



SUPERINTENDENT'S LISTENING AND LEARNING TOUR

Meet and Greet with Coalition | Tuesday August 3, 2021

Hosted by TeRay Esquibel, Executive Director, Ednium

Participants: Approximately 70 (in person)

Language: English & Spanish

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?

- **DPS Staff is hard-working and committed to students**
- **Current focus on equity and inclusion**
- Alerts/communication from the district
- Individual school communities are strong
- New energy for change

What needs improvement?

- **Better food/ mealtime for students**
- **Investment in teachers and staff (e.g., salaries, equity training)**
- **Current equity and inclusion efforts**
- **Schools' financial resources**
- **Listening more to parents, students, and community**
- Clearer accelerated learning plan
- Improved communication with parents and community (including in appropriate languages)
- Improved curricular quality for elementary
- More /better extracurricular activities
- High-impact tutoring
- More focus on student mental health
- Improved student services (incl. nursing & counseling) services/nursing
- Focus on students' transitions back to school
- Higher quality substitute teaching pool
- More trust (of and within district)

Advice for Dr. Marrero

- **Listen to parents & students**
- **Honest and transparent communication**
- **Be aware that the DPS superintendency is particularly challenging now**
- **Be visible and available**
- **Visit schools and meet stakeholders**
- "Do your homework/ research"
- "Stand up to the Board"
- Address bullying
- Address systemic institutional racism
- Be accountable
- Listen to alumni (e.g., Denver Scholarship Foundation, Ednium)
- Put students first
- Work hard for schools

Note: The comments with the most mentions and/or applause during the in-person meeting are listed in bold at the top of each column. Comments were taken from both participants' written submissions and verbal Q&A comments, and may be double counted for that reason.