



November 11, 2024

Dear Columbus City Schools Community,

As we thoughtfully evaluate potential changes to our school facilities, I'd like to provide an update on the Board's progress and share reflections from recent visits to the nine school communities currently under review.

In August, the Columbus Board of Education entered a new phase of the realignment process, focusing on the nine schools identified by the Superintendent's Community Task Force as candidates for potential reconfiguration. From the start, the Board committed to a thoughtful, community-centered approach—one that included visiting each of these schools to ensure we make decisions that are respectful and informed.

Between October 28 and October 31, Board members Jennifer Adair, Michael Cole, Sarah Ingles, and I visited Broadleigh Elementary, Buckeye Middle, Eastmoor Middle Facility, Fairwood Elementary, Lindbergh Elementary, McGuffey Facility, Moler Elementary, North Linden Elementary, and West Broad Elementary. These visits were invaluable in helping us understand each school's unique strengths, needs, and challenges as we chart a path forward for the district.

During our visits, we had the privilege of speaking directly with students, staff, and families. They shared their concerns, ideas, and hopes—not just for their own school communities but for Columbus City Schools as a whole. Their voices reminded us of the importance of grounding our decisions in the realities and aspirations of those who will be most affected. This feedback strengthened our commitment to making decisions that are well-informed, responsive, and focused on positive outcomes for students.

The in-person tours allowed us to see firsthand each school's safety, functionality, and learning environment. We carefully observed classrooms, common areas, and infrastructure, gathering insights that will help us make thoughtful, equitable resource decisions across the district. These tours underscored the challenges we face but also highlighted the responsibility we have to make choices that are inclusive and meaningful for the district's future.

Our next step in this process is a **Special Board Meeting on November 14 at 6:00 P.M., at 3700 S. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43207**. This meeting will be a time for Board members to reflect on the recent school visits, engage in further discussion, and hear from community attendees. No formal actions will be taken at this meeting, and all are welcome to attend.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support as we work toward decisions that prioritize sustainable, high-quality education for every Columbus City Schools student, now and in the future.

With heartfelt appreciation,

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 City Schools Board of Education