

# 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**

- More relevance for students; understanding the why (If the content/learning is centered around each student, they might have a better understanding of their purpose)
- Personalized learning will be very impactful, but APS needs to consider the funding necessary to fully support this initiative - especially from an equity lens.
- Students problem-solving and communicating their thoughts to teachers and classmates
- Reimagine how they learn and apply it to real world

Caring environment centered around positive behavioral support to support student's social emotional well being

## **Student Support**

- Wrap around supports for students to handle their Social Emotional Needs to support those students who have experienced trauma
- Knowing our students and see what their interests and knowing their families

I see students having individual career tracks starting at the elementary level whereby students and parents can explore various avenues to be able to find the strengths and weakness of the individual child

## **Staff Impact**

- It feels like students and teachers feeling happy and less anxious about assessments because students are being met at their point of need
- There's rigorous instruction along with high impact data so that teachers are able to adjust instruction in the classroom



- Fine arts instruction, demonstrations, programs, activities
- Collaborative dialogue in school related meetings with stakeholders
- Academic Extension Periods at the end of the day
- New positions for ELA/MTH and intervention supports
- Digital Class for students/parents to teach them how to get online and navigate the platforms
- Daily recognitions in the beginning of the day and the afternoon to give them something to look forward to
- Schools would look like labs for specialized areas such as science, math global learning etc.
- Use technology to personalize learning



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

### **Parent Partnership**

- Parents would attend meetings, and participate in initiatives.
- Parents would take the lead for creating and implementing initiatives.
- Parents would check in throughout the year regarding their scholar's academic progress and attend conferences.
- Parents would feel safe and comfortable in developing a relationship with the school.
- · Parents would volunteer at events.
- Teaming among parents, students, teacher, and support staff. Each team member sets goals at the start of the year...not just academic, but family goals as well.

It should feel like 5 star customer service. Schools should be able to anticipate parent needs.

# **Parent Support**

- Wrap-around services for parents to fill in the gaps for parents to make them more comfortable in providing support.
- Having specific supports for each individual family represented regardless of the amount of time and the need

Parent engagement is more than a Public Relations stunt...it requires doing the work to help the parents with resources



- Parent events: cluster parent night, social club, booster club, PTA, field day, teacher appreciation week, carnival nights, literacy night and math night, open house,, curriculum night, coffee days, mental/physical health and wellness activities, financial well-being activities
- Scheduled daily time for parents to engage and ask questions on a weekly basis
- Recognition to students, guardians and families on a consistent basis
- Hold events at community spaces
- Extend school building hours to assist with homework resources
- Ensure students have access to literature in the school media centers and certified media specialist
- Additional learning opportunities for parents (eg. transition from high school to college)
- Parent Academy



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How does the vision create a brighter future for Therrell students? Does this vision address the most important priorities for the Therrell 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.

Providing opportunities for staff to learn about the vision will increase morale and buy-in

## **Family Support**

- Families will need support to ensure this vision can be achieved. "Deteriorating families" have a negative impact on student achievement.
- Missing the parent support from the vision-need opportunities to expand upon that
- Intentional focus to help families to recognize and provide strategies before a child enters KDG and to become school ready

Happy teacher, happy students

#### **Academics & Whole Child**

- Ensuring that our children have global experiences outside of I-285.
- Ensuring that children have people that look like them in their experiences through connection with classes within the cluster as well as around the world.
- For the future, intentionally addressing the 0-5 will be key for the future
- SEL is a great way to build relationships with students and provide the support students needs.

It is time to pivot to create an enhanced reality to provide new and innovative opportunities to address students' individual needs.

## Staff Support

- More education in tailoring individualized instruction
- Happy to see an emphasis on mental health for both students and faculty
- There is room to include more innovation in responding to the data we receive
- Teachers should plan throughout the cluster to prepare professional development and intentional learning experiences