

EMHS Community Cabinet Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 21, 2016
Deanwood Recreation Center
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Meeting Objectives

Meeting participants will:

- Receive Facilities Updates for Cabinet members unable to attend the meeting held on March 2.
- Receive more information about the EMHS Budget.
- Receive more information about the status of EMHS staff vacancies and hiring updates.
- Meet with members of their respective sub-committees to discuss the scope of the work..

Meeting Attendees:

- *EMHS Community Cabinet Members:* Lois Berlin, Brandon Daniels, Dion Davis, Chantal Fuller, Antawan Holmes, Bridgette Hudson, Maurice Kie, Erwin Kwawu, Robert Pierre, Monica Roachè, Jessica Scheer, Kathy Silva, Michael Taylor, Eboni-Rose Thompson, Eric Vinson, Keith White, Tinley Wickersham, Larry Womack, Han-na'h Wright, Julian Wright
- *Not in Attendance:* Sirraya Gant, Donny Gonzalez, Larry Womack, David Smith. Mark Samburg
- *Office of Family and Public Engagement:* Josephine Bias Robinson, Shanita Burney, Sarah Parker, Billy Kearney, Sharona Robinson
- *Office of Chief Operating Officer:* Teresa Biagioni, Toussaint Webster
- *Office of the General Counsel:* Steven Rubenstein

Notes:

Topic	Comments
Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cabinet members were encouraged to use the established Google Group as a forum to communicate with other members.• New Cabinet member Tinley Wickersham, was introduced. She will serve as a 2nd Ward 3 representative on the Community Cabinet. (The goal has been to have 3 representatives from each ward serve on the Cabinet.)
Facilities Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DGS and DCPS are working closely with the members of ANC7C (ANCs representing Deanwood, Burrville, Grant Park, and Lincoln Heights neighborhoods) to obtain a letter of support for an after-hours construction permit. To complete the facility modernizations in time for school opening in August 2016, construction that extends past traditional work

