

Building Brighter Futures Survey

September to October 2025

This survey was shared at the following meetings: parent open houses, campus staff meetings, regional community meetings, virtual community meetings, Student Advisory Council, and District Parent Advisory Council. The following comments were in response to the questions **“Do you have any questions or feedback?”**

Are the cuts we are going to make going to compromise the quality and integrity of student education at CMSD?
Are you guys considering merging buildings?
As a parent my main concerns would be the classrooms size how will each child get the proper attention for learning to make sure that are being taught properly. Second my concern would be transportation and safety how can we sure that child will be safe in a building with at least 450-500 students. Transportation will be able to get transporting through CMSD or will be left up to the parents to use public busing or up to us to figure out.
As a parent of an 8th grader, I would like to know what high schools will be open next year in a more timely manner.
As a student at Davis, I feel that building a brighter future would be very beneficial to CMSD's enrollment because may students choose high schools based on opportunity and status rather than proximity. For example, a lot of Davis students travel for greater that 45 minutes for our unique programs. Similar to how some students may not be attracted to Davis because we don't have sports.
As an ESL student at John Marshall Civic Business and Leadership I do not feel safe putting all the floors together. When I came to the John Marshall, the most impactful part was the personal advisory that I received and that helped made my pathway in the school easier. Combining all the floors together this might seem impossible. Having control of 500 students its not the same like 1500 students. Teachers can have more communication and control with their students having the small model scholars.
Bigger enrollment also takes away from strong personal relationships. I graduated with 50 students, and it was the best experience. It was a great community with great performance. Little by mighty.
Birth rates are out of CMSD's control, recruitment of students lost to charter and private are not. Gallagher is surrounded by students who do not attend for example we live at 74th and Franklin. There are 10 K-8 aged kids who live between our house, none of whom attend the school. We have to capture those families better, and early. PreK enrollment was a disaster. We had to fight tooth and nail to get our daughter into this school, even when her older brother already enrolled. How many families has CMSD lost for good because of this? We love Gallagher but we have to do better.
Building conditions =high report card rating for the schools across the district.
Bard 4.5 yet well below 80
Lage buildings dues not equal successful building with high report card ratings
Can highschool students possibly get transportation if they live on the opposite of town? Can girl sports get more awareness?

Can y'all close Tremont Montessori
Captured as part of table discussions. Thank you!
CMSD do not do a good job at advertising ex: why do CMSD keep making everybody try and use the internet? Some parents do not read and some parents or anyone can not read, so they do not feel comfortable using computers.... This is a downfall for CMSD and all of the communities.... "Fear of our digital world"
Collaborate with neighborhood development organizations to promote resources at local schools.
concerns about staffing in buildings due to school closing/consolidation when teachers are called to choose a new school--will they be able to find a school that has his/her grade he/she has been teaching for lot years. Loss of learning/slide as teachers none through changes
Could our school not merge with another school and work the same way the John Hay and Marshall schools work?
Do not wait until the end of this school year to announce the closure of school buildings. Staff and families need time to process and plan for these changes. You can save money by moving out of 1111 Superior Ave and cutting staff starting from the top-down! Please listen and consider the community's input.
Each classroom needs two individuals in the room CMSD and a volunteer (granny) pr aide to assist with maintaining control in the classroom so scholars can learn and be great. More vocational programs. Good leadership in the school building means a lot.
East Tech is the only high school in our community neighborhood since 1908. This is the only school in our that our kids have to continue to show up for their education. We need this school to operate, and show support their needs. East Tech Alumni support our scholars since 1993 for scholarship to encourage them to go to college. There is only one school in Ward 5 neighborhood. Where will our children be bus to out of their community. East Tech have 300 students that is remote on the 3rd floor. If you bring the 300 students in the school with the 450 that will bring the count to 750. This will account for keeping our school that will benefit their needs.
Enrollment is dropping everywhere. What is the district doing to ensure that we do not lose students to charter schools? As schools combine--especially HS--what is the district doing to ensure a low number of student conflicts due to mixing neighborhoods that may or may not have gang or street affiliations? How will the district continue to honor the CBA and staff choice? What will school of choice look like this year as we do not know which schools will be open or closed next year?
Ensuring that leadership is promoting what is best for the scholars that attend their current and perspective schools. Enrollment at Adlai Stevenson has plummeted significantly over the past 4 years due to leadership. The students and staff are ALWAYS told no when trying to have engaging/enriching events. There are no longer career days, science fairs, fall festivals, socio-emotional programs before or after school. Teachers barely have time to be in the building before the start of the day and after school has ended. What is very prominent is the yelling at scholars

