

SUPERINTENDENT'S LISTENING AND LEARNING TOUR

LGBTQ Commission | Tuesday, October 12, 2021, 6:00 to 7:00 PM

Participants: 23 (representing commission members and other interested citizens)

Language: English

Below is a summary of the feedback from this listening session. It may not reflect the views of all participants and stakeholders district-wide.

What is going well?

- **Substantial faculty support for LGBTQIA+ students**
- **Local school leadership support for Gay-Straight Alliance activities**
- **Partnership with Denver Health to offer mental health services**
- Creation and expansion of Levi's position (Program Manager of LGBTQ+ Equity Initiatives)
- Prioritizing sexual health by partnering with Denver Health to provide relevant medications
- School lunches have become healthier and more accessible
- Inclusion of students with disabilities by teachers, staff, and peers
- School choice
- Financial literacy requirement
- Conversations around diversity, identity, and equity in the classrooms

What needs improvement?

- **Better communication**
- **More support for LGBTQIA+ students and families at the elementary level**
- There are inconsistencies in how schools address issues related to the LGBTQIA+ community
- Need additional programs and conversations around alternatives to traditional college
- Inconsistencies in schools' websites quality
- Equitable school funding
- Additional supports and resources for families that were severely impacted by the pandemic
- More schools/classrooms need to talk about intersectionality
- More allies for LGBTQIA+ staff and teachers, so the same teachers aren't constantly outing themselves

Advice for Dr. Marrero

- **Continue to have this type of meeting**
- **Drive to Mount Evans**
- More supports for single-site charter schools
- Figure out how to work with great teachers
- Be more transparent with data; this information is crucial for community organizations that support DPS students and families
- Improve city and district relationships, leverage policy expertise
- Visit the Drift; it has a Tiki bar
- Engage families in discussions about the small schools projects
- Support teachers (especially ethnic minorities) realize their vision for changes they would like to see within the DPS system

Notes: The comments with the most mentions or agreement during the meeting are listed in bold at the top of each column.