

# FAC Community Meeting Feedback

## Lakeside HS – 01/23/2014

### Community Member #1

- (*Comment*) There is no information on the website, no handouts have been provided. How can the community give good input without having access to all “6” options or the information?

### Community Member #2

- Is the charter cluster option not up for consideration?

### Community Member #3

- Is this a set up for failure with the two options other than the Status Quo option having high levels of accountability? What are the consequences of not meeting the requirements of either one of the options?
  - (*Comment*) The metrics that are set by the State are not mathematically possible for all districts to meet.

### Community Member #4

- (*Comment*) There is a concern that everybody has to meet the high standards is setting some school districts up for failure.

### Community Member #5

- How would each individual school maintain their attendance lines?

### Community Member #6

- Are the schools going to be on their own with addressing issues such as building repairs, heating/ac concerns etc...?

### Community Member #7

- Will the charter schools buildings be leased?

### Community Member #8

- Why did the State of Georgia decide to provide these options to begin with?

### **Community Member #9**

- With the IE2 option, what types of waivers would DeKalb be looking to request?
  - (*Comment*) Start of charters have the option of choosing their lunch distributors, parents would love to have that option.

### **Community Member #10**

- (*Comment*) It's a little concerning to have to make a decision on the IE2 option without knowing the direction that the district is going in as it relates to the types of waivers the district would be seeking.

### **Community Member #11**

- Will the Chamblee charter remain the same, or will it change?

### **Community Member #12**

- Where is the protection of the local schools having autonomy against the micromanagement of the district?

### **Community Member #13**

- What will the local school governance look like?

### **Community Member #14**

- What is the district's governance going to look like?

### **Community Member #15**

- Under the Charter System option, is there a single charter?

### **Community Member #16**

- How would the district establish and build the charter so that every school is providing a quality education to all students?

### **Community Member #17**

- If this is a state law, can a conversion charter request waivers from testing (i.e. SLO's, CRCT, etc...)?

### **Community Member #18**

- Governance comes with financial control in some people's eyes, could the district provide guidelines on the financial control schools would possibly have?

### **Community Member #19**

- What level of information should parents expect to have access to?

### **Community Member #20**

- Can a private entity be a for profit entity under IE2?

### **Community Member #21**

- What are the consequences/negatives of each option?

### **Community Member #22**

- In comparing "may" and "must", are you referring to "shall" in legislative terms?

### **Community Member #23**

- Is it possible that some other titles may be added in the future by the legislature?

### **Community Member #24**

- What criteria will be used to select the local governance council?

### **Community Member #25**

- (*Comment*) More informed input can be provided if more details were known about what the district's future plans would be with either option (i.e. what are the criteria for local governance participants?).

### **Community Member #26**

- (*Comment*) DeKalb County School District should be providing the details on the different options vs. having parents seek research on their own.

### **Community Member #27**

- (*Comment*) The community does not have enough information to take back to the FAC so that they can make an informed recommendation to the Superintendent.

### **Community Member #28**

- What is this going to look like? What is the “big picture”?

### **Community Member #29**

- (*Comment*) Get the website up and running so that more information can be shared. If I had to vote right now, my vote would be Status Quo because there isn't enough information to make an informed decision.

### **Community Member #30**

- With IE2, do you basically have to know all of the waivers the district would like to request up front?

### **Community Member #31**

- (*Comment*) It appears that the State is pushing districts towards the Charter System option because you get all of these “goodies/waivers”.

### **Community Member #32**

- With the deadlines we are facing, how does that impact the current charter requests that are awaiting renewal and the submission of the renewal requests?

### **Community Member #33**

- What is the timeline for communicating between the district and current charter schools should the district choose the Charter System option?

### **Community Member #34**

- (*Comment*) I feel that the district is pushing the Charter System option. It is overwhelming. I would love to see principals have the option of how they would spend their funds.

### **Community Member #35**

- (*Comment*) The principals and local school councils should have input on the decision of which option to choose.

### **Community Member #36**

- Who or what is the process of determining how the waiver process will work, and who will determine what will the waivers be?

### **Community Member #37**

- Which one of the options is best suited for communities in which students do not have strong parental support? These are students that need career readiness support?

### **Community Member #38**

- If it were the charter option that was chosen, how would Sacs respond? What would their role be?

### **Community Member #39**

- Would Sacs be able to look closely at local governance boards?

### **Community Member #40**

- (*Comment*) Having parents involved for 90,000 students is quite complex.

### **Community Member #41**

- How much flexibility will there be curriculum wise?

### **Community Member #42**

- Do we still have the options of DESA and other magnet theme school options?

### **Community Member #43**

- (*Comment*) There is a need for freedom from required career pathways.

### **Community Member #44**

- Will there be other community engagement sessions other than the ones scheduled?

#### **Community Member #45**

- *(Comment)* We need more of these meetings before any decisions are made.

#### **Community Member #46**

- Could you expand on the “may” of the IE2 option?

#### **Community Member #47**

- Have any of the other districts that are Charter Systems really pushed down the autonomy to the local schools?

#### **Community Member #48**

- Has the district talked to other districts to see if they are more successful as a result of either of the options?

#### **Community Member #49**

- Under the IE2 option can the district give some schools more authority than others?

#### **Community Member #50**

- In 2015, is DeKalb going to be financially able to sustain the regular class sizes minus the waiver? This may make the Status Quo option not feasible.

#### **Community Member #51**

- *(Comment)* Class sizes need to be smaller.
  - Student centered budgeting
  - Better communication is needed – Information should be posted on the website before the meetings

#### **Community Member #52**

- *(Comment)* More meetings are needed in February before the recommendation is made to the Superintendent.

#### **Community Member #53**

- What is ultimately best for all 90,000 students?

#### **Community Member #54**

- What is working well in other states?
  - What are universities saying about students that are products of these options?
  - Are Fortune 500 companies being involved in the process?
  - (*Comment*) We've got one shot to get it right without a lot of information.

#### **Community Member #55**

- Has anything been done to ensure that we are getting input from the local school councils?

#### **Community Member #56**

- (*Comment*) There is a concern about the way the IE2 law is written. The concern is that most of the resources will be placed in lower performing schools at the expense of higher performing schools.

#### **Community Member #57**

- Can we see examples of what IE2 and Charter Systems would look like before the superintendent provides his recommendation to the Board?

#### **Community Member #58**

- Have you considered a survey to get input from the community?

#### **Community Member #59**

- Are the waivers in place for a time period?

#### **Community Member #60**

- Can the waivers be adjusted after the five year period?

#### **Community Member #61**

- Can the information be made available to the public?

#### **Community Member #62**

- How will the current magnet and theme schools be impacted?