

Community Conversation March 2021

What would it feel like, sound like and look like if APS provided students more personalized and individual learning and support?

Student Experience

- A running personal log almost like an educational diary from beginning to end.
- Social emotional learning beyond the scope of academics and more about the whole student

It would be an open conversation where the scholar can express themselves and what they feel they need in order to be successful.

Staff

- Educators open in expressing strategies to help students meet whatever goals they have set for themselves
- Getting kids connected with each other and with adults to build relationships

Technology

- Can't we teach kids the essentials, but inspire without the overuse of screens.
- Personalized learning should look like continued integration of tools in a variety of ways and settings.

My kid has gotten zero feedback this year. He's not failing but not in gifted so I feel like he's just ignored. I would love for him to get some personalized support.

Family Engagement

- Enhancing relationships and communication with parents, alumns, and community partners to support individualized learning and support
- It will be great for ALL families receive the resources and support across the district as well as direct support



- Peer mentoring/leadership that pairs kids with older classmates and with a teacher
- "Mini-sessions" so more kids can find their passion
- Small group work in the classroom that is tailored to student levels versus only whole group instruction
- Mandatory dyslexia screening at Kindergarten and Third
- Cool virtual classes offered on teacher work days
- Breaking up homeroom classes among the grade level based on reading and math level
- Reading and math specialists that can come into the classroom to allow for more specialized instruction
- Individualized assessments informing individualized learning support
- End social promotion or find resources to get them on grade level in elementary school
- Use tech to extend learning





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What would impactful parent/guardian support feel like, sound like and look like?

Remove Barriers

- It is important to meet people where they are. We need to provide transportation; feed you; provide childcare; and be in the community and in the neighborhood
- Parent support would be welcome and schools would know the parents through their social, cultural, and emotional needs

Parent involvement would look different from parent to parent as the needs of every students vary.

Communication

- Engagement and communication needs to be positive
- Help parents/community understand the processes (e.g. - Pathways) and expectations of the student journey
- We need dialogue that two way let's us know what was heard

It is important we give everyone a voice...avoid the trap of having only a small group of engaged parents - need to incentivize and support representation and deep engagement from families who are usually under-represented, both racially and socio-economically.

Working Together

- Co-creation and collaboration (not just communication) between teachers, students, and parents
- Putting parent energy to a shared challenge
- Having a lot of opportunity to hear about decisions made at the school and opportunity to give input on those decisions



- Playbook on what works (eg. how to make things more inclusive)
- Infinite campus boot camp while the students are in summer bridge
- More translation services to service all parents and stakeholders
- Ask parents how they feel they can support
- Reach out to the community so employers can understand why parents need to be involved even on company time
- Effective parent liaisons to let parents know how/where they can support schools
- More access to families at the earliest of the ages
- Partner parents with each other to support the learning of ALL students at the school
- Inform parents of the good things that are coming down from the state, district, and community





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How does the vision create a brighter future for Jackson students? Does this vision address the most important priorities for the Jackson Cluster to achieve now and into the future?

Instructional Delivery and Academics	 Providing an intentional focus on early literacy and numeracy skills. Implementing changes to instructional delivery models to improve instructional quality, provide opportunities for academic recovery and create a more personalized learning experience. Launching and growing early childhood support birth to 5 years old.
Student Support and Whole Child Well-Being	 Enhanced interventions for students during the school year (Math, Literacy, SEL). Implementing a universal screener for diagnosis, progress monitoring, embedded formative assessments and an intervention block. Providing additional mental health supports across all schools.
Staff Support and Well-Being	 Providing staff learning opportunities to build their capacity regarding the vision. Providing staff well-being support and resources.
System Supports, Structures and Processes	 Making decisions that are equity guided and data informed. Redefining the support structures for schools through the lens of equity. Utilizing data reviews at the school and central office levels. Leveraging philanthropic support and partnerships for the larger vision.

Leveraging philanthropic support and partnerships for the larger vision

International Baccalaureate

- Increasing everyone's familiarity is important to the IB signature program
- Identifying how IB would factor into this model and how much flexibility is a given when trying to marry the vision and the IB focus

Have an opportunity to drill down to what works and what doesn't work. Taking a critical look and not taking things personally, but to drive action

Foundation

- Early intervention and support can help encourage and uplift students. We can address the real issues of pre-k to five. We need our students to have access to proper programs (eg. access to neighborhood pre-k)
- Early literacy and numeracy is an excellent start
- Grades 1-3 are important and students are being left behind because they learn differently.
- We need to evolve the curriculum so all students are able to learn and engage in creative ways and in relative ways that apply to today's world.

This is "super intentional" to address each student's needs - not just academic, but seeks to address other needs (i.e. Whole Child).

Equity & Diversity

- Resources must be equitably allocated.
- Access needs to be intentional to ensure all stakeholders can access what's available.
- The systems and attendance zones should all be equitable. Our cluster is so diverse and it's not fair schools are forced into an homogenous population.
- We are trying to be a diverse and inclusive cluster. We are rapidly changing and we want it to be a collaborative effort.