

Link to CAT breakout video recording:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/14u07J_gosdY_nm87XkrD1xqWB1azdwtf/view?usp=sharing

Midtown Cluster Advisory Team (CAT) Meeting Minutes

Date: March 4, 2026

Meeting Type: Midtown Cluster Advisory Team Meeting

Purpose: Discussion and feedback regarding priorities for the E-SPLOST 2027 capital improvement planning process.

ATTENDEES

Cluster principals and representatives

OPENING UPDATES

Data Dig and Calendar Coordination: The Data Dig process is being finalized. Denise will reach out to principals, GO Team members, and PTAs to confirm availability for upcoming discussions.

Letter from Midtown GO Team Members: Denise and Melissa (CAT Chair and Vice Chair) received a letter from Midtown GO Team members regarding school overcrowding, student safety, and testing accommodations. The letter will be included with meeting documentation.

Facilities & Educational Suitability Report: The 2024 Facilities Condition and Educational Suitability Assessment obtained through open records was shared with principals and will be distributed to GO Teams.

Enrollment Projection Concerns: APS acknowledged that enrollment projections at some schools (including Midtown and Howard) have been inaccurate and the district is reviewing projection methods.

Future CAT Work Sessions: Members discussed interest in in-person work sessions to allow deeper discussions of Midtown cluster issues.

E-SPLOST 2027 DISCUSSION

Participants reviewed district prompts requesting feedback on capital improvement priorities.

PRIORITY AREAS PROVIDED BY THE DISTRICT

- Facilities / Infrastructure
- Athletics
- Safety & Security
- Technology
- Transportation
- Nutrition

KEY DISCUSSION THEMES

Facilities and Infrastructure: Major priority across schools. Concerns included HVAC system upgrades, water intrusion, roofing issues, structural repairs, and general maintenance of aging school buildings.

Hope Hill Facility Needs: Members emphasized that Hope Hill requires a full renovation and currently has one of the lowest facility scores in the district.

Transportation: Discussion included bus route technology issues, lack of GPS tracking reliability, difficulty accessing route information for substitute drivers, and improved communication with families.

Safety and Security: Participants discussed upgrading camera systems, improving camera placement, increasing image quality, and addressing outdated or non-functional cameras.

Technology: Schools discussed aging classroom technology such as interactive boards and inconsistencies in technology resources across schools.

Accessibility and ADA Compliance: Some schools reported outdated wheelchair lifts, lack of stage accessibility, and buildings not fully ADA compliant.

Transportation Infrastructure Around Schools: Traffic flow challenges, limited parking for staff, and bus congestion were discussed. Midtown High School reported significant congestion due to multiple bus routes.

Athletics Facilities: Participants noted inequities in athletic spaces across the Midtown cluster compared to other clusters.

LED Lighting Upgrades: Some schools have partial LED lighting installations while others only have LED lights in specific areas such as gyms or cafeterias.

POTENTIAL PRIORITY RANKINGS (PRELIMINARY)

1. Facilities / Infrastructure
2. Transportation
3. Safety & Security
4. Technology
5. Athletics
6. Nutrition

Final rankings were not determined during the meeting.

NEXT STEPS

Members will have until March 12 to submit additional feedback. A short ranking survey will be distributed to CAT members to finalize cluster priorities.

LONG-TERM SUCCESS VISION FOR E-SPLOST

Participants discussed success indicators including renovation of Hope Hill Elementary, ensuring adequate capacity for Midtown cluster students, improving equity of facilities across the district, and addressing disparities in educational suitability scores.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

The meeting concluded with agreement to collect additional feedback before final submission of the district form.