

Questions & Comments from Region 2 CMP Town Hall 08/24/2021



Question or Comment	In-Chat Response	Post-Meeting Response
Millions of dollars were allocated in SPLOST V to relieve overcrowding at area high schools (Clarkston, Dunwoody, Chamblee, Lakeside, and Cross Keys) through additions and/or new schools. None of those additions and new buildings materialized, and the millions of dollars allocated for classrooms that would have eliminated the need for portables seems to have instead been spent on turf athletic fields and lighting. What was the rationale for this decision? How can stakeholders trust that our future SPLOST votes will result in quick actions to build classrooms to serve students' educational needs (classrooms), instead of luxuries (turf fields and lighting)?		In response to a sharp increase in construction costs and other emerging budgetary concerns, the E-SPLOST V budget and project list was revisited in 2019. After weighing several options, the board voted to fully fund a majority of the projects in the program by deferring a few very large projects. The projects funded include a new elementary school, safety upgrades including retrofitting fire-sprinkler systems, security vestibules and fencing, major renovations, HVAC and Roof replacement, and more. For the next SPLOST the District will be considering several options. Please join us for the September Regional Town Hall meetings to provide feedback on the options and recommendations.
How are these anticipated SPLOST V projects factored into FCA and ESA for the CMP?		The FCA and ESA evaluated each facility in its current condition. One of the next steps in the prioritization list development will be to cross reference deficiencies identified in the assessments with already-funded projects in SPLOST V.
For Laurel Ridge, the projects you are listed were already on the books. Our reports showed substantive needs. Are you adding more things on the list?	About the Laurel Ridge question: The Board of Education authorized all projects that we plan and execute, and any additional work at Laurel Ridge can be authorized by the BOE. The CMP will help determine what new projects might be included in SPLOST VI	
The table only said turf for Tucker, but the track DOES need replacement. Will that be replaced as well?	Regarding the Tucker HS Turf project - Yes, the Track is included in the scope of work. Yes, the track at Tucker HS will be replaced as well...	
I understand the efficiencies of having a single elementary school plan that is repeated across the district. I also understand that "efficiencies of scale" may make larger schools more cost effective to operate. However, the current 950 seat elementary school template is VERY UNPOPULAR in many communities. Is DCSD open to P+W's recommendation of having smaller elementary school options (600 and 800 seats)? Also, what data does DCSD have demonstrating that larger schools are, in fact, cheaper to operate? (General education research suggests the relationship between size and costs is not as clear-cut as you might think).		The District is open to considering different configurations of schools both in size and in the grades offered. What schools configurations are being considered will be discussed more when options are presented at the next Town Hall meetings.
Is Lakeside track and turf still happening? I heard it was delayed or canceled.		Yes, the project is anticipated to be complete by March of 2022.
Were any improvements made to district owned facilities that house charter schools using SPLOST 1-5?		Heritage Facility [GLOBE] - GYM (SP1), Reno (SP2), Roof (SP3) Medlock Facility [ICS] - GYM (SP1), Reno (SP2), Plumbing (SP4) Forrest Hills Facility [Museum] - GYM (SP1), Reno (SP2) Glen Haven [DeKalb Prep] - GYM (SP1), Reno (SP2), Roof (SP3)
As a follow up to questions from the last town hall, can you please clarify the steps that have been taken to utilize CARES funds to address immediate needs that have been identified e.g. LRES windows and HVAC		CARES Act funds are being used to bolster the existing maintenance efforts of the District and to expand the number of schools receiving needed facility improvements like HVAC replacements and upgrades. Existing projects such as LRES windows and HVAC can not be accelerated further without major disruption to the functioning of the school.
I believe all new schools will be implemented with the larger footprint based on population growth projections. This is what we were told at SRES.		The District is open to considering different configurations of schools both in size and in the grades offered. What schools configurations are being considered will be discussed more when options are presented at the next Town Hall meetings.
