

Anacostia Community Working Group (CWG) Meeting #5

April 22, 2019

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Anacostia High School – 1601 16th Street SE Washington, DC 20020

Meeting Objective

Opportunity for Principal Haith, with support from the DCPS School Design and the School Partnerships Teams, to share more about redesign and Connected Schools at Anacostia High School.

Anacostia Community Working Group Attendees:

DCPS: Sarah Parker, Najla Husseini, Paige Hoffman, Sharona Robinson

Darrell Gaston – Ward 8 Education Council Johann Lee –

Sharee' Brooks – Anacostia HS Community Partner

William Haith - Anacostia HS Principal

Latisha Coleman – Anacostia HS Assistant Principal

Doris Washington – Anacostia HS Staff Member

Marla Dean - Ward 7 Education Council

Johann Lee – Kimball ES Principal Tiana Wilson – Kimball ES Parent

James Isreal – Ward 8 Education Council

Kirk Keys – Stanton ES Community Schools

Coordinator

Discussion Themes	Comments
Connected Schools	 The video about Community Schools in Oakland is reminiscent of the I Promise Charter School, opened by LeBron James, in Akron, Ohio because it provides wraparound services for the entire family. Academic gains were made at the school in Oakland; however, it was not the major focus – initial focus was the family. This model supports the whole child – impactful even after the student leaves the building; support inside and outside of the building. Interested in learning more about the details of the model. The Connected Schools Manager (CSM) should be a pusher – pushes the students, parents, administration; important for him/her to be a collaborator and engage teachers. The CSM role should be a hybrid of a dean and a social worker. DCPS needs to ensure the needs of students with an IEP are met. Hopes DCPS is being intentional about this model as one new staff member will not be able to change this alone – need for the CSM to be able to setup teams, structures, processes.
Redesign	 The community engagement lead needs to understand the broader Anacostia community and understand the families that they will serve. All voices need to be at the table, especially since the community is rapidly changing. DCPS needs to ensure it is planning for current as well as future Anacostia families. A school in Arlington County started a similar process and the group they designed the program for was not the group that attended the school. This is something

DCPS needs to consider.

- There is no need for DCPS to reinvent the wheel as there are several programs in DC like the DC Infrastructure Academy and the UDC Workforce Development Center that can be leveraged and learned from.
- Things DCPS needs to consider as the biggest changes in the community in the past 25-30 years:
 - o changes in demographics and socioeconomic shifts,
 - o shift in care for students and families more support needed for families; schools cannot look at the student in isolation,
 - decreasing violence citywide,
 - o more violence in schools, and
 - o changes in job readiness skills.
- Biggest changes coming to the community and future skills needed for today's youth:
 - o need for financial literacy over calculus,
 - need to "get back to the basics",
 - o need to learn multiple languages be proficient in Spanish at a minimum,
 - o coding,
 - o empathy and how to empathize,
 - o critical thinking skills,
 - o creating pathways for students earlier,
 - life skills,
 - o partner with government agencies for student to have access to internships, and
 - o more of an understanding what it means to be a citizen/be civically engaged.

Next Steps

Final Anacostia CWG Meeting – Date/Time TBD