

FY24 Student Budget Discussion
High School Students
December 5, 2022

Event Information	
DCPS Staff Attending	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chancellor Lewis D. Ferebee Amy Maisterra, Deputy Chancellor Drewanna Bey, Interim Deputy Chancellor Sarah Parker, Interim Officer, Engagement and Partnerships Natalie Treadgold, Interim Deputy Chief, Family and Community Engagement Jerry Ilar, Manager, Family and Community Supports Simone Hall, Specialist, School Finance Team (Taking Notes) Claudette Monroy, Coordinator, Community Engagement (Taking Notes)
Target Group	High School Students and Opportunity Academy Students
Date	December 5, 2022
Time	1:30 – 3:00pm

Schools Represented

School Name	Attended	Principal Name	Student #1 Grade	Student #2 Grade	Notes
Anacostia High School	x	William Haith	12th	12th	
Ballou High School	x	Willie Jackson	10th	12th	
Ballou STAY	x	Gloria Bumpass	10th	12th	
Bard High School Early College DC	Did not attend	Vanessa Anderson	10th	12th	Power outage at school
Benjamin Banneker Academic High School	x	Anita Berger	12th	11th	
Cardozo Education Campus	x	Arthur Mola	11th	12th	



CHEC	x	Maria Tukeva	12th	11th	
Coolidge HS	x	Semanthe Bright	12th	12th	
Eastern High School	x	Steve Miller	11th	TBD	
Duke Ellington School of Arts	x	Sandi Logan	?	?	
Dunbar HS	Did not attend	Nadine Smith			
Jackson-Reed High School	x	Sah Brown	11th	11th	
H.D. Woodson HS	x	William Massey	?	?	
Luke C. Moore Opportunity Academy	x	Rodney Wormsley, Sr.	10th	11th	
McKinley Tech High School	x	Kortni Stafford	11th	9th	
Phelps ACE High School	x	Cara Fuller	11th	10th	
River Terrace EC	x	Aimee Cepeda	C8	C8	
Ron Brown College Preparatory High School	x	Charles R. Hunt II	11th	11th	
Roosevelt High School	x	Courtney Wilkerson	12th	11th	
Roosevelt STAY	x	DeWayne Little	10th	N/A	
School Without Walls High School	x	Sylvia Isaac	11th	11th	



SEL Opener – Please share your name, grade and one word that describes your year so far.

- “it’s been a good year so far” - Ballou
- “very surprising; great year so far; exceptional; extraordinary” – Luke C Moore
- “fun, great, overall been a good year so far” – Anacostia
- “exciting so far” – Coolidge
- “busy” – Roosevelt
- “very productive and exhilarating; leadership; interesting” – CHEC
- “hectic; pretty good” – Dunbar
- “remarkable; my school is getting better every year” – Woodson
- “very progressive; a lot of change, most of it positive; inspirational” – Banneker
- “Unexpected; cosmic” – McKinley
- “busy; interesting” – SWW
- “interesting” – Cardozo
- “extreme; peaceful” – Phelps
- “genetic and eventful” – Eastern
- “very busy” – Jackson Reed
- “creative; productive” – Ellington
- “spontaneous” – Ballou STAY
- “challenging” – Roosevelt STAY
- “supportive; productive” – River Terrace
- “enlightening; informing” – Ron Brown
- “ever-changing” – Dr. Bey

What do you think the top 2-3 budget priorities would be for your school according to your classmates?

- 3 main priorities discussed at CHEC:
 - Library – are we receiving enough money for books so they can be sustainable?
 - Bathrooms – nonbinary and transgender bathrooms needed so they feel safe and not have to conform.
 - Capital improvements needed – a lot of old and broken furniture; other repairs needed.
- Coolidge –
 - mental health programs. School can be stressful so prioritizing mental health resources is important.
 - Internship programs esp. for undocumented students. More hands-on career experience wanted.