What is the rationale for the 950-seat elementary school prototype that DCSD has adopted? Does that number result in increased state funding? Is there some research on educational achievement that supports a 950-seat model? Stakeholders have repeatedly stated that they like the smaller neighborhood elementary schools. Many schools lack the land that is necessary to fully build a large school with greenspace, athletic fields, parking, carpool and bus lanes, etc...		The District is open to considering different configurations of schools both in size and in the grades offered. What schools configurations are being considered will be discussed more when options are presented at the next Town Hall meetings.
Additionally, a school like LRES the windows project started right before the start of school, and HVAC is slated for 2022, why were not such projects prioritized to ensure that our children return to school in a safer environment? the DOE website, CDC MMWR, among others have discussed the importance of portable air filtration units, have there been any steps to provide these units to protect our children who have yet to be vaccinated?		LRES window replacement was supposed to be finished before school start, but has been bogged down by issues with contractors and supply. Major building system upgrades such as replacing HVAC take many months of planning, design, and approvals before work can begin, and such work has a major impact on the ability to use the school for instruction, necessitating scheduling most work to take place in the summer. The District has increased the supply of fresh air for all schools and upgrades air filters to the extent possible without full system replacement, which his being planned for many schools. The District is not currently using portable air filtration in schools.
Parents have been giving feedback about these large elementary schools for years....we don't want or like this model. The district isn't listening...		Thank you for your feedback during this CMP process. Please use the CMP mailbox or CMP Feedback page to provide more questions and concerns. Mailbox: CMP@dekalbschoolsga.org https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/feedback/
Is the district open to considering piloting different delivery models? For example, a 900 seat elementary school that has lots of empty seats - would DCSD consider trying a K-7 or K-8 pilot. This was done in the past. Are you open to K-8 schools?		The District is open to considering different configurations of schools both in size and in the grades offered. What schools configurations are being considered will be discussed more when options are presented at the next Town Hall meetings.
Are district-owned buildings used for charter schools, like GLOBE in Region 2, being included in the CMP?		No charter school facilities are included in E-SPLOST projects. This is true regardless of the owner of the facility.
For a school with HVAC replacement, for example Laurel Ridge ES, will there be COVID mitigation strategies incorporated into the new HVAC system? If not will that be addressed separately using ESSER III funds?	Regarding the question re: COVID Mitigation at for example Laurel Ridge ES - YES - the system designs include basic effective measures such as maximum outside air circulation and MERV-13 filters, which are know to effectively mitigate COVID risks	
	Regarding ESSER funding - Operations is planning its 'attack' to utilize the ESSER funds. The ICOO has a 'position paper' and we are looking forward to Supt. and Board approval to advance the initiatives	
How do we get working HVAC prioritized as a necessary investment. Druid Hill High school has been having issues with its hvac since at least 2013. How do we get this prioritized? It is impacting the educational environment and health of kids in a Title I school.		Thank you for your feedback during this CMP process. Please use the CMP mailbox or CMP Feedback page to provide more questions and concerns. Mailbox: CMP@dekalbschoolsga.org https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/feedback/
Idlewood Es Needs New HVAC and major renovations		Thank you for your feedback during this CMP process. Please use the CMP mailbox or CMP Feedback page to provide more questions and concerns. Mailbox: CMP@dekalbschoolsga.org https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/feedback/
What is the district's plan to invest in facilities for the Arts Pathway which includes a school choice k-8 school DESA and a high achieving magnet 9-12 high school DSA. This pathway has been in the strategic vision of DCSD and was on the ballot for multiple SPLOST cycles.		The CMP is taking school choice and Arts programming into account, but it is too soon to share what options are being considered. Options will be presented at the September CMP Town Hall Meetings.
Why is Avondale Elementary School not on the project list when it needs a new roof (the current one leaks whenever it rains), HVAC upgrades and fire sprinkler improvements?		Avondale ES will be on the prioritization list coming out of the CMP.

