

Strategic School Planning Advisory Board Meeting Notes

Date & Location

April 23, 2019

5:30 – 7:30 PM

DCPS Central Office

Presenters

- Claudia Luján, Deputy Chief, Strategic School Planning and Enrollment, DCPS

Participants

Boyle Stuckey

Maggie Koziol

Suzanne Wells

Lesley Muldoon

David Alpert

Gerren Price

Gene Pinkard, DCPS

Teresa Biagioni, DCPS

Major Themes/Takeaways from Discussion

- Members felt conversations on diversity, integration, and segregation are important for DCPS to consider as the city grows and changes. While members acknowledged these issues are important, they also encouraged DCPS to consider how factors such as school choice policies and school quality impact these dynamics.
- Members also noted the role of housing patterns in DC and their impact on school diversity and segregation, particularly in neighborhood schools.
- Members were interested in exploring further both ways to improve all neighborhood schools, and ways to improve access to quality schools for at-risk students.

Agenda item	Comments
Pre-Meeting	Dinner and mingle
Review Meeting Goals and Agenda	Claudia reviewed the goals of the meeting and the agenda to include reviewing school planning updates, followed by a review and discussion on school diversity, segregation, and integration and impact on planning in DCPS
Planning Decisions Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Claudia reviewed the updates and changes to the DCPS lottery approach and fielded a few questions on lessons learned<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ There was further discussion on additional considerations on making waitlist offers and how central office works with schools in making decisions on waitlist offers• Claudia discussed the challenges of making sure schools have the proper resources when accepting additional students off of their waitlists

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Claudia shared with board members the updates to the Capital Improvement plan that will include the opening of new ECE centers in addition to the Stevens ECE center which is scheduled to open in SY20-21 (Old Randall Highlands, Old Miner, Marshall). She discussed the planning considerations on each site with regard to construction, community perspectives, and the potential that they have to help neighborhood schools
Discussion and Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Claudia kicked off a group discussion about the articles that were shared with board members as pre-reading. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Board members discussed how the articles resonate with their own experience in making the decision on which school to send their child ○ Board members had further conversation about segregation and gentrification and how it has impacted neighborhoods in DC ○ Moreover, board members discussed school diversity, integration and how these factors play out in their neighborhoods and school communities ○ Finally, board members talked about DC as a city of choice and how that plays out in their school and communities. • Board members shared final thoughts about the importance of school diversity and how it can help prepare students for a diverse society and workforce • Board members asked for information on how their feedback and input has helped to share DCPS planning decisions. Claudia discussed their feedback has been helpful to inform the district's growth strategy and student recruitment policies, and that further follow up to come.
Next Steps	<p>Board members requesting the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School-level data on patterns of displacement • Out-of-boundary profiles for each feeder pattern (similar to the one created for Ward 3) • Successful models and strategies to support at-risk schools • Members are excited to start brainstorming about engaging further about supporting at-risk students
Closing	<p>At approximately 7:30 pm, the group concluded discussion.</p>