Community Conversations

CHARTING A COURSE FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR SCHOOLS

ANCHORED IN EXCELLENCE · KENT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WITH THE VOICES OF THE COMMUNITY AS OUR GUIDE
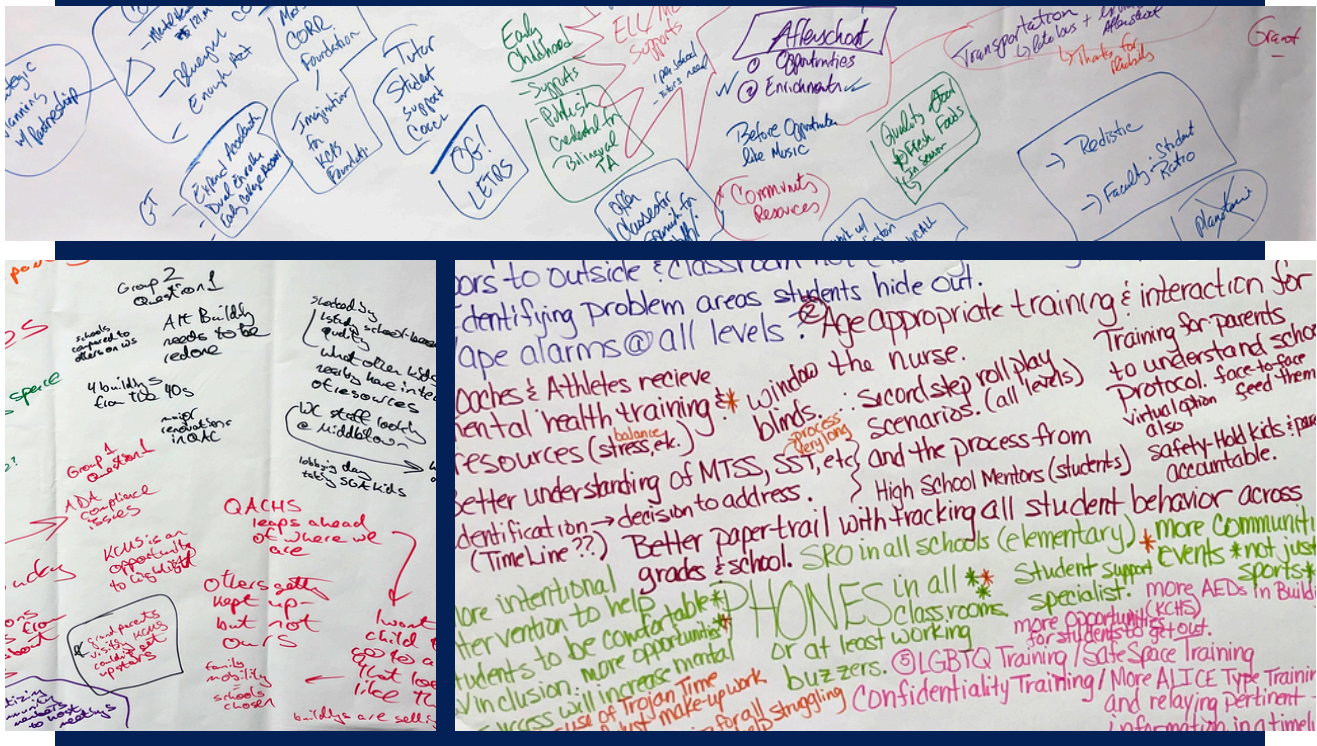
JAN. 31, 2025

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When she joined Kent County Public Schools on July 1, 2025, Dr. Mary Boswell-McComas was set to take on a daunting challenge as the new superintendent.

She jumped right in, with a focus on preparing a new five-year strategic plan for the school system. To put her plan together, she first needed to learn about the community and what it wants for its schools system.

Throughout the summer and fall, Dr. McComas met with Kent County Public Schools' teachers, staff and administrators; visited local business leaders, met with government officials; and introduced herself to as many people as possible.