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When will the Preliminary Re-Directing Plans be available for stakeholder review and where can parents find these plans.		Please join us for the September Regional Town Hall meetings and provide feedback on the options and recommendations.
What percentage of SPLOST dollars are actually spent on building projects (new schools, additions, system replacements) vs. other expenses (buses, district vehicles, musical instruments, technology, management costs, etc...)?		About 75% of SPLOST has been spent on direct costs for new facilities, additions, renovations, and upgrades.
Can you address keeping our existing small neighborhood schools rather than replacing them? And actually maintaining them? We moved to Dekalb specifically for the smaller elementary schools.		The District is open to considering different configurations of schools both in size and in the grades offered. What schools configurations are being considered will be discussed more when options are presented at the next Town Hall meetings.
Why would we be open to changing the ES school size when ALL the current new ES schools were told they had to be a 900+ school size based on population growth projections!?		The District is open to considering different configurations of schools both in size and in the grades offered. What schools configurations are being considered will be discussed more when options are presented at the next Town Hall meetings.
Will we have a firm SPLOST project list before the November ballot?		There is unlikely to be a Board approved project list before the November ballot. However the September Town Hall meetings will present the big projects that are being considered such as new schools, additions, etc.
Given the increased need for open-air and outdoor spaces during the pandemic, will DCSD and the CMP leaders plan for covered outdoor classrooms and eating spaces?		Great idea! Specific design choices such as incorporating more outdoor areas are typically made in the design phase of new construction or renovation.
Laurel Ridge Elementary has a FCA score below 50 and may be eligible for replacement. However, on it's current site, it would be impossible for the roads to serve a 950 seat school. As a community, we love our school and do not want to lose it, but we can't support a 950 seat school in our neighborhood.	Regarding Laurel Ridge and the potential for a 950 seat ES: please refer to the Superintendent's prior remarks regarding DCSD flexibility around size of schools and using the CMP to help determine that. Our schedule for Laurel Ridge shows 2023 completion, so two (2 ea. summers) July MSR says Laurel Ridge will complete in Aug 2022, page B12. Yes, for LRE we were told the HVAC was going to be completed on 2022 not 2023. It is concerning when our HVAC has been in its last leg for years	
The small community of Livsey ES provides outcomes that cannot be achieved with a large school. All teachers know my children and did within a couple weeks of my son transferring there midyear. This was critical in his transition. How can you maintain the community created when going to large schools? I would like to argue for the importance of small community schools in connecting the community around the school.		The District is open to considering different configurations of schools both in size and in the grades offered. What schools configurations are being considered will be discussed more when options are presented at the next Town Hall meetings.
Mr. Williams mentioned that the process was not done properly when pricing the additions for SPLOST V. Community tried unsuccessfully to share that concern early on. How will DCSD ensure that the process will be done properly going forward?		In the planning and initial budgeting for E-SPLOST V the program managers, AECOM, were not used to independently evaluate and estimate project budgets. Since then the District has used AECOM and will continue to use their professional estimation services in budgeting for E-SPLOST VI projects.
	To all PACs:The District will be sending out letters to all PAC group interested in scheduling a meeting the CMP Team. These meetings will be held in conjunction with the September Town Hall meetings.	
What data did you collect to ensure that security vestibules actually enhance student security given that making schools look more like fortresses actually decreases student safety?		Security vestibules are intended to limit direct access to interior school spaces while schools are in session without limiting access or flow when needed. This typically takes the form of a second set of doors that direct school visitors and those without door access into the school office before having access to the rest of the school.
Will Hawthorne receive any of the other updates other than HVAC and plumbing updates?		The SPLOST V project #364 is for the HVAC and plumbing updates. Additional work may be included in the next SPLOST pending the results of the prioritization list and CMP.
Smoke Rise ES did not want a 900+ seat school as well but we were told they had to build this size school based on population growth projections and to be aligned with the newly approved prototypes for all DCSD Elementary Schools - if one school has to be a certain size I feel the district has to be consistent!		The District is open to considering different configurations of schools both in size and in the grades offered. What schools configurations are being considered will be discussed more when options are presented at the next Town Hall meetings.
