

# SUPERINTENDENT'S LISTENING AND LEARNING TOUR

Multilingual Education District Advisory Committee | Wednesday, September 28, 2021, 5:00 to 6:00 PM

Participants: Approximately 122

Languages: English, Spanish, Arabic, Vietnamese, Amharic, Somali, Nepali, French, and Mandarin

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

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## What is going well?

- **Communication between district or school and families (including text messages, robocalls, translations into home languages, responsiveness to questions)**
- **Pandemic response and COVID precautions**
- **Kind, welcoming, and dedicated school staff who focus on students' safety, social emotional, and academic needs**
- **Students are back in person, learning**
- **Students enjoy going to school**
- Montessori programming
- Follow through with individual education plan (IEP) accommodations
- Transportation
- Graduation rates
- Dual language programming

## What needs improvement?

- **COVID precautions (including consistency between schools, masking during pick-up and drop-off, rising cases)**
- **Transportation scheduling issues (including some routes being cut, transportation equity between schools)**
- **Supports for multilingual students, including maintenance of home language**
- **Integration of students from different communities to ensure student socialization and a diverse student body at each school**
- Communication with students
- Student academic achievement (including graduation rates, reading proficiency, Orton Gillingham instruction not yet used district wide)
- Early identification of students who need extra support
- Declining enrollment
- Parent and staff relationships
- Inequities between schools
- Recess supervision
- School-to-prison pipeline
- Teacher pay
- Trauma informed practices and social emotional learning

## Advice for Dr. Marrero

- **Meet and listen to parents, teachers, and other community stakeholders, engaging in two-way conversations and commit to addressing their concerns**
- **Meet students and work to understand the student experience (e.g., through student shadowing)**
- **Learn about schools' challenges with students and social media**
- **Visit schools, including their extracurricular events**
- Provide more after school athletic opportunities
- Respect teachers and make sure they do not have to spend their own money on supplies
- Develop a strategic plan to increase multilingual education for all DPS students
- Support small schools
- Visit Montbello, including the Community Engagement Center
- Visit Maxwell Elementary
- Visit Metropolitan State University (MSU)

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