Dr. McComas also sought to formalize many of her discussions with a series of public forums. The five Community Conversations were held at each school throughout October and November.

The sessions utilized the World Café model. Participants sat in groups at tables with a facilitator and shared their thoughts on a particular topic affecting Kent County Public Schools.

The groups were randomly seated. When it was time to rotate tables, participants were encouraged to join a different group of people.

The topics discussed were: Academics and Workforce Training, Our Annual Bud-get, Community Engagement, Supporting Student Success and Facilities and Equipment.

Each time a new group was seated at a table, they received a different question than the previous group. This ensured that conversations ran deeper than lists of wishes and complaints, to include more vision- and solution-based discussions.

Public Participation

Community Conversations were held at each of our five schools between October and November. These were advertised through press releases, flyers, direct family contact, social media and other outlets. The Citizen Advisory Committee participated in a session during one of its meetings. A session was held for all staff members as part of a Professional Development Day at Kent County High School. We also opened an online survey to capture additional comments from those who attended sessions and wanted to keep the conversation going.

Galena Elementary School
Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2024 at 6 p.m.
18 people

H.H. Garnet Elementary School
Thursday, Oct. 24, 2024 at 6 p.m.
25 people

Kent County High School
Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2024 at 6 p.m.
48 people

Rock Hall Elementary School
Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2024 at 6 p.m.
17 people

Kent County Middle School
Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2024 at 6 p.m.
25 people

Citizen Advisory Committee
Central Office
Monday, Oct. 28, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.
10 people

Professional Development Day
Kent County High School
Friday, Nov. 1, 2024 at 8 a.m.
350 people

13 online survey responses received

All told:

Nearly
500
stakeholders engaged in our Community Conversations!

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Capturing Comments

The facilitators at each table during our Community Conversations recorded the statements and sentiments shared. The tables were covered with large sheets of blank paper that both facilitators and participants wrote down the ideas shared in colorful markers. These comments were then typed and digitized for analysis and preservation.

Reporting Out

Comments on each of the five topics from our Community Conversations have been compiled for analysis in multiple digital files, organized by meeting locations, subject areas and question prompts. The summaries provided in the following section are broken out by subject matter. Each section includes the questions asked, fact sheets that provided background information, leading and recurring topics of discussions, questions to be thought about, new and interesting ideas to be explored and staff input form our Professional Development Day session.

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ACADEMICS AND WORKFORCE TRAINING

WHAT WE ASKED:

- What additional resources do students need to achieve academic success?
- How do you feel about students using devices like Chromebooks as part of their classroom activities?
- What school programs do you believe are most effective in preparing students for college and careers?
- What additional training and professional development do the teachers here need to help address achievement gaps among student groups like multilingual learners, special education students and others?
- You've talked about a lot of other subjects related to education at our tables tonight, how can some of the issues you've discussed be addressed through academics and workforce training?

STAKEHOLDER INFORMATION SHEET

Kent County Public Schools

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Supporting ACADEMICS and WORKFORCE TRAINING

Current Academic Goals in the 2020–25 Strategic Plan

Kent County Public Schools will support Early Learning to provide a strong foundation for future academic excellence and success.

Our students will have equitable access to rigorous culturally relevant curriculum and instruction aligned to Maryland College and Career Readiness standards.

Did you know ...

KCPS was an early adopter of all-day universal pre-K, years before it was required under the Blueprint for Maryland's Future?

Training

Many days off for students are still work days for teachers and staff. We provide Professional Development throughout the year so teachers can grow the skills they need to be successful in the classroom.

Science of Reading

The Science of Reading aligns instruction to what we know about how the brain learns to read. We are using the Orton-Gillingham method (OG Time) to focus early reading instruction, in part, on the phonics that make up the structure of words.

Something to think about ...

