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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 Postpones Final School Portfolio Recommendation to Ensure Ample Consideration of Community Input

District Consultant to Present Final Recommendation to Board at October 15th Education Committee Meeting

PITTSBURGH, September 10, 2024 – Over the past two weeks, the Pittsburgh community has actively shared numerous ideas and considerations regarding the District’s school portfolio. This valuable input prompted the District’s consultant, Education Resource Strategies (ERS), to request additional time to thoroughly analyze the data and incorporate the diverse perspectives gathered into its final recommendation. As a result, ERS will now present its final recommendation to the Board at the Education Committee Meeting on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, instead of the originally scheduled September 16, 2024.

"In our discussions with the PPS Administration and our consultants at ERS, we determined that more time is needed to analyze all of the data collected during the most recent community engagement sessions," said Board President Gene Walker. "Due to the expected scope of the proposal and its significant impact on our District, we want to ensure that ERS has ample time to develop and present the best possible recommendation. The Board is committed to ensuring that all community input is considered before the final presentation and this commitment requires that we give ERS the additional time needed to finish their work."

Pittsburgh Public Schools (PPS) continues to be steadfast in its commitment to community engagement as it finalizes the Facilities Utilization Plan. Hundreds of parents, students, and community members have attended Regional Community Input Sessions, submitted input via the Let’s Talk platform, or completed a survey regarding the base scenario presented by ERS last month. Additionally, a virtual webinar will be held tomorrow, Wednesday, September 11, 2024, at 6:00 PM, to offer information regarding the proposed school changes. [Registration is required.](#)

"We are deeply grateful to everyone in our community who has elevated their voices to share their aspirations for the children of Pittsburgh," said Superintendent Dr. Wayne N. Walters. "ERS has much to consider in developing a final recommendation that honors this input while ensuring we create a system of equity, excellence, and efficiency across all schools."



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Other Ways to Provide Input

Community members can continue to provide feedback on the Base Scenario through the [Facilities Utilization Plan Let's Talk Form](#). Additionally, individuals may attend the Board's regularly scheduled public hearing on Monday, September 23, 2024. Requests to speak at the Public Hearing can be made online via the [Request for Comment Form](#) until noon on Monday, September 23, the day of the hearing. 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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