



## Cardozo Feeder Pattern January Citywide Planning Meeting: Group Discussion Summary

On January 24th, DCPS hosted a citywide meeting for all parents, staff, community members, and other stakeholders on middle school planning in the Cardozo feeder pattern. During this meeting, participants discussed current population and enrollment trend data, middle school priorities, and potential benefits, challenges, and tradeoffs to opening a new standalone middle school in the Cardozo feeder pattern. Below is a summary of feedback from the table discussions.

### What's most important to you when considering middle school options?

Location & Facilities	Cohesive and Diverse Feeder Pattern	Quality School Program
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A location that is walkable or bikeable from home</li> <li>• A location that has recreational and green spaces</li> <li>• School has a quality facility that is well-maintained</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A middle school that has feeder rights to a high performing high school</li> <li>• Builds on the success of high performing feeder elementary schools</li> <li>• A vibrant school community with a strong and diverse cohort of students that stays together when advancing to the next grade level</li> <li>• Student population is diverse and the school community is integrated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reasonable class sizes</li> <li>• School program has a variety of electives including world languages</li> <li>• Students with special education needs receive proper and quality services</li> <li>• Students have opportunities to build soft skills and life skills in addition to developing academic strength</li> <li>• School takes advantage of all that the nation's capital has to offer to extend the classroom (i.e. museums, monuments, etc.)</li> </ul>

### We know that data does not tell the full story. What is not captured by the data?

School Community	Building Capacity	School Improvement	Feeder Pattern Enrollment	Data Quality
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The value of racial, income, and language diversity</li> <li>• How do strong neighborhood schools impact communities?</li> <li>• The impact of an increasing economically disadvantaged population</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cardozo EC already feels at capacity with the current student enrollment and program model</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A plan for Cardozo EC improvement is needed and should be a high priority</li> <li>• Information on how the middle grades at Cardozo EC impacted the school's overall star rating</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade retention</li> <li>• The impact of a reliable and quality feeder pattern</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What role does human bias play in using data to make decisions?</li> <li>• How could the data presented have been crowdsourced before a decision was made?</li> </ul>

**What are the neighborhood and citywide benefits, challenges, and tradeoffs to opening a standalone middle school?**

Community Investments	School Program Decisions	Enrollment & Demand	Feeder Pattern Impact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An opportunity to use the currently vacant Garnet-Patterson as the site</li> <li>• An opportunity to create a strong middle school in the Shaw neighborhood</li> <li>• Opening a middle school in the Shaw neighborhood can help keep families positively engaged with DCPS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-location with a high school presents an opportunity for MS students to take advanced HS courses</li> <li>• A standalone MS will have its own budget and staff</li> <li>• Staff and admin can be spread too thin in an education campus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small enrollment at a middle school will cause budget and staffing challenges</li> <li>• Opportunity to improve retention and maintain a cohort of students past the elementary grades</li> <li>• Opportunity to increase DCPS enrollment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thomson ES and Ross ES would lose feeder rights to School-Without-Walls @ Francis-Stevens</li> <li>• Cardozo EC could focus solely on high school students</li> <li>• Improved academic performance by fully investing in a middle grades program</li> <li>• How could other DCPS schools be impacted?</li> </ul>