

Feedback Summary from Chancellor Community Forum Eastern HS (December 12, 2017 at 8:45am)

Overview of Community Forum at Eastern High School

On December 12, 2017 Chancellor Antwan Wilson met with parents, school staff, and community members from across the district. As part of the event's agenda, attendees participated in a small group feedback session around the DCPS Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) budget from a district level perspective as well as a school level perspective. During the exercise, attendees were asked to prioritize the budget at the district level and school level around the following four priorities:

- Technology
- Attendance
- Literacy
- Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
- Other

Summary of Feedback from Eastern- Small Group Activity

When asked to provide percentage breakdowns (adding up to 100%)* for the 4 priorities from above, the attendees felt on average that DCPS should supply the following percentages at the district level:

- 31% to Technology
- 20% to Literacy
- 20% to SEL
- 17% to Other (e.g. athletics, extracurriculars, staffing recruitment, SEL- staffing and training, etc.)
- 12% to Attendance

When asked to provide percentage breakdowns (adding up to 100%)* for the 4 priorities from above, the attendees felt on average that DCPS should supply the following percentages at the school level:

- 26% to Literacy
- 24% to Other (e.g. college and career, extracurriculars, additional staff, professional development, etc.)
- 23% to SEL
- 16% to Technology
- 11% to Attendance

Specific Quotes:

- "We can't discuss extras when we don't have basics- aides, librarians, quality substitutes."
- "Attendance isn't a huge need at our schools."
- "There is a need for a pool of high-quality, long-term substitutes and short-term substitutes because teacher attendance is an issue."
- "The #1 thing discussed as a root cause for many of these items: attendance, using technology, literacy, is the high student to teacher ratios."

- "The most important priority is the social emotional learning. I think if parents, teachers, and administrators are emotionally well, every area will be strengthened."
- "Schools need support staff to invest in student learning."
- "Technology should be fully funded by the district."

Questions from Sli.do/Q&A Session:

- When will school budget model change?
- Will schools have the freedom to make budget decisions aligned to their own school goals- not just district priorities?
- How are priorities determined?
- Will the broader community be able to give feedback before the budget is submitted to Council?
- Will the decision whether to move technology purchases to the district budget be made prior to the school budget window closes for SY18-19?
- The issues at Ballou are NOT just about attendance. Please understand it starts in ES and it's also about teaching and learning.
- Secure At-risk funds?
- How are we ensuring play is incorporated in physical plans? There is requirements for parking, but no requirement for outdoor space or shared indoor play areas.
- What can a school community do- who can they work with, if they are not able to get the transparency needed from the school leader, and the LSAT is not meeting?
- How can communities provide feedback on the work of central office (Instructional Superintendents, and other) staff?
- I don't see how technology will help kids get to be college and career ready- can you explain that, please?
- I'm concerned the Chancellor pushed addressing Ballou related issues to LSATs. This is a district-wide set of issues that the district should be responsible for
- Why do we have no input on the priorities?

School Communities Represented:

- Anacostia HS
- Brent ES
- Capitol Hill Montessori @ Logan
- Cardozo EC
- CW Harris ES
- Duke Ellington School of the Arts
- Eastern HS
- Eliot-Hine MS
- Hearst ES
- J. O. Wilson ES
- Janney ES
- Ketcham ES
- KIPP DC

- LaSalle Backus ES
- Maury ES
- McKinley Tech
- Miner ES
- Nalle ES
- Payne ES
- Peabody ES
- Phelps HS
- River Terrace EC
- Ron Brown HS
- Roosevelt STAY
- School Without Walls
- Stanton ES
- Stuart Hobson MS
- Tubman ES
- Two Rivers PCS
- Tyler ES
- Watkins ES
- Wheatley EC
- Woodson HS