We are committed to data collection and using state and our own local assessment scores to maximize the educational impact for each student.

STAKEHOLDER SENTIMENTS

LEADING DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Homework: need more, including summer reading, book reports and routine writing; concern about too much homework for math; parents need help with math including a Math Night
- Bilingual Resources: support for multilingual learners (ML), full-time ML staff members, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) programs for students and adults, Spanish for teachers, supports that fit with our curriculum
- Communication among educators: vertical articulation and alignment across grades; grade-to-grade communication, transition and student tracking; systems to catch struggling students
- Teaching legacy subjects: cursive
- Media and information literacy: fact from fiction on the internet and social media
- Meeting needs of accelerated students: Gifted and Talented programming; teaching more higher math; earlier opportunities for MakerSpace and Stem programs
- Maintain and support Orton-Gillingham training for teachers
- Hands-on learning
- Class sizes
- Succession planning

QUESTIONS TO ANSWER

- How reliant are we on Chromebooks? Are we using them effectively? Are we mindful of the amount of time students are using on them?
- What does AI mean for schools?

NEW AND INTERESTING IDEAS

- Introducing foreign languages in elementary school
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) and College Prep transition programs beginning in the middle school
- Build more student, family and community engagement through clubs, science fairs, family projects, spelling and geography bees, elementary school performing arts, etc.
- Financial education: literacy, budgeting and taxes, economics, etc.
- Summer professional development instead of during the school year
- Bring school into the community — "education food trucks"
- Drug awareness education for parents
- Develop more partnerships with local businesses

FROM OUR STAFF

TRAINING WORKFORCE ACADEMICS &

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY QUESTION:

- What additional training and professional development (PD) do the teachers here need to help address achievement gaps among student groups like multi-lingual learners, special education students and others?

ANSWERS INCLUDED:

- American Sign Language for staff, students and parents
- Spanish for staff
- Adverse childhood experiences training, restorative practices, trauma-informed practices, inclusive training for growing neurodivergent population
- Culturally responsive assessment tools to identify gaps
- Prekindergarten and kindergarten alignment
- Staffing: English language arts and math specialists at each building to provide job-embedded professional development; ML/ESOL staff in each building; specific staff for interventions; Special Education
- Give programs more time to grow (Stop one and done PD programs)
- Improve PD programs: cut down on lecture-style programs; align trainings across the district; more collaboration
- More planning and collaboration time

TAKEAWAYS:

There were lots of comments on curriculum and providing more supports for the full range of students, including multilingual learners and gifted and talented children. Additional discussions focused on teachers needing more time for collaboration, communication and training, and on giving programs and curriculums more time to grow.

OUR
ANNUAL BUDGET

WHAT WE ASKED:

- What do you value most in schools?
- What programs, resources or services beyond general classroom instruction should be prioritized to best support our students' success and our community?
- If the school system had more money, how would you want to see it prioritized?
- What factors should our superintendent and Board of Education members consider when allocating funds and considering spending cuts?
- You've talked about a lot of other subjects related to education at our tables tonight, how can some of the issues you've discussed be addressed through funding?

STAKEHOLDER INFORMATION SHEET

Kent County Public Schools

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Looking ahead to our annual BUDGET

Budget details

2024-25 Annual Budget
$33,543,487

From the county
$20,382,670

From the state
$11,456,085

From our fund balance
$1,704,732

Total budgeted for salaries
$20,438,580

Salaries   The Rest

facilities, transportation, food service, maintenance, supplies, etc.
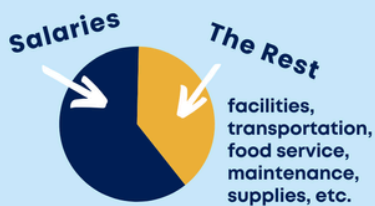
Something to think about ...

How do we prioritize where funding goes beyond instruction?

Something to keep in mind ...

It takes a village to raise a child and Kent County Public Schools has more than 1,700 students.

