

Background

Six years ago, APS clusters and single-gender schools selected a signature program, allowing for the vertical and horizontal alignment of academic programs for schools and neighborhoods. These programs also provide rigor, structure, focus and accountability across the cluster.

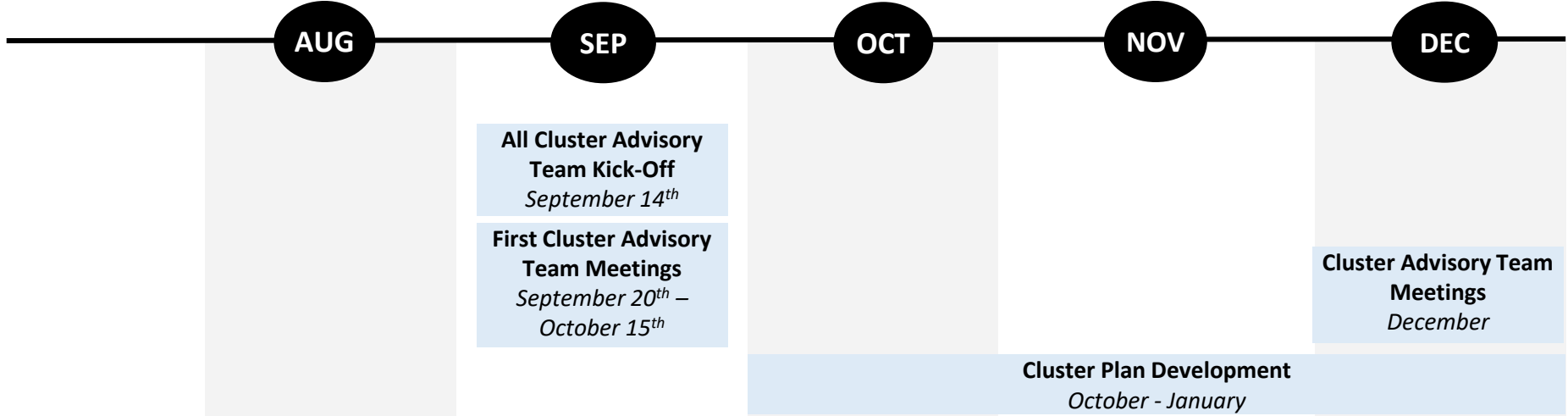
Changes and Impact

- The new charter system application states, “every school is on a timeline to complete implementation, authorization, certification or credentialing.” This is not currently attainable for two clusters (Carver and Midtown) who chose College & Career Readiness (CCR).
- Battelle for Kids (formerly P21), the certifying agency for CCR, has been undergoing a major reorganization for the past 3 years and has suspended their certification process with no scheduled date for relaunch.
- This significantly impacts the timeline and expectations for high quality signature programs for the Carver and Midtown clusters.

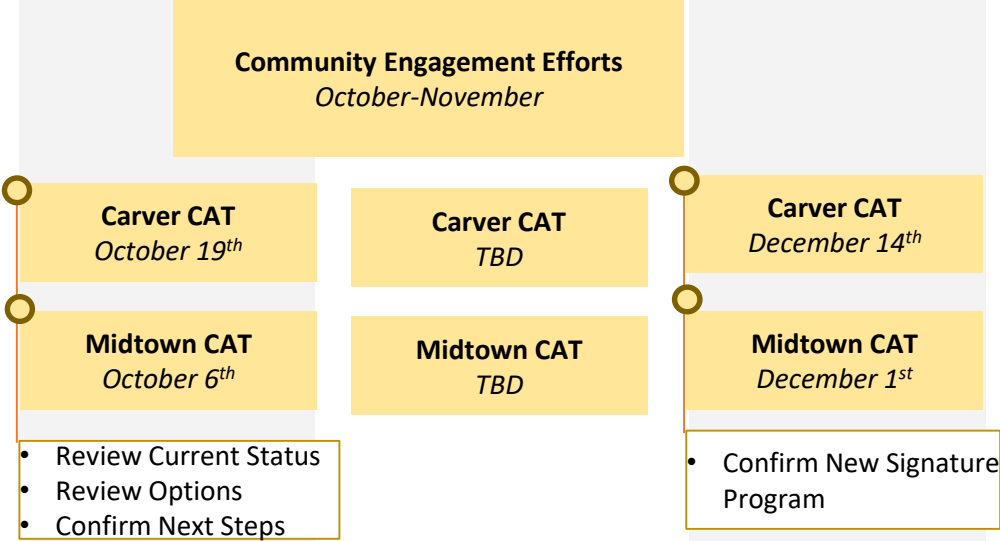
Next Steps

As part of the 2022-2025 Cluster Planning process, APS will work with Cluster Advisory Teams, GO Teams and the community to discuss what STEM/STEAM or IB could look like in their clusters and the appropriate next steps.

Cluster Planning Timeline



Signature Program Identification



Collaboration

APS will work with Cluster Advisory Teams, school leadership teams, and GO Teams to align budgets and plans toward the effective implementation of the new signature program.

Alignment

APS will work to ensure the existing work from the College & Career Readiness signature program leads seamlessly to the new signature program. In addition, APS will work with Cluster Advisory Teams to ensure the Cluster Plans embed the new signature program in the work.

Awareness

APS will collaborate with schools to provide information sessions to school communities to better understand the selected signature program and its impact on college, career, and life readiness.

Knowledge

APS will work with school staff to ensure they understand the signature program expectations and alignment with their current and planned work.