



SUPERINTENDENT’S LISTENING AND LEARNING TOUR

Five Points Town Hall | Saturday July 24, 2021

Hosted by Tay Anderson, DPS Board of Education At-Large

Participants: Over 1000 (Facebook, Zoom, and in person)

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?

- School-based health centers
- Strong technical foundation and response to enable learning during quarantine
- Community, students, parents
- Equity focus
- Teachers have been carrying the district
- Changes such as removal of DPD and reversal of pro-charter track
- Student Voice & Leadership and Student Board of Education
- Children going back to school
- DPS is great for white students
- Language programs in grade schools
- Know Justice Know Peace at MLK

What needs improvement¹?

- Improve communications
- Hire and retain more educators of color
- Get rid of LEAP
- Address institutional racism, white supremacy
- Fire district administration staff and shift resources to schools
- Give building leaders more autonomy
- Improve academic achievement for all students
- Provide supports for Black and Brown students to succeed
- Address gaps in supports for children with special needs; provide an inclusive education
- Address racial segregation, including busing issues

Advice for Dr. Marrero²

- Reorganize downtown, clean house at 1860 Lincoln, fire those who get in the way of change
- Redraw school boundaries
- Focus on equity means white parents giving up something
- Take proactive steps to retain Black educators
- Be in the community, listen to parents and students
- Be mindful of who you listen to; do your own research to understand DPS
- Hire more teachers
- Reduce class sizes
- Review the Choice data and you will understand what the community wants
- Address the trust deficit that goes back decades
- Reduce the number of overseers
- Meet with Black and Brown teachers

¹ Includes themes mentioned 3 times or more

² Includes themes mentioned 5 times or more