

Executive Summary – Public Comment Session 2 at Cross Keys High School location (9/24/2026)

Key Themes

Theme	Frequency	Key Concerns
School Capacity & Overcrowding	Very High	Overcrowding at Ashford Park, Montgomery, and Sequoyah; concerns that redistricting does not create additional seats.
Expansion vs. Redistricting	Very High	Strong preference for school expansion, particularly Ashford Park and Montgomery, rather than student reassignment.
Feeder Patterns & Long-Term Planning	Very High	Lack of clarity regarding elementary-to-middle-to-high school feeder patterns and long-term impacts on students.
Cross Keys Cluster & Middle School Planning	High	Calls for a dedicated Cross Keys middle school and concerns regarding cluster alignment.
Community Engagement & Transparency	High	Requests for additional outreach, more detailed information, greater transparency, and potentially a fourth engagement session.
Preservation of School Communities	High	Desire to keep neighborhoods intact, maintain existing school communities, and minimize disruption.
Academic Quality & Program Access	High	Interest in maintaining strong academic outcomes, immersion programs, magnet programs, dual-language opportunities, and equitable access.
Equity, Diversity & Representation	Moderate-High	Concerns about segregation, demographic concentration, equitable opportunities, multilingual access, and representation of underserved communities.
Dual Campus Models	Moderate	Requests for operational details regarding transportation, staffing, scheduling, student assignment, and family logistics.
Communication & Language Accessibility	Moderate	Need for clearer communications, translations, and culturally responsive outreach to multilingual families.
Sequoyah Community Concerns	Moderate	Concerns about overcrowding, facility conditions, displacement, and maintaining services for historically underserved students.

Major Takeaways

1. **The dominant concern throughout the session was capacity management and overcrowding.** Many speakers argued that redistricting alone does not solve the underlying shortage of elementary school seats.
2. **Ashford Park Elementary emerged as the most frequently discussed school.** Numerous speakers advocated for expansion rather than boundary changes, citing strong academic outcomes, community engagement, and sustained enrollment growth.
3. **Families consistently requested feeder pattern information.** Participants stated they could not adequately evaluate proposals without understanding middle and high school impacts.
4. **Community members expressed concern about incomplete information.** Several speakers indicated that proposals lacked sufficient operational details, especially regarding dual-campus models.
5. **Cross Keys Cluster planning remains a major issue.** Speakers emphasized the need for a dedicated middle school and a coherent long-term cluster strategy.
6. **Many participants requested greater transparency and extended engagement opportunities.** Multiple speakers recommended additional public engagement before final decisions are made.
7. **Equity and demographic considerations were recurring themes.** Comments highlighted school diversity, segregation, access to programs, multilingual communication, and equitable resource distribution.
8. **Academic outcomes were frequently referenced.** Speakers encouraged the district to preserve successful programs and replicate practices from high-performing schools.
9. **Sequoyah stakeholders raised concerns regarding facility conditions and student displacement.** They emphasized preserving support systems for multilingual and immigrant student populations.
10. **Families stressed the importance of preserving existing school communities.** Speakers repeatedly referenced neighborhood identity, community cohesion, volunteer engagement, and family support networks.

Common Threads Across Public Comments

- Desire to minimize student reassignment and maintain neighborhood cohesion.
- Strong preference for adding capacity through expansion rather than boundary changes.
- Need for complete feeder pattern information before evaluating proposals.
- Requests for additional transparency, communication, and public engagement.
- Concern that current proposals may create unintended consequences for students and families.
- Interest in maintaining successful academic programs and school cultures.
- Support for equitable access to opportunities, services, and resources.
- Recognition that school decisions have long-term impacts extending beyond elementary school.
- Calls for stronger outreach to multilingual and historically underrepresented communities.
- Requests for operational details regarding transportation, staffing, scheduling, and campus logistics.

Appendix A – Speaker Summaries

Ronnie Mayer

Associated Schools: Ashford Park Elementary

- Concerned about district reputation and property values.
- Opposed moving Ashford Park students.
- Advocated keeping neighborhoods together.

Ashton Bailey

Associated Schools: Ashford Park / Cross Keys Cluster

- Opposed Scenario 3.
- Requested stronger Cross Keys outreach.
- Suggested dual-language immersion and bilingual diploma pathways.
- Requested records and supporting data.

