

FY 2023 Community Perspectives

School Committee
March 22, 2022

Note:

- Includes themes from more than 700 comments received through survey, phone outreach, and community meetings
- Themes organized by FY23 Budget Guidelines
- Many themes similar to FY22 budget discussions and Superintendent Greer's entry plan process

FY23 Discussion Themes and Takeaways

What we heard



Student Success

- **Improve curriculum:**
 - Shift to multi-disciplinary, real-world, & project-based learning
 - Review curriculum for cultural responsiveness, historically-accuracy, and representation
 - Incorporate nature-based & outdoor learning
 - Reduce frequency of curriculum changes
- **Improve instruction:**
 - Improve consistency across schools
 - Re-emphasize joy, celebrations, art,
 - Use research-based practices to improve learning
 - More classroom differentiation and small group instruction
 - Reduce screen time
 - Consistent approach to homework
- **1:1 and small group tutoring**, to address learning loss and close achievement gaps
- **Prioritize literacy:**
 - Dyslexia screenings
 - Common evidence-based curriculum
 - Ongoing literacy training for educators
- **Strengthen math, science, and STEM:**
 - Support differentiated math instruction
 - More access to math AP below calculus
 - Provide exposure and access to guest speakers and role models
 - Integrated climate crisis curriculum
 - Access to coding classes
- **Expand access to multilingual education and programs**

FY23 Discussion Themes and Takeaways

What we heard



Student Success

- Support **advanced learners**
 - Assess advanced learning needs
 - Provide appropriate learning experiences & support
 - Support for educators & families to better support advanced learners, including twice exceptional students
- Support **students with disabilities:**
 - Improve alignment between general education and special education
 - Improve inclusion options: during school day, afterschool, and in summer
 - Expand structured academics
- Improve student's social-emotional skills through **social-emotional learning**
- Address **tiered mental & behavioral needs:**
 - Mental health assessment
 - Dedicated mental health staffing
 - Partnerships with external service providers to provide low-cost expert services
 - Expand BRYT program to younger grades
- Coordinate **wrap-around services** to address non-academic needs

FY23 Discussion Themes and Takeaways

What we heard



Student Success

- **Improved afterschool opportunities**
 - Afterschool clubs & sports in K-8
 - Afterschool programs in every building
 - Programs designed for students of color
 - Inclusive programs for students with disabilities
 - Collaborate with city, community programs, including transportation
 - Transportation for athletics
 - Scholarships for community programs
- **Improved summer learning**
 - Year round programming
 - Help families navigate options
 - Social opportunities
 - Better integrate CPS & city programs
- **Expand AM programs/ early drop-off**
- **Access to early childhood education**
 - Implement universal pre-k plan
 - Consider splitting JK/K classrooms
- **Student pathways to college and career readiness**
 - Appropriate career awareness & exploration across K-12
 - Individual postsecondary planning & support
 - Expand early college
 - Equitable access to internships & other work-based learning
 - College prep support

FY23 Discussion Themes and Takeaways

What we heard



Culture & Climate

- Elevate **student voices and student leadership opportunities**
- **Student support & relationships**
 - Provide mentoring opportunities
 - Improve quality & consistency of advisory structures
- **Safe learning environments**
 - Expand peer mediation
 - Direct instruction on issues of consent, health relationships, civil rights, and positive school culture
 - Clarity re: incident reporting & response
 - Integrate restorative practices
 - Build understanding of gender equity issues
- Consistent **behavioral expectations and supports** to prevent and address bullying and disruptions
- Incorporate structured **play and fun, including** through field trips
- Improve school spirit and build **welcoming school communities**
 - Community building opportunities
 - Opportunities for families to meet each other, including feeder schools
 - Consistent celebration of cultural
 - Inclusion of out-of-district families
 - Volunteer & involvement opportunities