and demanding quiet even at lunch. Adlai has good students, families, and staff, but drowning every day due to ineffective, spiteful leadership.
For academically achieved incoming freshmen, AP and honors should be offered, being a freshmen. Who is gifted its difficult to not to not be able to reach my fullest potential
For building capacity some students they live further than the east and west side to be transferred to closer schools.
Give better info about how you are making your decision be specific. This info just tells a little about enrollment an building conditions. Academics and students graduation hold a lot of weight.
Great vision for children.
Has switching from a K-8 model back to separate elementary and middle schools been considered? This would be the least painful way to close buildings, and it would create an environment that is much more conducive to learning for each of those groups.
Why is enrollment so high in some buildings and so low in others? Are we trying to figure out why
Have a Q&A. Decide and tell before Nov 1st no ballot for mayor Should be casted beforehand Gives the people a honest outlook
How are 8th graders make informed decisions on their HS choices in a timely manner? There are many private and charter schools marketing to our families as they see uncertainty about our district as an opportunity for our families.
How are the charter schools affecting enrollment on CMSD?
Are you going to stuff buildings above capacity when other schools are closed?
K-8 model is terrible
How are you going to tackle the lack of parent support?
How are you going to take into consideration special programs. The Montessori program has been in place for over 30 years and now has accreditation being the only public Montessori in Ohio with accreditation.? How will you take into consideration the fact that our building is used to capacity because we have spec ed that caps at 8 and pre k that caps at 20.? We have many many former students that bring their children to our school. There will be a big hole in the neighborhood without Tremont Montessori. The neighborhood supports and the location is ideal. If you look at the success of our former students it is clear of our impact. Many go to John Hay and other great HS, and on to college including Case. If we must close the school, we deserve a rebuild or stay intact

How are you planning for transportation options for fewer schools and greater distances families may have to travel with fewer school buildings?

Are you considering aftercare options for K-8 schools?

How will this impact specialty school programs like early college, Davis aerospace, Mc2STEM, School of the Arts, etc?

Where is region-specific data located if we missed the local meeting and attended a virtual meeting?

Is there a plan to replace the excellent resources from the now-defunct Transformation Alliance on individual schools? The landing pages on the CMSD website are woefully inadequate, lacking in detail and often not updated or maintained.

How can I find out about future community meetings?

How can we get the hospitals, in very close proximity, to rally and give financial assistance with our school (Bolton Elementary)?

How can we improve funding for older schools and keep northeast schools open or re-open for repairs?

How do you anticipate 100% of k-8 schools will have more than art, music, and PE if there's no money for extra programs. Are you taking into consideration student's stability and mental health. Some students call school home and attend their whole career. Also what about transportation and the needs of students with severe disabilities or long bus rides. I understand data, but all data needs to be looked at not just selected.

How do you determine what is a specialized school? Why isn't Louisa May Alcott considered a specialized school because it is k-5 only. Although they don't have sports its so many enrichment activities that the school has not to mention the academics. Alcott has the Alcott mile run, food strong garden, girls on the run, coach Sam's tutoring, girl and boy groups, community partnerships with Waverly Willis and haircuts, The near west theatre, esperanza, the centers, Bellefaire counseling, resource fairs, literacy and math nights, water department, and much more! I personally have been to several schools and this school is VERY different. The mayor choose our school last year to visit for read across America. The staff and administration are great and I am not just saying that. Please look at what sets Alcott apart from the other schools.

How do you determine when to shut down schools?