Slides from previous meeting suggest a desire to build relationships with county and city municipalities for recreation programs that might provide revenue for DCSD. Given the ongoing high school marching band and sports seasons (soccer, football, lacrosse, track and field, etc...), how much revenue does DCSD expect to generate from field rental between school sports seasons? Will high school teams have priority to use athletic fields, so that they no longer have to rent field space.		The purpose of the turf and track upgrades at high schools is for the schools themselves to use those fields. The District is open to renting the fields for use by others, but high schools will always have priority of use for their athletic fields.
Why cannot the HVAC done first knowing ventilation is a priority during this COVID times? We will have our HVAC replaced, at LRES, on August 2022. Anyway this could be done faster?		Replacing HVAC has a major impact on the ability to use of a facility for instruction. Because of this, major work is often planned to happen over the summer while school is not in session. Also, it unfortunately takes time to procure services and obtain the approvals necessary to move forward with large improvements projects. Because of this, there is a limit to how much a major project can be accelerated.
It looks like we are soon jumping to recommendations to get the project back on track which is great. There was a tremendous amount of work done by the PAC, school staff and volunteers to add comments and questions to the Facility Condition Assessment and Educational Suitability report for Druid Hills High School. We identified significant discrepancies and had requested a meeting to discuss them. We'd like assurances that our concerns are being addressed, particularly since they were significant. Can we still have a meeting to ensure the project team understands the need?		The District will be reaching out to PACs interested in scheduling a meeting the CMP Team.
Reasking my second question because it wasn't answered: What data does DCSD have demonstrating that larger elementary schools are more cost effective? If you have this information, I believe it would be helpful to share it with skeptical communities. Also, many parents fear that education quality declines with larger schools. Do you have data on how test scores have been impacted as older (smaller) schools have been replaced with new (larger) schools?	You may want to visit some of the larger schools to see how those educators are maintaining high education standards within a larger footprint school - if we look at the test scores Fernbank, Barack Obama and others are still showing high scores across the board. Fernbank test scores have actually declined since becoming a larger school. I personally do not oppose large schools. However, I represent a constituency that is very resistant to the large school model. I believe that DCSD needs to do a better job of "selling" this option to communities, like my own.	The District is open to considering different configurations of schools both in size and in the grades offered. What schools configurations are being considered will be discussed more when options are presented at the next Town Hall meetings.
Fernbank also was forced into the 900+ seat school and the school was shoehorned into the location.		The District is open to considering different configurations of schools both in size and in the grades offered. What schools configurations are being considered will be discussed more when options are presented at the next Town Hall meetings.
I agree with @Tamara Shipley. The first step is to work with PACs to ensure that data are correct. The process must have a) correct data and b) close relationships between the elected representatives and schools.	The District will be reaching out to PACs interested in scheduling a meeting the CMP Team. These meetings will be held in September.	The District will be reaching out to PACs interested in scheduling a meeting the CMP Team.
DCSD has told the citizens from the beginning of SPLOST I that we had \$2 Billion worth of needs. It seems we aren't gaining on needs, presumably due to lack of ongoing maintenance/upkeep. Given that, DCSD is putting in turf and track at all the high schools. Art. turf requires consistent maintenance and has a life of roughly 10 yrs. Is there a plan in the operating budget and in the facilities dept. to provide the necessary, ongoing upkeep to ensure the maximum life span of the turf. I am concerned because constant upkeep is expensive and DCSD was not able to keep up grass turf.		The District is aware of and has planned for the maintenance needs of artificial turf. Athletics, Facilities Maintenance, and the schools themselves will work together to ensure fields are maintained.

