

DPS Declining Enrollment Advisory Committee

Meeting 2 / Declining Enrollment Challenges, Mar. 16, 2022

Topic Areas	Notes & Links
Welcome & Check-in	Committee members worked in groups of two or three to do paired check-ins with each other. The activity allowed members to warm up to the space and prepare to work from a good place. Due to time constraints for this meeting we did not get to discuss or share out in the group forum.
Review and reinforce project scope and potential power of this charge	<p>This section was led by Grant with support from Ericka. Reinforcement was given around the ideas of the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● committee being empowered to create the criteria used for closing and or consolidating schools. ● There are still many questions around what the criteria looks like and how constituents will be impacted.
Agreements	The success definition was updated with suggestions from committee members. There was some consensus around being able to live with what was written. The group agreements were not finalized due to time constraints. There were a few updates suggested that were not discussed or approved. These suggestions will be emailed and approved for meeting three.
Datawalk	<p>Conducted “Datawalk” with two facilitated groups in English & one in Spanish. The datawalk consisted of five stations or topics with opportunities to provide initial reactions and potential impacts for families, communities, schools, etc. Participants were able to view data from each of these perspectives and some of the impact it has on declining enrollment. The station topics were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Denver a changing city ● DPS Enrollment Trends ● School Choice ● School Finance/Budget & Offerings/Enrollment ● Colorado Laws for Charter Schools
View datawalk results and debrief experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Group 1: Talked about impact on families and communities. Declining enrollment equals less funding. Look at consolidation as opportunities rather than losses. ● Group 2: Declining enrollment is a compounding problem...continued loss. ● Group 3: Talked about concerns about schools, socio economic issues about funding, and how decisions are made. Appreciated focus on impacts to kids and families. Who benefits from the recommendations? Criteria could cause inequity.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Additional request for data: Is there a sense of what DPS is willing to do for budget assistance? Answer: Some form of assistance will always be available, but extra COVID funds will be going away.
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify concerns from datawalk. Which are most important? ● What else do we need to consider? ● Demystify assumptions ● Discuss guiding principles for creating criteria