- Funding for test prep assistance
- Banneker –
 - Food – more funding needed for breakfast and lunch so students can have options they enjoy. Can schools sell or fundraise for food? Aware of legislative restrictions such as Healthy Foods Act, so can rules and regs be altered to allow for flexible food spending?
 - More time to eat for student-athletes requested.
 - Lunch affordability/Improved data process and funds to help for T1 students to accurately show school's T1 status.
- Teachers are paying out of pocket for their school supplies.
- Old metal detectors need to be fixed.
- More funding for extracurriculars, travel fees, and resource fees.
 - Some schools only have certain sports (e.g., some have soccer or basketball teams, others don't).
 - Clubs are a major part of the HS experience. Good for students' mental health
- No facilities for sports; transportation issues (School Without Walls).
- More resources esp. virtual for students (e.g., YouTube videos for self-teaching).
- Very slow internet; updated tech needed.
- More field trips (e.g., college or post-secondary trips) and post-grad exposure needed
- NAF – more funding needed for the NAF academies (student mentioned his participation in Finance NAF).
- Mental health clubs needed – lack of understanding around poor practices; more resources needed for students to turn to instead of narcotics for instance
 - More guidance counselors and psychiatrist.
- More funding needed for electrical issues (broken lights and windows; terrible Wi-Fi at Woodson, Dunbar, etc).
- Better and more tech needed; more \$ for supplies (e.g., pencils and paper).
 - There is not a 1 tech-1 student ratio.
 - More chargers needed.
- More \$ for student-led clubs esp. smaller clubs like majorettes and Art.
- Hygiene products and supplies needed for bathrooms (soap, paper towels, etc.)
- More equipment for students to access (e.g., printers).
- More guidance counselors needed esp. for Seniors and ELL students.
- Study abroad opportunities needed – more spots for students to participate.
- Improvement/increase in SPED funding; Duke has more SPED students that teachers available. Proper compensation for SPED teachers.
- More and sustainable Arts funding.
- Low on staff – limited subs.
 - Few college courses/AP classes and few staff to teach them.



- Opportunities students get under NAF should be expanded to benefit all/more students.
- I would love if you can offer soccer and basketball at our school.
- More opportunities for ELL students.
 - More translators needed for more equitable opportunities.
- Need more nurses (Roosevelt STAY doesn't have a nurse).
- Better food options; some students skip due to poor options or unable to afford it
- More biotech and engineering labs for schools with focus on STEM
- Ballou STAY – more transportation needed. Metro and bus not always reliable (suggestion provided that a school bus is offered).
 - School needs improved HVAC system (quieter filters, better air quality)
- Growing student population at Roosevelt has led to classroom sharing.

Comments on the chat:

- I agree (with more resources for undocumented students).
- Allow vending machines.
- I agree- more funding for school supplies so that teachers don't have to pay out of pocket.
- On our computers, they blocked everything except for DCPS sites including google docs.
- That is helpful. feedback re: access to virtual sites. We are currently looking at how to best strike the balance with supporting access and ensuring security/student safety.
- Dunbar STRONGLY agrees (two counselors for ELL students because they need extra support with applying to college).
- Yes, we definitely need a more variety of sports.
- I can't come off mute right now but Roosevelt need money for more updated technology (computers).
- Chancellor Ferebee, this is Hannon from Luke C. Moore I'm sorry I didn't understand what you said, I would like to go is China.
- What kind of sports do we need more of? Many of you have said more sports should be prioritized.
- On behalf of McKinley Tech, I agree (more biotech and engineering labs).
- Sorry to intrude but I had remaining thoughts from Dunbar for the first question. Our idea is having funding for a school oriented community service program to allow students to effectively finish the required community service hours for graduations. Especially as a senior that came to the DCPS school system last year I had to start from scratch which was really tough. I was also having trouble finding places to get my hours as Saturdays and Sundays are heavily booked.
- Top priorities: number one football and soccer fields (gym).



*Schools will receive funding based on **students' needs**. What does this idea mean to you?*

- Funding for clubs and extracurriculars.
- More tech opportunities – many helpful sites blocked.
- Poor lunch/food quality.
- Building stronger ties b/w DCPS and nearby college campuses.

Comments on the chat:

- To fund students' needs is to fund their success. To be able to fund their needs students would be able to excel because they will have enough guidance and support.
- I wanted to add one more thing. I believe we should have funding for college and success a class available at our school. It is an amazing class that allows us to go to colleges and talking about our future. Unfortunately, we're unable to receive transportation for this class leading us to take the train.
- Things I think we need at Anacostia is more funding for books and for activities because teachers are coming out of pocket to pay for trips and clubs and also the technology teachers are using are breaking and are low quality and to add our school just had to let us out early because of the school pipes and the bathrooms not working and to add our school is low populated and my school and our basketball court is low maintenance and we have Wi-Fi problems just like everybody else and people are complaining about not being able to not being able to work the laptops because they are so slow or it not enough laptops for per person.
- NEW THING: A Safety net/trust fund for schools that don't need to be requested via stability clause as well as adequate funding for arts.



Main Themes and Key Takeaways

- More funding for extracurriculars, travel fees, and resource fees
 - Some schools only have certain sports (e.g., some have soccer or basketball teams, others don't)
 - Clubs are a major part of the HS experience. Good for students' mental health.
- More field trips (e.g., college or post-secondary trips) and post-grad exposure needed.
- Mental health clubs needed – lack of understanding around poor practices; more resources needed for students to turn to instead of narcotics for instance.
 - More guidance counselors and psychiatrist.
- Better and more tech needed, improve Wi-Fi and resolve issues with firewalls which prevents access to academic websites.
- More support with applications for college, college visits or colleges visiting DCPS high schools.
- More funding for learning materials.