FOLLOW UP MEMO

TO: Members of the Superintendent's Community Advisory Council (S-CAC)

FROM: Monik Martinez
Patrick Bannon

DATE: February 21, 2024

RE: SCAC Meeting 2/14/2024

cc: Kelly Aramaki, John Harrison, Jason Golec, Shomari Jones, Heather Sanchez

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WELCOME BACK:

It had been several weeks since we'd seen each other, it was great to be together again. Lots changed since we last met, most notably, Dr. Aramaki's announcement that there wouldn't be a middle school consolidation proposal put forward for the next two years. We spent the bulk of our time together reflecting on the draft Roadmap for Big Decisions, and in large group conversation about the Board's new budget parameters. Here's some of what we heard.

CREATING A ROADMAP FOR BIG DECISIONS:

One of our pre-reads was a draft of the Roadmap for Community Decisions. We split into two groups to discuss the roadmap and provide feedback and input. A handful of the important themes that we heard included:

- Define "big decision."
- Begin outreach early and don't engage people with a single option when you're seeking input on a range of options.
- Define what we mean by "diverse voices."
- Be clear about what we are asking from people and on the timeline for decision making. Why that timeline?
- Communication is critical in engagement processes. Plan ahead for feedback loops and communicate through different mediums to reach the most affected people.

DISTRICT BUDGET UPDATE:

John shared a budget planning update including the Board's new Budget Planning Guidelines, the 2024 – 2025 Draft Budget Parameters and next steps. It was our original intent to break back into smaller groups to discuss strategies and tactics for community engagement on the budget. However, we remained in large group to talk about the why and whether engagement should be done on parameters already decided upon by the board. Additionally, the engagement was proposed to be completed by mid-March at the latest as the Board will take up the budget in April. This seemed too short a timeline and not substantive enough in the "why" to undertake broad engagement. Rather the group recommended that the district start now to explain the budget process and types of decisions that will need to be made for the 2025-2026 budget.

WHAT'S NEXT:
Our next meeting is March 13th, our second to last meeting. Time flies!! We will continue to refine the "Roadmap." Thank you for continuing to give of your time and great ideas. Your work is – and will continue – making a difference

Take good care!

Monik and Patrick