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Is it important to serve all students who qualify for the High Achiever magnet program? If so, will you seek to put in place High Achiever Magnet programs in every cluster that then feed into the local neighborhood high school? By doing so, you are providing equity with access, no longer rationing a rigorous education, eliminating the feeling of being a "loser" as a 3rd grader if not chosen in the lottery and creating a track for these students to come back to their neighborhood high school.		Specific options being considered will be presented at the next CMP Town Hall meetings. Please join us then to discuss options and recommendations.
Livsey ES also has a low FCA score (below 50), yet we're not slated for HVAC replacement until October 2023. Is there a reason for the delay and low priority? Side note: We LOVE our small school and community, have fantastic parent engagement, and would NOT want to be merged into a 900+ seat school.		Livsey ES is the smallest school in the District with only 18 classrooms. Given the school's size, age, and need for major facility improvement, during the major E-SPLOST V program adjustment in Spring 2020 it was determined that Livsey ES had a high likelihood of being affected in some way by CMP recommendations, so the E-SPLOST project at Livsey ES was moved until after the CMP made recommendations.
Dr. Morley expressed concern at the last BOE meeting that having teachers and students in trailers and sharing classrooms at overcrowded Clarkston HS "sends a message that they are not important and don't really matter." Are BOE members made aware of overcrowding at all DCSD schools? If not, could someone please share enrollment data with her?		Board members are aware of overcrowding at all DCSD schools.
Can you please speak to when HVAC and roof work will be done for DHHS? The last evaluation I saw says the system is past it's life.		DHHS will be on the prioritization list resulting from the CMP to be funded with future SPLOST dollars.
Lakeside PAC's Facilities Committee would like to meet with the CMP team.		The District will be reaching out to PACs interested in scheduling a meeting the CMP Team.
How will you meet with all the PACS in Sept. and still have town halls in Sept to present recommendations?		The District will be reaching out to PACs interested in scheduling a meeting the CMP Team. We will do our best to meet with or receive feedback from all interested PACs, and opportunities for feedback will continue even after the September Town Hall meetings.
School Choice costs money to administer. Before we allocate money for those special schools and programs will you prioritize traditional neighborhood school needs first?		The CMP is taking school choice programs into account, and is intended to support the District's philosophy of school choice administration.
Thank you for answering my Qs. But to clarify what can be done now (e.g. portable purifiers) to help with COVID mitigation until HVAC project can be carried out. More like immediate use of CARES funds		The District has increased the supply of fresh air for all schools and upgrades air filters to the extent possible without full system replacement, which is being planned for many schools. The District is not currently using portable air filtration in schools. CARES Act funds are being used to bolster the existing maintenance efforts of the District and to expand the number of schools receiving needed facility improvements like HVAC replacements and upgrades. Existing projects cannot be accelerated further without major disruption to the functioning of the school.
Sorry if you already addressed this, but has the lead issue in the windows at Laurel Ridge ES been taken care of?		Yes, the remaining lead paint was first sealed off and is currently in the process of being replaced.
Availability of Preliminary Re-Districting Plans is vital in order for all parents to have the opportunity to review this information and provide much needed input for an fair and equitable redistricting process. How are you planning on addressing this issue.		Any redistricting recommendations coming out of the CMP will not be final redistricting plans. All redistricting will require a separate public engagement process and Board approval before taking effect.
Can you not provide air purifiers in the meantime at LRES? We know the Delta variant is much more contagious and the number of COVID + continue to climb. This is an easy fix until you can start the HVAC work.		The District has increased the supply of fresh air for all schools and upgrades air filters to the extent possible without full system replacement, which is being planned for many schools. The District is not currently using portable air filtration in schools. CARES Act funds are being used to bolster the existing maintenance efforts of the District and to expand the number of schools receiving needed facility improvements like HVAC replacements and upgrades. Existing projects cannot be accelerated further without major disruption to the functioning of the school.
