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OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS & MEDIA CONTENT

341 S. Bellefield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

For Immediate Release

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Pittsburgh Public Schools Community Invited to Weigh-In on Base Scenario for Reimagined School Portfolio

PITTSBURGH, August 22, 2024 – Pittsburgh Public Schools (PPS) is continuing its commitment to community engagement as it develops the final Facilities Utilization Plan. Last week, the District’s consultant, Education Resource Strategies (ERS), presented a bold and comprehensive base scenario for potential changes to the school portfolio, marking the start of a second round of community listening sessions. The feedback gathered from these sessions will be crucial in shaping the final recommendation that will be presented to the Board in September.

“Since releasing our Draft Facilities Utilization Plan in March, we have remained steadfast in our commitment to elevating the voices of parents and families through an extensive community engagement process,” said Superintendent Dr. Wayne N. Walters. “As we enter this second phase of engagement, we are eager to hear from all stakeholders, ensuring that this challenging conversation is one the entire community can undertake together.”

A Focus on Community Engagement

The District has seen an unprecedented level of community input, which has significantly informed ERS’s development of the initial base scenario. Despite the challenges of gathering feedback during the summer, nearly 11,000 individual responses were received from students, staff, families, and community members through a collection of surveys and polls. Additionally, 1,700 questions and comments were collected during 11 Board Member Town Halls. The feedback highlighted key themes reflecting stakeholders’ desires for the future of PPS students. ERS is now returning to the community to gather input on the tangible Base Scenario presented last week, allowing stakeholders to provide feedback on the future school portfolio for PPS.

Regional Community Input Sessions

To ensure broad and inclusive engagement, PPS and ERS will host four Regional Community Input Sessions, in addition to targeted input sessions and pop-up listening events aimed at reaching hard-to-reach families and communities. During these sessions, attendees will use an online tool to weigh in on the recommended changes specific to their region, as well as changes to the District’s magnet offerings. The results of these discussions will be shared in real-time, providing an opportunity for attendees to ask questions, voice concerns, and contribute additional feedback. Attendees will also have the option to provide input on other regions via a survey tool. The schedule for the Regional Community Input Sessions is detailed in the chart below, with each session taking place in the designated school’s auditorium. All input sessions will be streamed live on the District’s Facebook page.



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Date	Time	Location	Base Scenario Feeder Area (s)
Tuesday, August 27	6:00 – 8:00 PM	Pittsburgh Allegheny K-5/6-8 810 Arch St, Pittsburgh, PA 15212	Perry Feeder Full & Partial Magnets
Tuesday, September 3	6:00 – 8:00 PM	Pittsburgh Allderdice High School 2409 Shady Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15217	Allderdice Feeder Westinghouse Feeder Full & Partial Magnets
Wednesday, September 4	6:00 – 8:00 PM	Pittsburgh Carrick High School 125 Parkfield St, Pittsburgh, PA 15210	Carrick Feeder Brashear Feeder Full & Partial Magnets
Thursday, September 5	6:00 – 8:00 PM	Pittsburgh Arsenal 6-8 220 40th St, Pittsburgh, PA 15201	Milliones Feeder Full & Partial Magnets

Virtual Webinar

A virtual webinar will take place Wednesday, September 11, at 6:00 PM. This webinar will provide additional information regarding the proposed school changes.

Other Ways to Provide Input

For those unable to attend a Regional Community Input Session, feedback on the Base Scenario can be submitted via the [Facilities Utilization Plan Let's Talk Form](#).

Additionally, individuals may attend the Board's regularly scheduled public hearing on Monday, August 26, 2024. Requests to speak at the Public Hearing can be made online via the [Request for Comment Form](#) until noon on Monday. Those unable to attend in person may submit written testimony via email to lgetty1@pghschools.org by the same deadline. All testimonies will be forwarded to the Board of Directors and added to the District's website as part of the public record. To learn about Public Hearing Procedures, visit <https://www.pghschools.org/about/board-of-directors/public-hearing-procedures>.

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