More about salaries

Total Instructional and Special Education salaries:
$14,164,255

Total salaries for all other staff (from the superintendent to our bus drivers):
$6,274,325

Teacher starting salary in KCPS:
$54,077 a year
(Benefits = another $30,832)

Neighboring starting salaries:
$54,398 (Queen Anne's)
$55,821 (Cecil)

STAKEHOLDER SENTIMENTS

LEADING DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Supplies for teachers
- School buses: more drivers, add buses, transportation for afterschool programs
- Staffing: more teachers; funding to attract experienced teachers; salaries to retain teachers; more teachers aides, instructional assistants and student support coaches
- Smaller class sizes
- Partnerships with community members and businesses; afterschool volunteers
- More field trips
- Update our playing fields and Trojan Stadium at Kent County High School, including the press box
- Rent out our facilities
- Ensuring proper funding from the county and holding the commissioners accountable
- Invest in community programs like Kent Association of Riding Therapy (KART) to support students with special needs

QUESTIONS TO ANSWER

- How can programs generate more revenue?
- Central Office pay and staffing
- Equity in staffing between buildings
- Audit programs: What is being used and what can be cut?

NEW AND INTERESTING IDEAS

- K-8 school model
- Earlier athletics programs, including the elementary schools
- Update and expand CTE: offer programs earlier; add home economics; add cosmetology
- Create an Arts Pathway
- Interact Club at the elementary and middle schools
- Move the Central Office to Worton

FROM OUR STAFF

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY QUESTION:

- What factors should our superintendent and Board of Education members consider when allocating funds and considering spending cuts?

ANSWERS INCLUDED:

- Hire cafeteria monitors (part-time, volunteers)
- Behavioral support teams in each building
- Improve building facades
- Improve building accessibility: ramps, elevators, wider doors
- Increase salaries and improve cost of living adjustments: start support staff at $30,000; increase veteran teacher salaries since new teachers are starting at $60,000
- Extending Jeenie translation app support to teachers
- Allow transportation and food service staff to service as substitutes in buildings to provide additional income opportunities
- Increase the course reimbursement rate
- Support staff for prekindergarten potty training
- Mental health days off for staff
- Another assistant principal at Kent County Middle School
- Return on investment for three elementary schools versus one on a single campus
- Review how Title funds are spent

TAKEAWAYS:

Much of the budgeting comments appeared to focus around increased staffing levels, especially support staff, and providing teachers more funding for supplies.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

WHAT WE ASKED:

- How do you get your news about Kent County Public Schools?
- How do you feel the school can improve communication and involvement with families and the wider community?
- What kinds of events, programs or partnerships would you like to see to increase community engagement with our school?
- How can Kent County Public Schools better serve the community outside of school hours?
- You've talked about a lot of other subjects related to education at our tables tonight, how can some of the issues you've discussed be addressed through community engagement and public relations?

STAKEHOLDER INFORMATION SHEET

Kent County Public Schools

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Building COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Telling our story

- The Kent County Public Schools website www.kent.k12.md.us
- Our free KCPS mobile app
- The KCPS Facebook and Instagram pages
- Social media pages for various schools and departments
- Our own high school radio station 90.5 FM WKHS (wkhsradio.org)
- Press releases shared with local media outlets
- Direct family contact through mass calls, emails and texts
- Community meetings

Something to think about ...

How can we best reach families and the broader Kent County community?

Volunteering

Kent County Public Schools welcomes volunteers through a variety of programs helping students achieve success.

Volunteers provide mentoring, homework help and hands-on learning.

Learn more:
kent.k12.md.us/Volunteers.aspx

Something to keep in mind ...

The media landscape has gone through a major shift in the last 10 years, so we have to keep exploring new ways of telling our story!

Download our app!
Keep up with the latest KCPS news, check menus and more.

