

FACILITY MASTER PLAN (FMP)

FIRST ROUND - REGIONAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

The information herein is a bulleted summary of the first round of regional community engagement discussions for the Columbus City Schools Facility Master Plan. This first round was entitled the Gather Phase, which is the first of a 5-step community engagement process scheduled from April 2021 to November 2021.

The discussions were virtual Zoom format and included introductions by Board of Education Members and Regional Superintendents, a brief presentation by the Legat Architects consultant team followed by a 30-minute break-out session hosted by Regional Co-chairs, in which the community members discussed what is working and not working for them in Columbus City Schools. After the discussion, a member of each session was asked to report out to the group at large. This document is the summary of those reports.

The following are questions and responses that were shared by all six regional discussions.

What aspects of your schools do you feel are successful for education?

- + availability of pathways and choices
- + communication from teachers to student to parent has improved
- + proud of the cultural and ethnic diversity
- + the dedication, commitment, level of engagement, concern, and care of the teaching staff
- + the resiliency of the students to adapt to amazing and challenging change

What aspects of your schools do you feel are barriers for education?

- lacking in sensory or interventions spaces
- the status and the state of the schools are not equitable across all regions
- inequality in facility improvements from region to region

The following is a question shared by all six regional discussions.

How can we continue to enhance schools for ALL learners?

Region 2: East - Monday, April 19, 2021

▶ 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

What aspects of your schools do you feel are successful for education?	What aspects of your schools do you feel are barriers for education?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + early learning engagement + family atmosphere and diversity → interaction with all races + ESL availability + Scottwood ES retains its students and teachers + disability services at early learning + teacher involvement (teachers being there and exhibiting caring behavior for students) + buildings are physically inviting and safe + early childhood education supports students and graduation rates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – teachers work off carts → music teacher doesn't have dedicated space – negative aesthetic → negative student reaction – equity and access to education – more classes that spark student interest – policies and local politics – inequity between regions – high schools could be bigger to allow for more classes and opportunities for students – gentrification and red lining has affected our schools – HVAC, need AC – class sizes: too many students in too small of spaces – social / emotional needs cannot be met with the spaces we currently have – students do not take teachers seriously – no place for counseling – facilities look like prisons – our students feel inferior when they pull into the parking lot in comparison to peers at surrounding schools – our brand is being attacked by families migrating to the suburban schools – we are losing students

Questions that arose during discussion:

- How can we move to the next level with technology when the school facilities themselves are so far behind?
- Will consolidation improve our schools?
- Maybe there are too many schools?
- Can students have a more active hand in their health? Perhaps teaching students how to prepare their own meals?
- Can we create communication centers w/ old or abandoned facilities?