FY23 Discussion Themes and Takeaways

What we heard

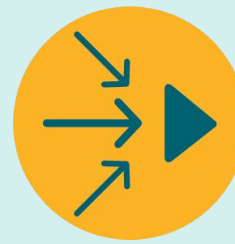


Engagement & Communication

- Support **families to play active roles** in student success:
 - Access to student data
 - Information about curriculum, lessons, homework
 - Take home bags
- Family **workshops, trainings, and affinity spaces**:
 - Expand programming through The Village
 - Support opportunities for families of color
 - Training on topics like supporting SEL at home or advancing learning
- **Provide more time for educators and family liaisons** to engage directly with families
- **More robust strategy for new-to-CPS families and students**
- Continue to expand **interpretation/translation** support
- **Improve consistency** around school-home communications
 - Principal & school training on strong communication practices
 - Improve response time from administrators and counselors
 - Improve clarity of who to go to for support
 - Improved use of email, text, phone
 - Website improvements

FY23 Discussion Themes and Takeaways

What we heard

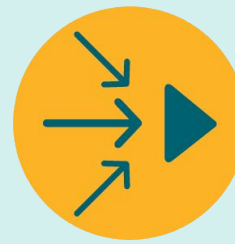


Organizational Capacity & Alignment

- **Build educator/staff capacity in areas including:**
 - Anti-bias, anti-racism, & cultural proficiency
 - Advanced learner support
 - SEL & restorative practices
 - Student mental health needs and trauma-informed practices
 - Training for substitutes
- **Differentiated modes for professional learning** beyond choice courses
- **Dedicated time for staff planning & collaboration**
- **Expand staff support**
 - Address burnout
 - Provide parking
 - Increase compensation
- **Recruit and retain educators of color**
- **Support educator development and pathways**
 - Dedicated mentors, including for new teachers and principals
 - Expand paraprofessional to teaching pipeline
 - Provide support for continuing education
 - Provide recognition programs

FY23 Discussion Themes and Takeaways

What we heard

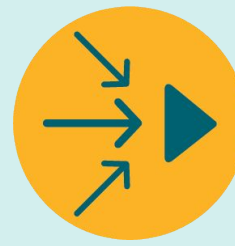


Organizational Capacity & Alignment

- **Continue commitment to advance equity:**
 - Sustain Office of Equity, Inclusion, Belonging
 - Continue support for equity audits and equity teams
 - Elevate voices of students, families, educators of color and encourage racial, ethnic, disability and language diversity in leadership and decisionmaking
- **Improve schedules and use of time:**
 - Longer school day or year
 - More frequent specials
 - Longer lunch, recess, and breaks in lower grades
 - Review calendar, including holidays
 - Revisit CRLS schedule, including start time, use/placement of community meeting
 - Flexible schedules for older students
 - Remote learning options when out sick
- **Explore staffing models** that use two adults in a classroom

FY23 Discussion Themes and Takeaways

What we heard



Organizational Capacity & Alignment

- **Facilities**

- Building improvements, such as roofs, flooring
- Support tents and outdoor learning
- Shift to gender neutral bathrooms
- More storage spaces
- More playground trash/recycling receptacles

- **Address lunch issues that**

- Continue free lunch for all
- Fewer frozen meals

- **Transportation**

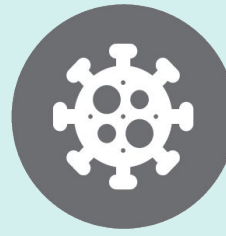
- Driver education
- Reduce delays
- Knowledge about updated bus tracker

- **Technology**

- Address inequities in home technology including computer and internet access
- Improve CRLS wifi & cell service
- Limit access to student cell phones during day

FY23 Discussion Themes and Takeaways

What we heard



COVID

- **Reduce burden on administrators and educators:**
 - Designate duties to one person at each building
- **Positive case management**
 - Increase transparency on notifications
 - Support for ongoing changes to rules and protocols
- **Ventilation**
 - Purchase quieter HEPA filters
 - Address challenges on open windows during cold weather