The LRES windows were also supposed to be completed by the END of summer 2021. This is why parents do not trust the information we are told by DCSD. Broken promises over and over.		Thank you for your feedback during this CMP process. Please use the CMP mailbox or CMP Feedback page to provide more questions and concerns. Mailbox: CMP@dekalbschoolsga.org https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/feedback/
There are many projects still in SPLOST V that haven't been started. Will decisions about SPLOST VI be impacted if a lot of money is put into a school for SPLOST V (for example a new HVAC system) but the recommendations would be that that school should close/combine. Funds then would be wasted on the SPLOST V work if the school is then closed due to CMP rec.		The phasing of recommendations from the CMP will take into account existing E-SPLOST V projects, even those that have not yet begun construction. It is likely that schools with current E-SPLOST V projects will be affected by CMP recommendations.
Yes, please clarify is HVAC for LRES slated for '22 and ending in '22, or will it end in '23?	Our schedule for Laurel Ridge shows 2023 completion, so two (2 ea. summers) July MSR says Laurel Ridge will complete in Aug 2022, page B12. Yes, for LRE we were told the HVAC was going to be completed on 2022 not 2023. It is concerning when our HVAC has been in its last leg for years	
When CMP leaders are looking at proximities to schools, could they please consider round-trip distances, not just one-way distances from home to school?		Round-trip distances can be difficult to show on a redistricting map, but, yes the effect of one-way streets and other traffic realities are considered.
When discussing magnet schools, have you taken into consideration the NASEM and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation reports that high achiever schools are a mental health risk?		The CMP is taking school choice programs into account, and is intended to support the District's philosophy of school choice administration.
Wonderful to hear that DCSD is still committed to the Arts Pathway.		Thank you for your feedback during this CMP process. Please use the CMP mailbox or CMP Feedback page to provide more questions and concerns. Mailbox: CMP@dekalbschoolsga.org https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/feedback/
Programs developed for high achievers must be constructed to prevent the inbuild dangers.		Thank you for your feedback during this CMP process. Please use the CMP mailbox or CMP Feedback page to provide more questions and concerns. Mailbox: CMP@dekalbschoolsga.org https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/feedback/
https://ilsr.org/rule/small-schools-vs-big-schools/		Thanks!
Could we please have some more chlorine tablets installed in our HVAC? These worked & would cut costs (of ceiling tile replacement) & time. Thank you so much		We will explore this suggestion.
Will the preliminary redistricting plans be available for stakeholder review prior to the September Town Hall meeting and where can stakeholders find this information.		Information may be posted sooner, but it will be posted on the CMP website at least a few hours before the meeting, dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/
If E-SPLOST-VI is really about adding capacity then are you sure that the backlog of HVAC and roofing projects will fit in the budget? E-SPLOST-V had \$200M in capacity, if memory serves.	About EPLOST VI and backlog of HVAC and Roofing projects: ESSER II & ESSER III funding provides ample additional opportunities for funding these projects OVER and ABOVE SPLOST-VI funds	
Stakeholders participating in school choice programs are often passionate and outspoken. EVERY child deserves access to arts education, technology education, science education, etc.... Please focus on providing every child with a well-rounded education. That needs to be the priority, and then look at school choice programs where there are buildings available.		Thank you for your feedback during this CMP process. Please use the CMP mailbox or CMP Feedback page to provide more questions and concerns. Mailbox: CMP@dekalbschoolsga.org https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/feedback/
GREAT!! Thank you! DSA and DESA have been waiting a very long time for a state-of-the-art facility.		Thank you for your feedback during this CMP process. Please use the CMP mailbox or CMP Feedback page to provide more questions and concerns. Mailbox: CMP@dekalbschoolsga.org https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/feedback/

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Enrollment in Region 2 is down due to pandemic choices- move to private, etc. which attendance numbers will be used in evaluating populations? There are massive, multi family developments underway in the northern areas. Are you tracking these changing numbers?		The demographic study includes new development likely to be developed over the next ten years. The study looks at the long-term trend of student-age population in the District and has adjustments to account for the pandemic effects. Further adjustments may be made based on new data as it become available.
