

## Washington Metropolitan High School Frequently Asked Questions for Middle School Families

### General Questions

#### **How will DCPS ensure families are providing input on this closure process?**

We have scheduled two engagement opportunities to hear the perspectives of our families and communities. The first opportunity is at Washington Metropolitan High School on December 9 and the second is on December 12 at Martha's Table. If you are unable to attend either events but would like to share your perspective, please feel free to complete and submit the feedback worksheet available [here](#) or printed copies in the school's main office. You can also call (202) 478 – 9289 to leave feedback via voicemail. All feedback should be submitted to [dcps.planning@k12.dc.gov](mailto:dcps.planning@k12.dc.gov) by Friday, December 20.

#### **In addition to gathering family and community member feedback, how will DCPS capture student voices?**

Student voice is a critical part of this process. DCPS Central Office will work with the school to organize student listening sessions. Students also have the opportunity to complete and submit the feedback worksheet available [here](#) or printed copies in the school's main office. They can also call (202) 478 – 9289 to leave feedback via voicemail. All feedback should be submitted to [dcps.planning@k12.dc.gov](mailto:dcps.planning@k12.dc.gov) by Friday, December 20.

#### **What are the benefits to remaining and finishing up the school year at Washington Metropolitan in full?**

Students will have the opportunity to complete their remaining coursework on the Summit platform and promote to the next grade level (or graduate if possible). They'll have the benefit of continuity with their teachers and peers and it will give them time to make a thoughtful and informed decision about school placement for next year.

#### **What is DCPS committing to providing families during this proposed closure transition process?**

- Supporting students through 1:1 placement and transition conversations with students and families.
- Working with receiving schools to ensure necessary connections and resources are in place.
- Working with school staff to ensure that the school is positioned to support students' course completion this year.
- Working with other Opportunity Academy leaders to ensure Wash Met students have access to summer school to finish Summit courses.
- Thinking through and engaging DCPS stakeholders in what our long-term plans are for alternative middle school programs.

#### **What does the transition process look like for my student that has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)?**

All students will have individual placement meetings with families. The DCPS Student Placement Office will collaborate with Washington Metropolitan's Local Education Agency (LEA) representative to answer any questions regarding your student's placement. The Student Placement Office can be reached at (202) 939-2004.

#### **If my student currently receives transportation to Washington Metropolitan, what happens to my student next school year regarding transportation?**

Transportation will continue as long as the student is eligible per their IEP. It is recommended for the parent to notify the LEA once they confirmed a new school, address, and contact information. If the LEA is not available,

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please contact Sherti Hendrix via email ([Sherti.Hendrix3@k12.dc.gov](mailto:Sherti.Hendrix3@k12.dc.gov)) for assistance with submission to avoid any delays in the transition to the new school. All Transportation Request Forms (TRFs) for the upcoming SY20-21 are due by June 1, 2020.

**Do Washington Metropolitan HS students need to complete coursework by end of school year in June or will they have opportunity for summer school?**

Washington Metropolitan students will be allowed to continue their coursework during the summer at another Opportunity Academy summer school site (location(s) to be determined) or a traditional summer school site as appropriate.

**Will Washington Metropolitan HS be a summer school site?**

Given the potential of closure at the end of this school year, Washington Metropolitan HS will not be designated as a summer school site in summer 2020.

**How will families and the community be notified about the final decision?**

When a final decision has been made, written communication will be sent home with students along with an email to all families. The community will also receive notice through the DCPS website and the DCPS School Planning Blog.

**Middle School Specific Student Questions**

**What should I expect for students currently enrolled in middle grades moving forward?**

DCPS placement and enrollment specialists will work with students to identify options for your middle school student - neighborhood middle school or apply to other DCPS schools through the My School DC lottery. Regardless of whether there will be a school closure or not, DCPS has committed to supporting Washington Metropolitan staff complete transition conversations with each student and their family and collaborate with school staff to ensure that the school is positioned to support students' course completion this year.

The My School DC lottery deadline for grades PK3 – 8 is Monday, March 2, 2020. Details about the lottery can be found here: <https://www.myschooldc.org/>

**What are the placement options for currently enrolled Washington Metropolitan middle school students?**

We anticipate that many middle school students will be eligible for a high school placement. In these cases the student placement specialists will work with individual families to explore the appropriate options. For those students that will require a middle school option for the 2020-21 school year, the student placement and enrollment teams will work with them to explore their neighborhood school as well as other DCPS options available through the My School DC lottery.

**Where can I learn more about other DCPS schools?**

The DCPS Enrollment website has a number of resources available for families to learn more about our schools: <http://enrolldcps.dc.gov/node/46> In particular, families may be interested in the middle school and high school booklets. Hard copies of these resources will be shared at both Washington Metropolitan community meetings. Spanish versions coming shortly.

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Questions? Please contact [Helen.Tzow@k12.dc.gov](mailto:Helen.Tzow@k12.dc.gov) or (202) 520-2277.