How does afterschool programming play a part in it? Like will America SCORES Cleveland be in the same schools if they merge. And will the partners on the community level that are after school programs continue to be charged for being at the school to give programming to schools and students for free? How does this all work. Our students deserve to have after school programming but if the nonprofits cannot afford to stay in the school because of excessive permit cost, how will that impact the kids?

How does CMSD plan to address issues that school closures will bring? Things that come to mind: difficulty for my student to attend school of choice due to influx of students, neighborhoods with no buildings at 80+ score meaning higher transportation needs. Will there be suggestions for which schools students should attend if their school closes? Are all closures happening 2026 or will there be phases to the closures? How soon will this information be given to parents?

How does the academic performance/state testing results impact which schools will close? Please focus on reading literacy for high school students as well. There are many students are below level in reading.
How does the experience at your top schools change for students in consolidation?
How transportation costs be impacted?
Will teacher performance be considered when making staffing choices?
How will a welcoming environment still be provided along with student life with these budget cuts?
How will changing building sites affect student's commutes? The SW region buildings over "80" do not have the open seats to take the students in the under "80" buildings. How far will these students need to go? Also for high school, what happens to athletes, mentor programs, other non-academic programs? Some of these are not to earn grad seals! Numbers are well and good, but what are the practical issues our students will face?
How will consolidating schools help our district other than the budget?
How will schools with classes that have a specific limit on the number of students (specific special education units be considered)? If all elem. schools have a goal of 450 will strict limitations be put on class size--class size affects instruction.
How will the Fall 2025-Summer 2026 timeline effect school choice? Will school choice be delayed? Will students who enroll in a school that gets closed or consolidated be able to make a new choice in where they go?
How will the feedback and input today be incorporated into the BBF decisions? Why would principals in attendance be shouted out, but only one assistant principal be included when others are in the building? This felt not only unprofessional, but incredibly disrespectful.
How would a Feb decision on closures impact high school choice/timelines? Thanks for the update on pre-K. Glad to hear CMSD is prioritizing. I live near a school that I anticipate closing due to size. How will the district work with City/CDCs, etc to roll this info out to residents? Gain their support of the new plan? and ideally make sure that empty buildings don't become neighborhood issues. thank you. really appreciated the district-wide data visuals, school by school.
I am confused why would close down Tremont Montessori when we have already spent years and money to train the teachers? I understand that the building is not in great condition but why would we waste all that money and time? I know we have two montessori schools but thats the reason multiple families have joined CMSD because of the amazing free programs
I am involved with the Refugee Resource Center. We have 787 families involved. I have come to appreciate the children's experience at the International school. My concern is the future of the school due to decisions being made in D.C.

I applaud the work of the teams and individuals that have been working on BBF. I know these are extremely complex and difficult decisions to be made. I appreciate the effort and information available via this presentation. I had heard a lot about the sessions but had not made it to one. Always helpful to have info that others have had to utilize as people outside of the District ask questions. The context about building conditions and capacity were very insightful. Also, as someone who has been in the classroom as well as leading a building, I appreciate the thought and communication around having multiple staff members teaching in the same grade bands and content areas. That is such a useful resource for educators and benefit to students, families and fellow staff members.

Speaking from a selfish standpoint, I'm in a role that works extremely closely with all of our Union partners. I know there is a lot of anxiety about this pending decision/recommendation and I am also expecting some fallout from the recommendation from certain Union partners. I do hope that things can be shared as soon as possible and that if our Union partners - one specifically at the top of mind, CTU - have a lot of pushback that the District is aware and can provide supports to those of us in Central Office that are working closely and regularly with the Unions. The Unions reactions and all of the follow up required is taxing on us in Central Office too.

I appreciate the direction to view more info on the website as I would have considered this a bit too general without knowing more specifics are available to review whenever we have questions or want to become even more informed. The graphics today were a huge help.

I continue to be deeply concerned that CMSD still does not acknowledge the vital role community-based programs especially those providing afterschool opportunities play in shaping the overall experience and success of its schools. I noticed that the individual school data sheets list only internal CMSD offerings and not community partnerships. These partnerships directly enhance the student and family experience, yet they are not recognized or included. Their omission seems to reinforce the disconnect between CMSD and the community organizations that have long contributed to its success.