APPLE   GOOGLE

STAKEHOLDER SENTIMENTS

LEADING DISCUSSION TOPICS

- News sources: Families use more direct connections and social media; news organizations suffering from decreased readership among families; older residents are out of touch with schools
- Challenge negative narratives, highlight the positive, staff should not be spreading negativity to the public, engage community stakeholders to share positivity
- Providing evening events: parent nights so they can better help students with math and literacy work, community celebrations, visual and performing arts showcases, etc.
- Include incentives for family information nights like dinner, child care and door prizes
- Volunteers: create and share opportunities; volunteer coordinator; create a speakers bureau; expedited parent volunteer process; hold volunteer fairs
- One event calendar for all schools
- KCPS is communicating with families more than ever
- Build more community partnerships, especially with the library
- Find more ways to showcase students in public, participating in community (non-KCPS) events
- Become a sponsor of established and new local events
- Better coordination of events between schools

QUESTIONS TO ANSWER

- How do we coordinate and advertise volunteer opportunities?
- How do we build and expand partnerships with colleges, organizations and businesses?
- How do we better reach retiree population with news about our schools?
- How do we rebuild our PTAs?
- How do we build school spirit among students and parents?

NEW AND INTERESTING IDEAS

- Newcomer program providing consistent support
- Turn homecoming into a huge community event with a parade, spirit week at all schools, etc.
- Go big with a career day
- More community fundraisers — like a community yard sale, haunted house, kickball games, bonfires, family games
- Localize youth sports in each elementary school gym
- Hire a fundraiser
- We don't need more/new programs, we need problem-solvers
- Get elementary students to high school events to build up their excitement
- KCPS ad at the movie theater
- Food trucks at events
- Translators at school events
- Community dinners
- Adult programs including ESOL

FROM OUR STAFF

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY QUESTION:

- What are some barriers to greater community engagement with our schools and how can we remove them?

ANSWERS INCLUDED:

- Not all families have online access: We need to make sure we can reach them with news
- Question-and-answer sessions with the community to share and explain our data
- Restart programs like Muffins for Moms to bring parents back into schools
- Set up ongoing donation and supply drives for families
- Learn about and be open to engaging with what is working in other districts
- Homework help for parents, like a homework hotline or video tutorials

TAKEAWAYS:

All stakeholders recognize the negative narratives around Kent County Public Schools. While communications have greatly improved, there were additional opportunities noted. Community volunteers was another leading topic, as well getting information out to those without students in the school system.

SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS

WHAT WE ASKED:

- In what ways can Kent County Public Schools build on its mental health services?
- What changes or enhancements would you like to see that could create a more inclusive and supportive environment for all students?
- What ideas or programs would you suggest to enhance safety, inclusion and positive mental health practices in our school?
- What improvements or additions to our school facilities do you believe are necessary to support student learning and well-being?
- You've talked about a lot of other subjects related to education at our tables tonight, how can some of the issues you've discussed be addressed through student supports?

STAKEHOLDER INFORMATION SHEET

Kent County Public Schools

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Fostering schools that Support Student Success

School-Based Support

KCPS has psychologists, social workers, school counselors and others to help students beyond daily instruction.

Teachers and staff also receive training to better recognize students' emotional and mental health needs to better ensure their success.

Something to think about ...

Social Emotional Learning is how we develop our own self and social awareness, interpersonal relationship skills and decision-making abilities.

Something to keep in mind ...

To be successful in school, a student needs to be in the mental and emotional space to learn.

School Safety

Each of our buildings has secured doors and security vestibules.

All staff members are trained in critical incident response and participate in regular safety drills.

Aligned goals in the Strategic Plan

Our 2020-25 Strategic Plan states:

★ Kent County Public Schools will create a safe, inclusive culture that meets the social and emotional needs of all students.

