designate (administration or parents) will have unlimited access to the site in order to monitor for safety and health concerns.
- We have a written commitment from Toll Brothers to provide (at no cost to the school) new air conditioners and ventilation in the cafeteria, gymnasium, auditorium and any rooms facing the construction.

The Task Force continues to assess the school's needs and has begun negotiations in the many areas affecting school operations and safety. We would like to re-confirm with the school community that Norman Siegel, a well-known civil rights and social justice attorney who formerly headed the NYCLU, continues representing the school at no cost.

—SOF Construction Task Force