

# Questions & Comments from Region IV CMP Town Hall 10/12/2021



Question or Comment	In-Chat Response	Response
My #1 concern is to finally realize the commitment of DeKalb County Public Schools to finally build a State of the Art Performing Arts Highschool building for DeKalb School of the Arts to align itself with other Performing Arts Schools that have been built in Clayton County, Gwinnett County, Cobb County, and multiple school systems across the U.S. Our current building is one of the oldest school buildings in DeKalb County and our county MUST do better, especially with one of its highest ranking schools in the County, Georgia, and the U.S. The building is an embarrassment to our County but the Scholars and educators continue to perservere and thrive through it all. Do better in our lifetime..please!	<p>I second Margaret Davis White's #1 concern. Were DSA students and faculty not such historic high achievers, the district would have been compelled to provide an adequate facility to avoid being sanctioned for decreasing student achievement by housing students in a substandard facility.</p> <p>Echo/amplify call for a real investment in DeKalb School of the Arts, and expanding access to it programming to students across DCSD. Thank you!</p> <p>DeKalb County voted years ago to use SPLOST funds to pay for building a new Performing Arts School building and those funds are just sitting and have NOT been utilized to build anything for DSA. We have gone through multiple superintendents with promises that have never been kept. We hope that this administration can make this one of its legacies.</p> <p>According to CMP data, DSA has room for almost 300 most students! Why is it kept so small, about 100 students/grade?</p> <p>I don't know that DSA is "kept" small. But the lack of investment in its facilities makes it very hard to attract families and faculty to the school!</p>	
The Inventory of School Choice is no longer posted. When can we expect an update?		The revised Inventory of School Choice Programs was posted on the CMP website October 14th, 2021. Please see the assesment tab of the CMP website
The ESA Guide is no longer posted. When cn we expect an update?		The updated ESA Guide was posted on the CMP website October 13th, 2021. Please see the assesment tab of the CMP website
Will we be able to see the rest of the FCA draft score slide by cluster, rather than just the first page?		All reports including FCAs and ESAs have been reviewed, revised, and reposted to the Assessment Data tab on the CMP website.
When will the public see cost estimates for these new schools, K8 conversions, Early Learning Centers, etc?		The draft Comprehensive Master Plan will be presented to the public in early December. The draft CMP will included financial analysis and cost breakdown of recommended projects.
Some of us prefer DeKalb because many of our schools have a small neighborhood feel were children and teachers all know each other. Getting rid of that model can also have a negative impact on the school climate.		
Jolly Elementary is overcrowded!	As a parent of Jolly elementary I cannot accept the conditions. We must do better as Stakeholders.	Jolly Elementary is currently overcrowded at 106% with a facility condiditon assessment of 47. One of the recommendations in the CMP is to build a new Jolly ES.
It has been 10 years since voters said YES to Splost IV. Still no Arts School. 10 years, 3 superintendents and several new board members later...No school. Where is the money? Certainly not spent on DSA!!		For Financial breakdown of E-SPLOST funds of open projects and previous SPLOST items please review the Capital Improvement Program - Monthly Status Report <a href="https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/documents/e-splst/2021/september-msr-2021.pdf">https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/documents/e-splst/2021/september-msr-2021.pdf</a>
What schools do students attend when they leave DCSD during the middle school years, and what attracts them to return for high school?		
YES!!! New Performing Arts Academy - but DSA really needs updates NOW!!	<p>Avondale is terrific central location -- I hope the plot of land is big enough</p> <p>What YEAR will they begin building? Will my daughter be out of college by the time they break ground? Oh my goodness..smh</p> <p>Avondale HS site is 24 acres.</p> <p>We have been begging for years for a new DSA building... 2-5 years from now is like kicking the can down the road until another administration enters..</p>	
Did we discuss the expansion to Wadsworth high achievers academy to 8th grade alongside the various k-8 expansions mentioned in the northern dekalb regions? (Asked by stakeholder Nakhia Hill)		One recommendation of the CMP is to expand Wadsworth High Achievers Magnet to hold students through the 8th grade. For more information please see the Region 6 presentation recording from October 27th. <a href="https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/public-input/">https://www.dekalbschoolsga.org/comprehensive-master-plan/public-input/</a>
Where will all the funds come from for all these plans?	Funding would primarily come from SPLOST VI proceeds	The draft Comprehensive Master Plan will be presented to the public in early December. The draft CMP will included financial analysis and cost breakdown of recommended projects.
Awesome a new Jolly ES. It's a very old school!		
If DSA families have learned anything over the years, it's that SPLOST budgets have a way of being "redistributed" and promised projects have a way of "falling off"		
How will Early Learning Centers be funded? There is no State money for ELCs.		The draft Comprehensive Master Plan will be presented to the public in early December. The draft CMP will included financial analysis and cost breakdown of recommended projects.
What about having expanding your k-8 model to specialized elementary schools such as Briar Vista that has a Montessori program?		Thank you for your feedback. We will continue to review options and recommendations throughout this process.
It took 10 years to rebuild Indian Creek and Smoke Rise elementary schools. I don't think this is a doable plan.		

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How did you all decide schools will get new buildings? (Asked by stakeholder Aleethea)		The recommendations of new construction were based on Facility Condition Assessments conducted by Jacobs Engineering, alongside an evaluation of capacity of schools.
I did not [hear] the time frame of Wadsworth elementary school being extended from 4 to 8 grade		The draft Comprehensive Master Plan will be presented to the public in early December. The draft CMP will included a detailed schedule of implementation.
The most recent "bi-weekly" status report is dated Sept. 15. When will the next one be posted?		The latest bi-weekly report is posted for October 31st. The next report will be available on November 15th.
Will DESA and DSA be combined?		The draft Comprehensive Master Plan will be presented to the public in early December. The draft CMP will included a detailed schedule of implementation.
Please make sure the Clarkston. Cluster has its own middle school . The old Department of education building on North Decatur Road can be build upwards to have several floors up. If it is decided that K-8 is the way to go please consider the middle schools buildings as community resource centers amphitheatres and other income generating facilities that the funds can be an additional support to better assist the regions that are heavily dependent on tax dollars and title one funding to become more self sufficient with various departments advising such as parent and family engagement, international welcome center, expansion of the parent mentor/peer specialist facilities, the regions and stakeholders informing the final decision makers on continuous conversations coming out of each region what the community members including the children and their families and grass roots organizations that work closely with families to have accurate information about what the community needs and wants.		
I'm saddened that Clarkston high school is so far on the list when they have so many building problems. They have mice and infestation of roaches it's not a good environment for the kids or staff that can not sit there bags down.		Thank you for sharing the concerns regarding the facility needs of Clarkston HS. The CMP team and DCSD leadership will work with Facilities to address the urgent issues at the Clarkston HS site.
What is an estimated time for the finalized CMP?		The CMP Team will be presenting the final Comprehensive Master Plan to the Board of Education at the Board meeting in January.
I hear about some of the newer schools getting ready to be rebuilt not too much about the Stone Mountain high school .That is so old that needs to be addressed	Stone Mountain highschool definitely needs a new building.  I agree the Stone Mountain HS need a new building	Thank you for your feedback. We will continue to review and update options and recommendations throughout this process.
1. Could you please hire one more parent liaison at Indian creek elementary? 2. Is there any mental health support program for student and parent by DCSD? If so how can student and family can access?		Thank you for your feedback. Please contact the Principal at your school to address the concerns mentioned. Please contact Student Support Services for mental health support concerns.