EducationPlanners

The community has expressed concerns surrounding the timeline and engagement for the K-2 school consolidation process. In response, the Board of Education is being asked to consider two potential plans for moving forward:

- **Plan A**: This plan includes a recommendation to the board to maintain the current timeline.
- **Plan B**: This option suggests adjusting the timeline to allow for greater community engagement using four proposed committees:
    - School Safety/Walk Zones
    - Transitioning Student Support Services
    - Financial Impact
    - Culture and Design

Adjusting the timeline would require the board to make a final decision later in the school year, which could have implications for notice to potentially impacted families.

The proposed committees include:

- **School Safety/Walk Zones** - The committee will partner with the city's Safe Routes to School program and the CSD transportation department to assess walking zones, traffic flow patterns, and arrival and dismissal procedures. The aim is to ensure that students' routes to and from school are safe, efficient, and supportive of our shared goals for walkability and well-being. Recommendations will align with the district's highest priority of student safety and strategic priorities of organizational effectiveness and excellence.

- **Transitioning Student Support Services** - The committee will review transition practices across academics, social-emotional development, as well as building logistics to identify strengths, gaps, and opportunities for ensuring that every student experiences a smooth, supportive, and developmentally appropriate transition from one grade level to the next. Recommendations will align with the district's strategic priorities to foster a consistent sense of belonging and optimal learning conditions for all students.

- **Financial Impact** - The committee will review budget data and resources to ensure that recommendations are fiscally responsible, equitable, and aligned with the district's strategic priorities of organizational effectiveness and efficiency.

- **Culture and Design -** Examine possible school configurations to support student learning, community identity, and the district's strategic priorities on building and sustaining an engaging and inclusive culture as CSD plans for the future. The committee reflects our commitment to ensuring that every voice is heard as we imagine the next chapter of learning for our students, establishing or renewing routines and rituals, and fostering engagement and collaboration across students, staff, and families.

First Public Hearing

A public hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, October 29, 2025, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Beacon Hill Middle School, where the community is invited to provide input and offer considerations to Education Planners regarding a potential school consolidation.

The meeting format will be as follows:

- General Information Session: Information Presented
- Breakout Sessions: Public Input

If you are unable to attend the public hearing, you may submit your input via this feedback form as well. Please continue to visit the City Schools of Decatur website at csdecatur.net for the latest information.