

DCPS STRATEGIC PLAN

School Without Walls Listening Session Summary

Session Overview:

On October 13, 2022, DCPS leadership met with students at School Without Walls. As part of the event's agenda, attendees participated in a gallery walk and a small group feedback session. During these exercises, attendees were asked to share their feedback around four main topical questions:

- What does a welcoming and affirming school community look like for all students, families, and staff?
- What can we do to ensure equitable programming and policies across all of DCPS?
- What do our students need academically, socially, and emotionally to reach their full potential?
- What resources do our staff, families, and students need to ensure all students thrive?

Summary of Feedback:

What does a welcoming and affirming school community look like for all students, families, and staff?

- Prioritizing mental health of students
- Continue to build trust amongst students and staff
- Positive reinforcement and acknowledge effort and growth
- Respecting students' pronouns
- Removing the emphasis on grades and test scores
- More guidance counselors who understand what the student needs
- Catering and supporting all learning types

What can we do to ensure equitable programming and policies across all of DCPS?

- Offer college prep and readiness classes
- Equity around the dress code policy
- More options for clubs and sports
- Access to therapy in school
- Consistency with teachers' class policies
- Offer a platform for students to provide feedback
- Ensure teachers are equipped to handle the students' needs

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What do our students need academically, socially, and emotionally to reach their full potential?

- Difficult to manage course load with service requirements, extracurriculars, college prep, etc.
- Restructure the Senior Project requirement
- Provide more enrichment programs
- Create standardized resources across the District and for individual schools
- Motivate the students and create engaging opportunities for them to learn
- Restructure the 5-day school week

What resources do our staff, families, and students need to ensure all students thrive?

- More funding for sports and extracurriculars
- Allocating funding towards student resources (calculators, textbooks, dances, etc.)
- Provide more transportation options for students
- Offer more AP classes across the District
- Create resources for student-athletes to start the college application process sooner
- Close the technical gap (more resources, faster Wi-Fi)
- Provide life skills classes (student loans, taxes, financial literacy)

Participation Statistics

- Number of Post-it Notes Left on Gallery Walk Boards: **117**
 - Board 1 (Welcoming and Affirming): **25**
 - Board 2 (Equitable Programming): **25**
 - Board 3 (Full Potential): **28**
 - Board 4 (Thrive): **20**
- Number of Small Group Discussion Worksheets Collected: **0**
- Number of Exit Surveys Completed: **11**
- Total number of attendees signed in (not including all Central Office/ school staff assisting): **31**

Exit Survey Analysis

- Q1: Through my Gallery Walk discussion boards, I felt like I had an opportunity to share my ideas about DCPS and its future. **4.3/5**
- Q2: Through the Small Group Discussion session, I felt like I had an opportunity to share my ideas about DCPS and its future. **4.5/5**
- Q3: Hearing from DCPS leadership on the State of SCPS was helpful information to have prior to the small group discussion. **3.9/5**
- Q4: Do you find that this type of community meeting is a useful way to provide feedback to DCPS? **4.4/5**

Attendance Breakdown

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Attendees (From Event Sign-In)

Community Member	N/A
Community Organization Rep	N/A
DCPS Principal/ Superintendent/ Leadership	N/A
DCPS Staff	N/A
Elected office (ANC, Mayor's Office, State Board, DC Council)	N/A
Parent/ Caregiver	N/A
Student	31
Teacher	N/A