We were told the core component of the CMP and the rationale for hiring an external firm was to proactively manage the re-districting process in a way that was completely "data" driven and not solely opinion based why wouldn't the current re-districting needs not be central to our current CMP plans - please explain more - some schools are very overcrowded currently and are in need of immediate help - when can we expect to see a solid re-districting plan?!		Redistricting will be part of what is presented at the next CMP Town Hall meetings. Please join us then to discuss options and recommendations for the CMP.
Re: DavidYoke, please know that I would like to have a meeting with the project team as soon as possible on behalf of the Druid Hills High School. I've requested this multiple times over the last three months since I submitted our responses. Is there anyone in particular to direct this request to?	Tamara and Angie, someone from the CMP team will be reaching out in the next couple of weeks (I am not sure who at the moment).	
Surely redistricting will happen next year for Pleasantdale and Smoke Rise. Otherwise, Region 1 will have 2 900 seat ES with 600 and 400 students, respectively.	Re: Drew Kelly - We were told previously that re-districting would happen across the district and not be limited to a couple of schools like the district has done in the past - this was suppose to be the core component of the CMP and why the BOE spent over 1 million dollars for it	Thank you for your feedback during this CMP process. Please use the CMP mailbox or CMP Feedback page to provide more questions and concerns. Mailbox: CMP@dekalbschoolsga.org https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/feedback/
Have you considered implementing funding for busing for the choice schools? Schools like Tapestry are fundamental to providing quality education for subpopulations (autistic, learning disabilities) that are often ignored and do not flourish in traditional schools. However, many of the current choice schools are only truly open to those who have the resources to get their children to school. How can you make these choice schools more accessible to ALL populations in our county?	This is a great point. Before moving to Decatur we lived in Charlotte NC. The Char-Mech school system provides busing to their magnet schools. Transportation is a great equalizer, allowing all students who need school choice to be able to access it. I visited Char-Mech some years ago and yes, they had and have an outstanding plan! Thx for bringing that up! Given that charter schools do not want to be part of the larger plans, that is the point of charters, to be independent, the question is whether something like Tapestry could convert from charter to a specialty program like magnet. It does not make sense to have parents create school programs and put them in locations of their choice without fitting into the plan and then requiring dollars for transportation. As much as I love Tapestry, it's not fitting.	The decision and funding to provide transportation at Charter schools, like Tapestry, is with the school. For many other DCSD choice programs, with eligible students from all corners of the District, a shuttle service is provided at various pick-up/drop off points in the county. The large number of students and choice programs in the District makes door-to-door service impractical.
Lakeside PAC has been asking for a response for some months as well. We are eager to meet and get the data corrected.	Tamara and Angie, someone from the CMP team will be reaching out in the next couple of weeks (I am not sure who at the moment).	
There seems to be a trend to abandon the middle school model and return to K-8/9-12 after sagging achievement rates in other districts. Will DCSD consider a return to K-7/8-12 or K-8/9-12 in communities where it makes sense?		The District is open to considering different configurations of schools both in size and in the grades offered. What schools configurations are being considered will be discussed more when options are presented at the next Town Hall meetings.
Can you please address each of the questions and comments asked here after the meeting? Not all are being asked or brought up. And where would that document be? I've heard in past meetings that would be done but was not able to find anything afterwards.	Questions and comments are posted to the website for each meeting at https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/public-input/ We also address some frequently asked questions at https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/faq/	
Thank you for this town hall. Please consider COVID mitigation strategies that can be implemented immediately if HVAC is not something that can be done (since children are already in school). Please consider portable purifiers https://www.ed.gov/coronavirus/improving-ventilation?fbclid=IwAR2J_-b8gzNDuD1K3qgDRq8rw6V3y57zXS8Fy2C15QZbXM7QI_QXfJ0WV4		Thank you for your feedback during this CMP process. Please use the CMP mailbox or CMP Feedback page to provide more questions and concerns. Mailbox: CMP@dekalbschoolsga.org https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/feedback/
Given the increase in students who openly identify as non-binary, will DCSD consider building gender-neutral single restrooms in schools?		Specific design choices such as gender-neutral restrooms are typically made in the design phase of new construction or renovation. At the moment, the presence of gender-neutral bathrooms is not part of any of the assessments conducted as part of the CMP.