It is also notable that many schools showing increased or stable enrollment have some form of non-CMSD afterschool programming. Data on which schools offer these types of programs, whether internal or external, deserves serious attention as the district considers its future strategy.

As a Cleveland resident and a parent of a child who should be entering kindergarten in CMSD, I can say honestly that our family would consider CMSD if afterschool options were reliably available, and by that, I mean consistent, structured programs that go beyond short-term clubs and serve younger students as well as older ones. Afterschool programming is an essential part of the educational ecosystem, particularly for families with young children and working caregivers. It directly supports attendance, engagement, family stability, and community safety.

Most afterschool programs do not come at a cost to the district. Many operate with an understanding of CMSD's budget challenges and are designed so that families pay little to nothing, recognizing the significant poverty affecting Cleveland. If CMSD already values athletics and keeps buildings open after hours for sports, then it should be equally feasible to support afterschool programs that enrich learning, strengthen families, and improve outcomes for students. It might also be worth examining whether athletics are providing the same developmental benefits that high-quality afterschool programs are known to deliver.

Without consistent and accessible afterschool opportunities, CMSD becomes an unviable choice

for many working families. I attended these meetings as a future parent, resident, and community leader, and I continue to feel frustrated by how little voice community partners and families are given in these discussions.
I did not see Ginn Thompson on the district list
I didn't see details on what's driving cost increases specifically. Also the schedule doesn't indicate when communities will know when their school closes. Seems like they should leave as much advance notice as possible.
I do not feel like any new information was shared, we know how the decisions are being made but what are the actual decisions?
I do not feel like I have more information based on that I already received information at a school meeting. Keep programs--yes update buildings. Trend with new buildings better enrollment
I do not feel more informed on how our recommendations will be incorporated
I don't feel like we are going to have enough time to plan for our family's future. Since we don't have the information about which schools are closing, we can't plan. I don't know about the average person, but I prefer to have more than a summer to figure out what is in store for something as important as my child's education. And for the teachers--how are they supposed to make rational decisions about their own careers in such a short time? Our school's family is so special, and I feel like the intangible priceless things are given such low priority in this process.
I don't think combining different schools on the same campus is a good idea. Each school has its own traditions, culture, and identity that makes it unique, and merging them could take that away. Instead of focusing on building new schools or campuses I think the district should first focus on improving enrollment rates. There's no point in building new facilities if there aren't enough students to fill them. It would be better to strengthen existing schools and attract more students before making big construction plans.
I feel frustrated when the school district is run like a business and does not value individual qualities from each school. Furthermore, I feel confused when my school, Davis is asked to continue out-performing other CMSD schools but the district is doing things that harm student performance such as switching to a traditional calendar instead of a year-round calendar.
I feel John Marshall shouldn't be combined because if it ain't broke don't fix it. We would have to figure out so much and such a short time
I feel like students' opinions need to be considered more when making decisions.
I feel like students would like to know what schools will be open when they get signed up in the school of choice portal. When will that data be released?
I feel like you should be offered the classes that other grades are offered rather than it not be offered at all. Whether it's a language or AP or Honors or even certain events or even college fairs.
I feel teachers should be more active in sharing what's going on with their schools.
I feel that one way we could do to add more students/make enrollment numbers go up is adding more life helping opportunities. I believe it is too much money spent on things that don't really matter. Offer more experiences.
I feel that the district is going to close all northeastern schools
I feel this is just a song and dance you already know the schools you want to close. You are taking a magic # of 450, but forget that some buildings also have a lot of special ed units that have capped space. The District already is 100 special ed units short this year. Also, the whole Board should be present at each meeting and all of the executives should actually sit at tables to listen to the community, not just talk to themselves.