★ We are committed to providing equitable access to high quality instruction and culturally responsive educational support programs

STAKEHOLDER SENTIMENTS

LEADING DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Community education on mental health and wraparound services
- Student discipline issues: bullying, fighting, restorative practices and "justice," students should be showing teachers respect
- Consistent training for staff
- More nutritious school meals with larger portions for older students
- Ensure reporting forms are digitized and easy to access
- Maintaining and adding mentoring programs

- Building more student engagement with leadership programs at the middle and high schools
- Good partnership with Choptank Community Health System
- Smaller class sizes
- No cell phones, including on school buses
- More training to help neurodivergent students
- Peer mentoring
- Extracurricular programming for all students

QUESTIONS TO ANSWER

- School safety: hardening buildings versus raising awareness and education
- Can we move Challenge Day to the beginning of the year and build out the follow-up programming?
- Can we offer more after-school support by having counselors and administrators training coaches and club leaders?

NEW AND INTERESTING IDEAS

- Create a more robust portal on our website for services
- Create a flowchart for points of contact
- Free driver's education scholarships
- Teachers having phones in classrooms
- Uniforms
- Portable metal detectors at the middle and high schools
- Therapy animal availability
- Male/female social workers and school counselors — allowing students to choose who they are most comfortable working with

- Mental health days for students and staff: one per quarter
- Coordinator for student supports
- Resource officers in all schools
- Updated doors that allow remote lockdown of areas
- More cohesive countywide collaboration with all buildings regarding important weeks, such as bullying prevention, suicide, mental health/health spirit weeks
- Clear backpacks for school safety

FROM OUR STAFF

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY QUESTION:

- What ideas or programs would you suggest to enhance safety, inclusion and positive mental health practices in our school?

ANSWERS INCLUDED:

- Additional adult support in classrooms
- No-touch teacher days: one per quarter
- Retain staff mental health clinician
- Needs-based student hours: More time for one-on-one support for those students that need it
- More ability-based student groupings
- In an effort to create inclusive opportunities we sometimes create unsafe environments for everyone
- Mental health curriculum including yoga, mindfulness

- Allow 12-month staff to work from home on PD days to help with stress
- Better documentation tracking for student behavior issues across grades and schools
- Add a School Security Officer
- Establish Peace Teams
- Grade level pods (printers, lounge area, pull groups per grade level)
- Bus aides on all buses
- More opportunities for socialization: Primary grades need more time for socialization skills

TAKEAWAYS:

Ensuring students have available wraparound services and a safe learning environment were key topics. Staff commented on the need for increased communication between grade levels and schools for tracking students and additional support for staff.

FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT

WHAT WE ASKED:

- How would you compare Kent County Public Schools' buildings with other nearby school systems?
- How well do you feel our current building facilities and technology resources like smartboards and Chromebooks support the needs of our students?
- How can we improve our building's accessibility, spaces and resources to better support students with special education needs?
- Kent County Public Schools currently bases its transportation and maintenance operations at the former Worton Elementary School building. What other uses do you think we could add to that building through community partnerships?
- You've talked about a lot of other subjects related to education at our tables tonight, how can some of the issues you've discussed be addressed through facilities improvement?

STAKEHOLDER INFORMATION SHEET

Kent County Public Schools

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Improving our FACILITIES and EQUIPMENT

Our Buildings

Galena Elementary School
Built 1949; targeted renovations in '10s

H.H. Garnet Elementary School
Built 1949; addition in the '60s

Kent County Middle School
Built 1949; additions in the '50s and '60s

Rock Hall Elementary School
Built 1949; targeted renovations in '10s

Kent County High School
Built 1972, major renovations in the '00s and roof replaced in '20s

Worton Operations Center
Built 1969, closed as a school in 2017

Central Office
Built 1975, school closed and renovated for administrative offices in '00s

Something to think about ...

We are at the end of our Six-Year Strategic Facilities Plan. What could the future of our seven buildings look like?

Kent County Middle School

Plans to replace Kent County Middle School at its current campus continue to move forward. We are currently reviewing prospective architecture firms for design.

