

STUDY AREA 3 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Identifying Issues & Surfacing Solutions

Thursday, December 19, 2019

The Comprehensive School Planning Review (CSPR) is a collaborative process that will assess the District’s neighborhood enrollment, school facilities, and educational program offerings, to help us plan for the future in a way that ensures our students have access to a great school close to where they live.

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- Refine issues related to enrollment, school facilities & educational program offerings
- Surface solutions to the issues identified, with the intent of generating ideas to inform future options

MEETING 2 HIGHLIGHTS

Level of Agreement on a scale of 1-5 (1 is strongly disagree - 5 is strongly agree)				
	This session helped me better understand the CSPR process.	I felt comfortable sharing my input during the meeting	This meeting was a good use of my time	I feel like my presence and input is being valued in the CSPR process
Study Area 1	3.19	3.77	3.10	3.32
Study Area 2	3.69	4.00	4.08	3.92
Study Area 3	4.33	4.33	4.50	4.50
All Study Areas	3.46	3.90	3.53	3.62

Anecdotal Feedback Included:

- Feeling rushed, not enough time with the data

- Does our input matter or will 440 make all the decisions?
- There is doubt about how we get buy-in from BOE

What we've learned so far:

- **This is a lot of information for people to digest**
- **We need more time:**
 - between Advisory Team meetings & Planning Committee meetings
 - between Planning Committee meetings
 - with the Superintendent
 - for Translation Services
- **We need to expand**
 - Community Engagement
 - Principal Engagement
 - Student Engagement

As a result, timelines are being adjusted to give folks the time they need:

Original Dates	Proposed Dates	Comments
PLANNING COMMITTEES		
Jan 9	Jan 23	moved for more processing time
Feb 6	Feb 6	As scheduled*
Feb 20		removed from schedule
Mar 19	Mar 19	as scheduled
	April 2	added to schedule
	May 21	added to schedule
COMMUNITY INPUT FORUMS		
Jan 23	Mar 5	Pushed back first Forum and moved the

Mar 5	Apr 23	second to April
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*This was readjusted in response to feedback from Principals

OPTIONS – CASE STUDY

Tyler Vick from FLO took Planning Committee members through a case study from another school district.

IDENTIFYING KEY ISSUES

Harris Lewin shared historical data about recent school actions. Then Ingrid Boucher with BLOOM Planning asked individuals to break out into their groups, which were organized by role (principals, teachers, parents), and respond to issues and key considerations that were shared out. Those issues were:

KEY ISSUES

- **Low building utilization and declining enrollment**
 - Cassidy, Gompers, Lamberton, and Overbrook
- **High transfer rates out and mobility**
 - Families choosing area charter schools (30-50% of students residing in catchments, depending on school)
 - High transfer out rate to Overbrook Educational Center (OEC), a special admit school

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Perceptions of schools (quality, climate, safety, programs)
- Walkability and safe corridors
- Lack of awareness of what programs and resources are available in order to attract and retain students (i.e., arts, music, playgrounds)
- SA3 schools are less likely to have academic electives due to low enrollment

Once shared, groups reacted to the issues by tallying which issues resonated most with them, and noting if there were any issues missing, or off-base. They discussed each issue area individually and surfaced additional concerns.

SURFACING SOLUTIONS

The CSPR team facilitators shared a list of possible solutions, and also highlighted that others were possible but that this list could be a conversation starter.

- **Addition/New Construction:** The construction of a new or renovation of an existing building to meet future demand.
- **Boundary Change:** A realignment of boundaries to accommodate projected changes in populations and communities across our city.
- **Closing:** The elimination of an academic program and/or school facility.
- **Co-Location:** Sharing underutilized space for appropriate educational or administrative functions.
- **Consolidation:** A realignment of student population in order to better serve the educational needs of students.
- **Grade Change:** The addition or reduction of grades.
- **Policy changes:** Changes to district policy and admin procedures.
- **Relocation:** Movement of an educational program to another facility.
- **Replication:** The replication of high-quality academic programming.
- **Transitions:** Creating thoughtful transitions for students at elementary and middle grades

Breakout groups then continued their conversation, and shifted the conversation to focus on potential solutions.

At the end of the conversation, a member from each group was asked to share out a few key ideas/solutions that were shared during their conversation.

NEXT STEPS & WRAP UP

FLO Analytics shared that they would take the potential solutions surfaced, as well as feedback on the key issues, and use this information to generate a first round of 'options' for the planning committee to react to.

FLO emphasized that there would be several months to generate options, and that January would simply be an initial step in this direction.

Reminder – Updated Study Area Meeting Schedule:

Timeline	Study Area 1	Study Area 2	Study Area3
January	1/21	1/22	1/23
February	2/4	2/5	2/6
March	3/3 – Public Input Meeting	3/4 – Public Input Meeting	3/5 – Public Input Meeting
	3/17	3/18	3/19
April	3/31	4/01	4/02
	4/21 – Public Input Meeting	4/22 – Public Input Meeting	4/23 – Public Input Meeting
May	5/19	5/20	5/21
June	Bring Recommendations to Board of Education		