Re: David Yoke - Can someone from the CMP please meet with the Smoke Rise ES PAC prior to the next Townhall? - Ms. Pamela McCloud (Principal) can connect you with the PAC leadership		Yes, we will reach out soon.
Also consider onsite COVID testing on site at schools		Thank you for your feedback during this CMP process. Please use the CMP mailbox or CMP Feedback page to provide more questions and concerns. Mailbox: CMP@dekalbschoolsga.org https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/feedback/
Thanks for the information being provided in this meeting. Lakeside PAC will look forward to receiving our corrected data and meeting with the CMP team in the very near future.		Thank you for your feedback during this CMP process. Please use the CMP mailbox or CMP Feedback page to provide more questions and concerns. Mailbox: CMP@dekalbschoolsga.org https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/feedback/
Yes Dekalb should take advantage of the free Covid testing offered by GA Department of Health		Thank you for your feedback during this CMP process. Please use the CMP mailbox or CMP Feedback page to provide more questions and concerns. Mailbox: CMP@dekalbschoolsga.org https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/feedback/
Is the HVAC installation for Livsey slated to be completed in 2023?	Correct. The project is listed to be completed in October 2023.	
smokerise elementary does not have playground equipment. will that be added soon?	Yes.	
What data have been collected to ensure that overcrowding/trailers are always the worst issue and that they always must be prioritized? It is not my impression that in many schools, having a few non-classroom trailers is as bad as having to undergo redistricting. I certainly have never seen anyone actually testing to make sure that it should be the highest priority.		Overcrowding as an issue has been brought up repeatedly by community members and school leadership. It has been a goal of the District to reduce and even eliminate overcrowding for several years, and the CMP is intended to provide a pan for accomplishing that goal.
Is Idlewood Es Slated for HVAC installation	Idlewood is receiving a security vestibule and new fencing.	
When will the Preliminary Re-Directing Plans be available for stakeholder review and where can parents find these plans.		Information may be posted sooner, but it will be posted on the CMP website at least a few hours before the meeting, dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/
How does CARES Act funding interact with SPLOST? Can CARES Act money be requested and used for projects like HVAC and other needed improvements to restrooms etc that are currently funded by SPLOST but have pandemic implications (ie sooner is better). Evansdale has needs in both of those areas but nothing is on the priority list right now besides sprinklers.		CARES Act funds are being used to expand the number of schools receiving needed facility improvements like HVAC replacements and upgrades. These projects are being planned in parallel to the CMP, and are likely to be announced as the CMP nears finalization.
It looks like we are soon jumping to recommendations to get the project back on track which is great. There was a tremendous amount of work done by the PAC, school staff and volunteers to add comments and questions to the Facility Condition Assessment and Educational Suitability report for Druid Hills High School. We identified significant discrepancies and had requested a meeting to discuss them. We'd like assurances that our concerns are being addressed, particularly since they were significant. Can we still have a meeting to ensure the project team understands the need?		Yes we will be reaching out to you soon.
What are the current plans to continue the redistricting of Pleasantdale Elementary that were halted in 2019. We are concerned about displacement of our Evansdale Elementary students.		Districtwide Redistricting will be a component of the regional townhalls in September.

Question or Comment	In-Chat Response	Post-Meeting Response
Specific question. Will stopgap HVAC possible fixes like air filters portable air conditioning etc be considered for schools not getting immediate HVAC upgrades?		The District has increased the supply of fresh air for all schools and upgrades air filters to the extent possible without full system replacement, which his being planned for many schools. The District is not currently using portable air filtration in schools. CARES Act funds are being used to bolster the existing maintenance efforts of the District and to expand the number of schools receiving needed facility improvements like HVAC replacements and upgrades.