Did you know ...

We are raising money to renovate the planetarium at Kent County High School? While still functional, the equipment is very old, with manual dials and switches for controls and cassette tapes and slides for media.

The planetarium has so much potential, not just for our students, but also the broader community.

Learn more: www.kent.k12.md.us/Foundation.aspx

STAKEHOLDER SENTIMENTS

LEADING DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Worton building uses
- New middle school
- Fifth grade at the middle school
- Age, appearance and functionality: room audit, HVAC upgrades, energy efficiency review
- Buildings are a selling point for KCPS: We are frequently compared to Queen Anne's and Cecil counties and Middletown, Del.
- Identify a task list for building improvements
- Strategizing inclusivity: playgrounds, bathrooms, access to second floors, bleachers
- Security: fencing, door knobs
- Buildings are clean

- Age-appropriate furniture at all levels, for students and staff, including standing desks for staff
- Central Office location
- Buildings are clean
- Address classrooms without windows/natural light
- Improving building facades and lobby areas to make more inviting: opportunity for garden clubs, etc.
- Science classrooms are outdated: potential targeted renovation for KCHS
- Install turf athletic fields
- Consider dual purposes for rooms like the media center
- Kent County High School auditorium upgrades: lighting, sound and squeaky seats

QUESTIONS TO ANSWER

- Do students internalize the age of buildings?
- What would newer buildings do to students' sense of value?
- Do we need to consider redistricting?
- What should the future of the planetarium be? Are there better uses for the space or additional uses for the planetarium equipment beyond astronomy?
- Can we engage clubs to perform small upgrades on the buildings?

NEW AND INTERESTING IDEAS

- Sensory sensitivity: lighting and sound dampening, sensory stimulation rooms, calming rooms for elementary schools
- Onboarding locations for ML students
- Consolidate all facilities, sell properties and use funds for other strategic purposes
- Crossing guards at main intersections near GALES and KCMS

FROM OUR STAFF

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY QUESTION:

- What are some creative ideas for underused spaces in schools and buildings that could better support students or create opportunities for community agencies and organizations?

ANSWERS INCLUDED:

- Resource rooms for small groups
- Kent County High School has "random rooms that aren't being used, like old book rooms"
- Rock Hall Elementary School needs a conference room
- Can we split the art room at Galena Elementary School into two spaces?
- Look at the uses of existing outdoor spaces at all buildings
- Remove asbestos tiles
- More bottle fill stations
- Improve HVAC controls in all buildings
- Classroom furniture — no more desks attached to chairs
- Parking issues at Galena Elementary School and H.H. Garnet Elementary School

TAKEAWAYS:

The age and appearance of our buildings was the leading topic, with additional conversations about the future of the Worton building and whether or not to move the Central Office. We need to look at our buildings, review how they are being used, make updates and plan for the future.

IDEAS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE WORTON BUILDING

Centralized Food Service
Commercial/Industrial Kitchen
Issue RFP for Use
Build Teacher/Workforce Housing
Demonstration Kitchen
Alternative Program MakerSpace Temporary Housing
Space for Middle Schoolers to Explore High School Programs
Choptank Community Health
Central Office Homeschool Community Clubs
Food Pantry
Summer Camps
Food Bank
Chesapeake College Satellite Campus
Collaborative Space for Nonprofit Partners
Board of Elections
Pre-K and 3-year-olds expansion
Afterschool Programs
Tutoring Samaritan Group Childcare for staff
Adult Education
Fundraising Space Commercial Rental Space
Performing Arts Space Youth Programs
Conference Center
Opportunities for Local Businesses
Wet Lab Space Kent Blended Learning Academy
Consolidated Elementary School
New Residential Subdivision
Cooking Classes

Where do we go from here?

   The comments and concerns, questions and suggestions captured as part of the Community Conversations and other public dialogues and private conferences will be used to develop the next five-year strategic plan for Kent County Public Schools.