Alicia Mayer

Associated Schools: Cross Keys High School, Woodward Elementary

- Requested simpler multilingual communications.
- Asked for greater accessibility for Spanish-speaking families.
- Sought clarity on proposed changes and impacts.

Kimberly Grenner

Associated Schools: Cross Keys Cluster

- Argued cluster boundaries are fundamentally flawed.
- Opposed configurations without a dedicated middle school.
- Raised concerns about equity and geographic proximity.

Courtney DeSalva

Associated Schools: Montgomery Elementary

- Requested operational details regarding dual-campus models.
- Raised concerns about logistics, staffing, transportation, and programming.

Katie Adams

Associated Schools: Montgomery Elementary

- Supported Options 1 and 2.
- Supported dual-campus concepts.
- Requested additional implementation details.

Lee Green

Associated Schools: Ashford Park Elementary

- Questioned how prior feedback influenced proposals.
- Requested feeder pattern information.
- Raised concerns regarding policy consistency and Cross Keys planning.

Byron Gardner

Associated Schools: Ashford Park Elementary

- Advocated for school expansion.
- Emphasized community engagement and successful outcomes.
- Requested feeder pattern clarity.

Stacy Miller Morris

Associated Schools: Ashford Park Elementary, Chamblee Cluster

- Highlighted Ashford Park's academic success.
- Advocated expansion and infrastructure investment.
- Requested release of facility studies.

Margaret Wright Boylan

Associated Schools: Districtwide Perspective

- Called for broader community participation.
- Emphasized academic excellence and leadership.
- Encouraged replication of successful school models.

Selman Pereg

Associated Schools: Ashford Park Elementary

- Requested preservation of Ashford Park community.
- Supported expansion and German immersion continuity.
- Asked for feeder pattern transparency.

Brookhaven Parent Speaker

Associated Schools: Ashford Park Elementary

- Advocated expansion rather than reassignment.
- Requested dedicated Cross Keys middle school.

- Emphasized preserving community relationships.

Paula Smith

Associated Schools: Sequoyah Middle School

- Highlighted overcrowding and facility concerns.
- Opposed displacement of Sequoyah students.
- Requested reconsideration of current plans.

Clay Cat

Associated Schools: Chamblee High School

- Focused on demographics, diversity, and equity.
- Requested demographic analysis alongside capacity planning.
- Supported expanded dual-language opportunities.

David Folding

Associated Schools: Chamblee Cluster / Cross Keys Cluster

- Requested dedicated Cross Keys middle school.
- Encouraged programmatic solutions alongside boundary changes.
- Supported expanded academic opportunities.

Sarah Kate Roberts

Associated Schools: Ashford Park Elementary

- Requested more comprehensive information.
- Highlighted K–12 planning concerns.
- Supported additional public engagement opportunities.

Lauren Burnett

Associated Schools: Ashford Park Elementary

- Described benefits of neighborhood schools.
- Opposed incomplete proposal information.
- Supported Ashford Park expansion.

Amber Drusso

Associated Schools: Ashford Park Elementary

- Argued capacity issues cannot be solved through redistricting alone.
- Supported expansion and dedicated middle school planning.
- Requested broader educational investments.

Dr. Christine Curtis

Associated Schools: Chamblee Cluster, Druid Hills Cluster

- Focused on counseling support, scheduling, and transitions.
- Requested stronger operational planning.
- Emphasized student safety and support services.

Julie Paul

Associated Schools: Montgomery Elementary, Kittredge Magnet

- Requested inclusion of school choice communities.
- Suggested additional magnet opportunities.
- Raised concerns about dual-campus logistics.

Lisa Thomas

Associated Schools: Cary Reynolds Elementary

- Preferred less disruptive options.
- Requested special education and operational planning details.
- Supported evaluating expansion opportunities.

Jonathan Perez

Associated Schools: Sequoyah Middle School

- Raised concerns about equity, segregation, and immigrant student experiences.
- Advocated for underserved communities.
- Requested prioritization of Sequoyah students.

Alan Jenik

Associated Schools: Ashford Park Elementary

- Requested more review time and transparency.
- Supported Ashford Park expansion.
- Advocated for dedicated Cross Keys middle school planning.