



COLUMBUS BOARD OF CITY SCHOOLS **EDUCATION**

Christina Vera, President • Dr. Tina Pierce, Vice President
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November 22, 2024

Dear Columbus City Schools Community,

As we approach Wellness Week and Thanksgiving, a season of gratitude and reflection, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to each of you for your dedication, patience, and thoughtful feedback. Your engagement and support are invaluable as we, the Board of Education, work together to shape the best possible future for our students.

This year, we have engaged in significant discussions about the future of our school facilities. These conversations are not merely about buildings—they are about ensuring that our students have environments where they can learn, grow, and thrive. Your voices have been essential in guiding us as we carefully evaluate potential changes to meet the needs of our community.

I want to take a moment to provide important updates regarding the district's school realignment process, focusing on the nine schools identified by the Superintendent's Community Task Force. During last night's special Board of Education meeting, my colleagues and I had an insightful and meaningful discussion, reflecting on the observations and experiences from our visits to these nine schools between October 28-31. At the heart of our conversation was the reality of what we saw and the aspirations shared by the communities within these buildings. These moments reminded us to ground our decisions in the lived experiences of those most impacted—our students, families, and staff.

In the upcoming week, the Board will share a detailed summary highlighting the common themes observed during the school tours. I highly encourage everyone to watch the recording of last night's [special board meeting](#) to gain valuable insight into each board member's perspective as we carefully consider these recommendations. As we approach a decision in the near future regarding the nine recommended schools, please know that our focus remains steadfast on what is best for our students. These decisions are not easy, but they are guided by our shared goal of providing equitable opportunities and resources for every child in our district.

I also encourage you to visit the [District's School Realignment](#) page for updates and to submit questions or feedback related to the school consolidation process. Your input is critical, and we want to ensure your voices continue to be heard throughout this process.

I am deeply thankful for our teachers, staff, families, and students. Your resilience, commitment, and collaboration inspire us every day. You are the heart of our schools, and it is your passion for education and our children's success that drives everything we do.

As you take time to rest, recharge, and connect with loved ones this holiday season, please know how much we value all you do to make our district a supportive and thriving community. Together, we are building a brighter future for all.

With understanding and gratitude,

Christina Vera

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christina Vera". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

President, Columbus Board of Education