I am advocating for Tremont Montessori to be kept intact as a program whether it stays in the current building or move to another building. The program has been around since the 80s and I have been part of the program for 30 years. I have had hundreds of students in my pre-K class and many of them have brought their own children back for me to teach them. I've seen countless students come through our program go onto successful high school careers, and college careers. many of them going into the school of science and medicine at John Hay and onto case. We currently have two sophomores on sophomores at Case on a full ride scholarship. Our enrollment took a dip during Covid because our children are a citywide draw, and men did not want to put their children on a bus at that time. Given the time we will rebuild our enrollment. In addition it looks as though we aren't utilizing our building however we have 100 preschoolers that aren't in the count. we also have many classrooms special ed students that are kept at eight. We also offer additional encores which use classrooms. All of our spaces are utilized and although it looks like we don't have enough kids to fill the space we actually do and that needs to be taken into account. The Tremont area is perfect for a Montessori program. We were given a new building in a different area, but the neighborhood supported us staying and we ended up staying in the current building. We have stood this test of time and in actuality, we have been in a "swing site" for 20 years And it's our turn to get a new building and keep our program intact. We have proven that we are a quality Montessori school through our accreditation with the American Montessori Society as the only public Montessori in the whole state of Ohio with this accreditation. There are eight Montessori schools in Cincinnati and not one of them is accredited we are starting to see people coming to us because of this. We are a crown jewel, and the district needs to promote us as such. In addition ,it is vital that you notify parents and teachers before elections and December 1 retirement notification date. Staffing is going to be a nightmare and Teachers need to be able to make a rational decision about their future.

I need to know what the decision is going to be. I feel like this is being dragged out too long and it is making staff very anxious devastating to our mental health.

I really appreciate the efforts being made to maximize the quality of programming in CMSD. I was thinking it would be great and easier if schools were merged into prek-5, 6-8, and high schools. It would make putting multiple grades in a school more attainable and developmentally appropriate.

I serve as Executive Director of Pre-Collegiate Programs at Case Western Reserve University. Aside from the K-12 programs we offer (<https://case.edu/gcr/pre-college-programs>), I'd be interested in hearing how our team can best support the community of scholars, families, and educators that are being impacted by these changes. Thank you!

I still don't understand how we are still paying a lot of money for specialty schools--we need to make tough decisions about expensive programs.

Have you looked at CFL/Panorama surveys? That is useful info from students at each school

Sometimes a smaller school setting is better for some students. One size fits all is not the best answer for all. Let's differentiate.

I think instead of shutting down CHSDA the district should merge CHSDA and Cleveland High School for the Arts

I think prioritizing the publics opinions are great but it should be an equal balance between opinions and numbers. That way the board keeps more power than the state or equal power.

I think specifically for Bard we have to consider the culture/student/teacher relationship: as it relate to building brighter future

I think that Rhodes RCCA has so much succesus from other schools in the distric, why try and change this. If students wanted to prepare themselves for a great future RCCA would be a good option.
I think that we should consider a child's home life and they way that they learn and their attention spans
I think the exodus of people moving to the inner-ring suburbs should be taken into consideration. Many of those children will be seeking asylum in Cleveland City Schools in the near future. That's a guarantee.
I totally understand CMSD's need to consolidate schools and reanalyze resource allocation. Our children attend Louisa May Alcott (LMA). We could not be more fond of their time there. If LMA closes, we will have no other choice to move out of the City. LMA may not meet the minimum thresholds the school district is looking for from a student capacity, etc., however, from raising children in Cleveland and CMSD, LMA is the gem of the school district in our opinion. The teachers care, the class sizes are appropriate, the facility is clean and is what a school should look like. I would ask that when CMSD is making their decisions to give special consideration to LMA. We ask that you keep it open as is, K-5.
I understand the enrollment issues that CMSD is facing; however, I would like more information on the data used to determine how the district plans to condense schools thoughtfully and successfully. What data aside from building conditions and enrollment data is being used? Graduation rate? Testing data? Behaviors? Will our schools be able to offer services needed by our students (social workers, more counselors). Has the district looked for community partners that could work with us to offer more technical programs in our schools (automotive program at Max Hayes)?
I will be emailing Megan Skelly
I will like to know how this going to affect the school closures the pre-K department and what schools are they merging I will like more information on the merge and school closings what are the consideration when staff will be notified . What can we do to keep our school open thanks
I would just prefer that we dont merge the schools because me and other people feel like the different schools help us practice for our future career journey
I would like to know what date the board will be releasing their final decision.
I would like to see specific data that was considered when making the building score
I would suggest that recommendations to the board be provided by the end of the calendar year so decisions are made in early 2026, uncertainties in CMSD school offerings for fall of 2026 could exasperate enrollment challenges
If a school with the capacity for three classes per grade level has low enrollment and a low building condition score, will they fix it up or close it down?
If co-located schools will be merged, will the District form a task force to determine how to best integrate programs, staff, departments, administration, etc. CMSD's small school model seems more effective than large comprehensive high schools. If we are to move to one big integrated high school, will CMSD ask for input from staff on how to best merge these discrete schools into one big school?
If they do decide to make John Hay a one school what does it mean for the students? Like how would they do classes or lunch would they make kids move since its just one school?
If we merge bard for example with marshall then the student/teacher ration will be of like one teacher with 50 students
If were to merge I wouldn't really like that because there are people that wanna do alot of clubs but some people are not aloud to because there is too many people