	<p>hours are necessary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DGS and DCPS are working closely with ANC7C and the Deanwood Citizens Association to ensure residents are aware of the employment opportunities on the school construction project. • DGS and DCPS convened a community meeting on Saturday, March 19 at the Deanwood Recreation Center to provide community updates on the construction design and project and potential employment opportunities on the project. • Demolition is scheduled to begin on Thursday, March 24, providing we get the other portion of the demolition permit • Questions were then received from the group and a combination of DCPS and DGS responded. A summary is below: <p>Q: Which locations in the building have asbestos? A: The areas of the building that have asbestos have been closed off as appropriate. The abatement process will be completed as required by DC law. Members of the Deanwood community, especially those who live within a close proximity to the school, have been made aware of this process with an information number to call if they have questions.</p> <p>Q: Will Ward 7 residents be able to be hired for some of the jobs available through the demolition work? A: The demolition contract has been awarded to a Ward 7 business. The Ward 7 business would be responsible for recruiting and hiring the Ward 7 residents. The DGS Compliance Team will support that work.</p> <p>Q How are we addressing young women at DC Public Schools? A: The Office of Family and Public Engagement is in the process of creating a working group to determine the needs of girls of color within DCPS. Part of that work will also be student focus groups where they share what their experience is like as a girl of color in DC Public Schools.</p> <p>Q: There was a suggestion to have a model that could be on display for community members at the Deanwood Recreation Center. A: The DCPS Facilities Team will work with the design and construction teams on a display for the Deanwood Recreation Center.</p>
EMHS Updates	<p>Principal Williams shared a handout with updates and provided some verbal ones as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The \$2.8 million local budget was approved approximately 2 weeks ago. There is an additional \$528,000 in private dollars through the DC Public Education Fund. Part of these funds will be used to purchase a suit jacket, uniform shirts (2), and ties (1) for each student.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The funding will be used in part to pay for the student and teacher summer transition programs, among other start-up resources and supplies. <p>Q: Will fundraising be done to have these activities for subsequent years?</p> <p>A: The goal is to fundraise each year.</p> <p>Q: Can we see more detail on how the private funding will be used?</p> <p>A: A spreadsheet with more detail will be shared with the Cabinet following this meeting. (See attached)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hiring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are currently 26 vacant positions. Those interested in applying for positions should visit http://dcps.force.com. After completing an online application, teacher applicants will need to complete a “preferences survey.” Inquiries or questions can be forwarded to emhs@dc.gov. ○ The priority is to maintain a 1:75 counselor to student ratio in the first year. Counselors will be responsible for completing individualized academic plans with each student and family. <p>Q: Will this be sustainable for future years?</p> <p>A: The plan now is to have this in place for the Ninth Grade Academy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The In-School Suspension (ISS) Coordinator position will have more of a Family Engagement/Parent Coordinator role. This individual will also manage the Restorative Justice work in the school. <p>Q: How will community members be made aware of the schoolvacancies?</p> <p>A: The EMHS vacancies will be shared with members of the Cabinet and Deanwood community. Cabinet members are encouraged to share the vacancies with their networks to encourage people to apply immediately.</p> <p>Q: Are these positions being shared with people outside of DCPS?</p> <p>A: The positions are posted on the DCPS website. Cabinet members are encouraged to share the vacancies with their networks.</p> <p>Q: How many Special Education (SPED) teachers will the school have?</p> <p>A: Currently, there are two SPED teachers in the budget. Depending on the needs of the students matched in the lottery for the school, the number of SPED teachers could change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Enrollment/Community Outreach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Each Saturday in April, there will be enrollment events in partnership with Kelly Miller MS, beginning on April 9, where families can enroll on the spot. ○ There will also be two evening events at the Deanwood
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	<p>Recreation Center in the evening on April 14 and April 28 for families who were unable to attend the Saturday events.</p> <p>Q: What will the interaction with the principal look like once the students are accepted?</p> <p>A: The students who have been matched in the lottery will receive an acceptance letter, similar to a college acceptance letter. They will be invited to enroll during one of the Saturday or evening enrollment events in April.</p> <p>Q: Have you done any outreach at middle schools in DC?</p> <p>A: Outreach has taken place at all DCPS middle schools and some charter schools that do not have a high school feeder. Principal Williams will be doing more targeted outreach to schools up until the end of the school year and until each seat at the school is filled.</p> <p>Q: Will you continue outreach at these schools?</p> <p>A: Outreach will continue until all seats at the school are filled. The goal is to have a waiting list of a minimum of 15-25 students.</p> <p>Q: During your outreach to middle schools, did you meet with students or with parents?</p> <p>A: Principal Williams met with students and parents. The majority of the outreach was done with students that the school leaders helped to identify. Principal Williams met with them during the school day at their respective schools and spoke about what the school offerings. Students then went home and talked to their parents about attending EMHS. Parents also met Principal Williams during neighborhood tabling events and information sessions to ask specific questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Branding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sarah Parker, Chief of Staff of the Office of Family and Public Engagement, shared the proposed logos with the Cabinet. ○ The shared color schemes were compared to other high schools so we would not replicate mascots/school colors in DCPS. ○ Cabinet members were able to share their feedback via a written survey at the end of the meeting. ○ A suggestion was made to have a tagline for the school incorporated in the logo ○ The EMHS Planning Team will be seeking feedback from students and families during each of the April enrollment events.
Committee Group Discussions	<p>Sub-Committee Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 3 sub-committees on the Community Cabinet <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Academics/Extra-Curricular</u> (Ensure the school hires professionals who are dedicated to the improvement of the school. Ensure the school has an impactful and efficient ninth grade Student Transition Program (STP)

	<p>and Teacher Professional Development Week)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Community Outreach</u> (Ensure the school opens on Day 1 with 150 students and a wait list by having a strong enrollment strategy and a citywide outreach and recruitment strategy.) ○ <u>Marketing/Partnerships</u> (Ensure the school opens on day one with a strong brand that reflects the school’s mission and vision. Ensure the school has a clear path for establishing and managing school partnerships with community, corporate, faith, and education organizations.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each committee lead respective discussions with committee members and covered the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Finalize monthly meeting times ○ Committee goals discussion ○ Brainstormed on next steps
Closing and Next Steps	<p>Upcoming Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The next Community Cabinet Meeting is April 18, 2016