

*At the August 2016 community engagement sessions for the Student Assignment Review, small groups of participants shared input and feedback by writing on individual and table comments sheets and had their discussion captured on the whiteboard. This document is a **verbatim** compilation of the comments and discussion notes from the meeting. You can access the scanned version of the actual comment sheets and photos of the whiteboard on the CMS website as well as copies of the handouts and session presentation at <http://bit.ly/SAR-Feedback>.*

Meeting #/Location:
Butler

Transportation Zones

What Matters Most to You in Creating Transportation Zones? Why are these attributes important or not important to you?

Balance Percentage of Students in Poverty

Why most important (2)

- Programs need to reflect local needs
- Want schools to be more equal of SES and achievement
- Not having students travel long distance
- Diversity opportunity important
- Provides equity

Other comments

- Fear of: how much? How many?

Similar Programs in Each Zone

Why most important (3)

- Want all students regardless of location to have same programs/magnets available
- Magnet schools/similar programs in several zones to avoid high travel time
- Want more choice
- Programs need to reflect local needs

Size of Zone

Why most important (3)

- Time on bus is a concern
- Zones seem confusing due to transportation zones
- Take *local traffic* into consideration—5 miles can take *many* minutes
- Home school close to where we live

Other comments

- Concern about variation of weather of North vs. South and school cancellation
- Drivers? Need to consider drivers' needs

Intact High School Feeder pattern

Why most important (4)

- Peer consistency/bonds/relationships
- If middle schools split, bonds may not be formed
- Keeping all levels together ES/MS/HS in zone/learning community
- Students stay with assigned school pattern

Whole Town within single zone

Why most important

- Intact communities that have the same zones
- Not having students travel long distances

Which is the best option overall for CMS families & children? Why? Do you have any suggestions to improve this option?

- Comment: The green zone doesn't change much—can we have more zones? What does it look like? Four A seems to distribute poverty more evenly. Option 3 gives green zone less magnets/stays same.
- 4A—more contiguous; keeps Meyers Park as is; seems to make more geographical sense
- There is *not enough information* available to determine best option.
 - by zone # of CMS students (total number)
 - type of programs offered
 - students vs. magnet seats

In your opinion, which is the least preferable option overall for CMS families and children? Why?

- Option 3: 1 vote; 4A: 2 votes; 4B: 1 vote; it all looks so similar. Can we split up CMS. It's too big.
- Zone map w/only 3 transportation zones
- Option 3—because it is the largest and will offer longer travel time
 - would prefer more transportation zones
 - consider traffic patterns
 - driver availability

What is most important for your table to share with CMS about transportation zones? (Please summarize – in a sentence or a few key points)

- Can we reduce transportation costs, provide more magnet options, and evenly distribute poverty? And unicorns. We want unicorns. The group would like more time to process the info before having to make decisions.
- We want to emphasize our desires to keep towns/communities intact, limit time students spend on buses and take local traffic issues into consideration when making bus routes.
- Transportation needs to be reliable; consistent across the board; transportation is not consistent now; amount of time on bus
 - B has most magnets and least # of students
 - looking into vacuum of magnet schools—what about “home school”

Any other comments about Transportation Zones?

- Transportation zones aligned w/learning communities
- Don't just look at magnets when creating new zones

Lottery

Which do you believe is the best option overall for CMS families & children and why?

- Scenario B: if it's the closest school to you, there should be a priority. What's the percentage set aside for students within ½ mile?; Scenario A: lesser of 3 evils based on limited info.
- Scenario B is our preferred option as it provides opportunity to attend based in part to geographic/neighborhoods
- Lower EDS has priority; Scenario C: we liked this because it takes into account students that live close to the school

Which option do you believe is the least preferable overall for CMS families and children? And why?

- Scenario A is the least flexible for geographic/neighborhood issue
- Scenario B: not enough data on percentage of students; Scenario C: ½ mile is too small
- Scenario A—because location not a priority

***What is most important for your table to share with CMS about the lottery?
(Please summarize – in a sentence or a few key points)***

- Why isn't achievement weighted into lottery? i.e. test scores, grades; would like more info before making decisions; expand magnet options
- We think offering additional lottery campus spread further out from the center of the district and feel this would offer additional* opportunities for EDS students and offer more opportunities to students who reside further from the center of the district.
 - *additional campuses do not necessarily mean more choices, perhaps offer duplicate programs in the highly sought after, high wait list options
- Availability; SES should be taken into account; define SES—to determine high, med, low
 - take into account tipping points

Any other comments about Lottery Priorities?

- Take into account SES

Magnet/School Options

EXISTING MAGNETS: Choose up to 3 programs –IN RANK ORDER – you think are most important for CMS expand or replicate. And why?

Top-why?

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. STEM/STEAM—marketable skills2. Visual & performing arts (LI/TD)3. Middle & early college <p>*there should be more partial magnets</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. STEM—prepares students for workforce2. IB—option for high performing students3. World languages—diversity

New School Options And Magnet Programs Under Consideration For 2017: Are there options in the pipeline you believe CMS should not pursue? Why?

- Museum Magnet; Micro Society

Themes NOT CURRENTLY in CMS: Choose up to 3 magnets not currently offered by CMS –IN RANK ORDER – that you would most like to see at CMS. Please

include your own program idea if it is not included on this list. Why for each choice?

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Additional career based themes2. Young men's/women's prep3. What is the difference between Expeditionary Learning and Vocational Training?
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Trade or craft school2. Military academy3. Additional career-based themes

Billingsville Elementary: Based on its location, would you view that as a viable option for your child? If so, what theme would make it most attractive to you?

- Multiple intelligences
- No
- An advocate for each child—explain each program in more depth
 - *communicate options*

What barriers to accessing magnets CMS must address?

- *Distance* and more options; need more partial magnets
- Location/distance; safe schools—not sending our kids to a magnet if we feel it's not a safe school
- Multiple magnet school lottery fairs; streamline process; advertise magnet schools

What is most important for your table to share with CMS about Magnets/Options? (Please summarize – in a sentence or a few key points)

- Can home schools include more magnet opportunities?
- We'd like to see more career oriented options, additional locations in outlying areas and make sure the campuses are safe
- Communication—MTSS support staff need to facilitate for both struggling & high achieving students

Individual Comments: Magnet/School Options

Billingsville Elementary: Based on its location, would you view this as a viable option for your child? If so, what theme would make it most attractive to you?

- Existing magnets:
 - STEM, lng immersion, vis & performing
 - language, TD, technology
 - learning immersion, world lang, visual & performing arts

- Themes not currently offered in CMS:
 - career-based themes, expeditionary learning, multiple intelligence
 - Paideia
- Billingsville Elementary:
 - Yes
 - No—too far w/traffic
- What barriers to accessing magnets must CMS address?
 - reaching families with info, more fairs, distance
 - location
 - transportation
- What is most important for your table to share with CMS about Magnets/Options?
 - CMS personnel steer families to appropriate magnets

Any other comments about Magnet/School Options?

n/a

Other

Parking Lot Questions/Comments:

- They tried to match trans(ortation) maps w/lottery priorities
- Helpful to give them time to lead terms (teams?)
- Add where participants can locate info in this packet
- Early high school on college UNCC
- Middle—JR SR on community college campus

Optional Transcriber Observations:

- Transportation zones:
 - generally seems that more transportation zones would be preferred if it would reduce transport time
 - more reliable transportation desired
- Magnet/school options:
 - STEM = most popular option to expand/replicate
 - desire for more career-oriented opportunities
 - transportation/accessibility are most important barriers that need addressing