I'm unclear about basic offerings (non-additional offerings). If Algebra 1, art, music, and physical education are "additional offerings," what else is currently being offered? In other words, could you spell out the basic curriculum as it is now?
In lieu of building improvement or creation of new buildings (because that takes time), I would love to help connect intrepid CMSD students to the Cleveland entrepreneurial community and generate programming that not just uplifts CMSD but the whole Cleveland community—creating a healthy and sustainable recruitment system for years to come.
Increase and maintain safety supports for students as you change their schools to avoid fights and absenteeism.
Is there a possibility that NTW can be merged with another school?
Could there be CMSD designated bussing (RTA) considering that people feel unsafe with other passengers?
Is there any discussion on going back to the K-5 and 6-8 building model?
Is there any discussion of doing neighborhood schools with the option of specialty school within where students live?
Will class sizes increase? We need to make sure that classrooms are not overcrowded to meet the needs.
It is great to include student outcomes, but this should be in the primary data with enrollment and building conditions. Building score updates need to be updated.
It sounds small schools co-located are a good model. 500 students for high school is a sweet spot. Getting to 1,000 might be too big and easy to lose students thru the cracks. Upper admin (central office) cuts are another way to cut costs.
JMCBL is special and gives our students, especially our ESL students a safe place to grow, while offering large school experiences, with college credits, electives, sports, and clubs.
John Marshall is the best of both worlds please don't change this.
Just a suggestion: to thoroughly listen to each Educator, Parent, and Student's passions when it comes to making decisions for today's children
Just make the announcement already
Like that people back the school levies People are behind you! Find out why do they back you? Build on that I strongly back Natividad Pagan as a model and needed school. Please include input from them Good information, well presented and easy to understand
Listen and support Parents . Flexible and advance in time.
Look at future projections of new housing and apartment unit in neighborhood. Look at reorganizing services to provide equal programming in each building. Look at ways to get those attending alternative schools to return to CMSD.
Marion Seltzer is under construction. Mary Church Terrell and Louisa May Alcott are the schools in that area. Can the District afford to be absent in the community with high voter turnout and property value for long?