   This report is synopsis of the hundreds of comments shared by participants and recorded by our facilitators. In reviewing the discussion notes, recurring themes began to appear.

   Those overarching themes will shape the vision for Kent County Public Schools and drive the strategic plan.

   Participants also offered very detailed suggestions and concerns. Those are being shared with school and department leaders to help adjust and build on our operations as they evolve in line with the strategic plan.

   Kent County Public Schools is also in the process of reviewing its Facilities Strategic Master Plan for its buildings. The comments received during our Community Conversations will also be used to develop the facilities plan and consider the best uses for our buildings and the need for targeted renovations.

   Kent County Public Schools serves this community. To ensure a bright future ahead for our students, staff and schools, the community's participation and engagement is crucial.

   As we prepare and review of our strategic and facilities plans, we will continue to engage community members.

Thank you!

 In total, we conducted five Community Conversations across our school buildings. In addition to an all-hands-on-deck meeting so every employee within Kent County Public Schools was given the opportunity to participate in the same process that we did with the community.

 In the months of July and August I also met tirelessly with multiple stakeholder groups including our community's business leaders and nonprofits.

 In total, we collected input, feedback and insight into our strategic plan from approximately 450 participants. I feel like we have a strong number of people whose voices and insights are influencing our strategic plan.

 Thank you to all these 450 people who participated in our Community Conversations.

 Also, thank you to all of our Kent County Public Schools staff members who organized our Community Conversations, stayed late, set up tables, facilitated conversations and helped put spaces back together for school the next day.

Sincerely,
Dr. Mary Boswell-McComas
Superintendent
Kent County Public Schools

KEEP UP WITH KCPS

www.kent.k12.md.us

Download the KCPS mobile app!

Apple
App Store

Google
Play

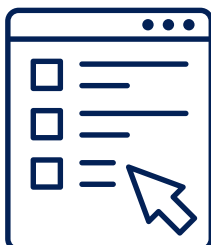# LET'S KEEP THE CONVERSATIONS GOING!

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We want to hear from you:
Fill out the Kent County Public Schools
Community Feedback Form
www.kent.k12.md.us/KCPSFeedbackSurvey.aspx

Teaching Kids how to talk with each other.

County wide cell phone policy.

Sensory based approaches to use in classrooms.

Needs for Mental Health
Continue SEAC
More Family Health Workshops
Wellness Night
Bully

Streamline process for intake in person

Direct School Based Counseling
Proactive to provide services.

Could be at of th

be attention Mental Health for Families.

Help Parents w/ Math Instruction
Parent Nights (Math)
Writing / Cursive (?)
Spelling - Meaning
Write Letter
Basic Math Fact Fluency
① Can we have PreK utilize OG letter lines?
Economics (Special)
Secondary (Financial Literacy)
Budgeting, Taxes
Require Summer Reading

Better serving line @ middle
(Trays are falling) + 5 - 10 each
Maintenance on all buildings
Control A/C + Heat better in all s
Deep cleaning of air vents + mold LIABILITY
More printers + copiers for elementary
Updating look of school (modern)
Removing bleachers @ elementary le
Bigger nursing / nurses Station (not alot of privacy)
Leaking ceilings
Old style desks (attached chairs) don't support moder learning + other student
More work space for small of students (NOT in mai thoroughfairs - lots foot traffic)
MORE BATHROOMS- update to + hand drying optio
Lockable classroom storage
Outdoor track @ element

Upcoming week for calendar
checking in on weekly newsletter
District wide calendar for school communicat
Starting to get more in h.s. scroll
School emails APP
issue of publicity recruiting for all sports
No newspaper cell/text phone email
Messages UCPS

ESOL Resources — Bilingual St
Finding to draw in experienced Coaches
Bingham Soap & Dryer
Athletics at the Elementary Schools + Middle School
Library Books
Don't out Our fields