Meet with Mayor Bibb about CMSD securing all the funds raised by 3 takes designated for Comprehensive Extracurricular Activities Program and Stadium repairs as stadium repairs are no longer needed (About 20 million annually)
Work with Cleveland Teachers Union on a ballot initiative to require City of Cleveland to reimburse school system for tax abatements (About 28 million per year)
move back to middle school K-5 models
Bussing?
Lets talk about the school and neighborhood data...you aren't speaking about the things we need to talk about
Capacity? Schools are over capacity but you want to add more students?
My biggest concerns are as schools are consolidated, how will the district ensure student safety from gang/street issues? How did facilities rank the buildings for %/state of the buildings? What changes will occur to ensure an upward trend in the new standard?
My concern is that schools will become overcrowded when other schools are closed. We need to keep classroom sizes down in order to provide quality instruction. School safety has to be a top priority.
My daughter attends Band. I was hoping this meeting would of shared insight if Band was to close and if the program was to remain how would it work to benefit the scholars in a different building if combined with another school
My focus is on why we are consolidating or considering to consolidating the top schools knowing the state report card's rating is a little contingent of the top school's score? I'm a student at John Hay Early College and I'm the top of my class. I wonder if all Hay schools come together my rank could possibly go down and my ability to apply for rank based scholarships will be cut. Most of the opportunities we have on a local/district level, its a state level. College credit plus is a state program there's not a need to strip all of this if everything is state programmed. Ardae Perry, 11th grade 216 334 9195 please contact me for more info
My granddaughter attends Louisa May Alcott school and she is a special-needs student. She is in a wheelchair a lot of the time and the school is laid out in such a fashion that it's extremely easy for her to move around the space and also to use her walker and other means of trying to facilitate her eventually walking.. the ability to drop her off and pick her up from school is very good. The staff and caregivers there are very good and it's located in a residential area that makes its accessibility very good.. overall I would have to rate Louisa May Alcott for facility and staff as excellent.
My question is how can we gonna deal with the transportation issue? If we close down schools in neighborhoods, were are the local children gonna go? And wouldn't this lead to a further decline in enrollment? I full agree that certain schools need to combine to make improvement. However, if kids can't make it to school will we put them on public transportation? A lot of the ideas to the plan don't have clear solutions
NA
New tech should get moved to another school and not just get shut down
No
No spending money on non-student affairs and more field trips for students to explore their options when trying to find a career they would enjoy.
No way we are merging

none
Not just talk to H.S students--K-8 students have voice and future with CMSD
offer more college class or more honors class because rhodes doesnt have any honors classes and i want to take some.
One of my concerns, beyond if our school will continue to exist, is how we are serving our students. Data and research shows that students thrive in smaller classes, yet my school is consistently being pushed to have up to 30 students in a classroom. How will we deal with this.
One of the buildings could be used for a district behavior school much like PEP.
Parents and students are concerned about the timeline for making these choices. Reworry is about confusion and frustration with a quick turnaround times. How do we preserve and grow things that are special while still making equitable opportunities
Place some specific time bound windows around the timeline that it is clear when info coming and when decisions will be made
Please collect data about the various reasons that families have chosen their school. It is painfully reductive to be making decisions based purely off of building size and condition and "planning capacity" when: Not all class types have equal class sizes (special ed 8 person caps. Montessori schools have 3-grade classrooms. Tremont Montessori has special ed classrooms and PreK which are not accounted for in class size/planning capacity numbers! TM is Montessori accredited and only public Montessori in Ohio that has this. Measure this, show this. You will be getting rid of elements that made us choose CMSD over private options! So the impact of closing a given school is knowable. Show us.
Please consider more than the primary data--outcomes distance traveling to school, barriers while walking to school are all very important considerations.
Please consider your merge of buildings. This could create animosity among staff members and students.
Please ensure SEL of our students is the most important consideration as you move forward
Please establish or allocate at least 2 school in every region one for students with special needs if they are kept in normal schools, they may slow down education. And one school for excellent students with high grades as an example and model CMSD school.
So all I am saying that lets work on qualities as well
Thanks
Please more flexibility time for the parent who work in work not has flexibility. Transportation is a issue our drive dont has empathy with autistic students. Please they need training about customer service.
Please save our building and renovate it
Push back against government mandates which categorically undermine public education
Focus on legitimate metrics for evaluating schools to keep them open.
Question I will like to see high schools with trade programs like culinary cosmetology health education classes I will like to know if they can create kindergarten aides or teacher aides to support the teacher that have 30 or more students this will be very beneficial for their learning .

Reasoning has been written first and suggestions second. Please read in its entirety.

I understand that CMSD needs to make adjustments. There is no way CMSD can continue working with the budget it has. I also understand that school buildings need to close. However, we need to be wary in how we go about in making such adjustments and modifications. For instance, the reason why comprehensive high schools in Cleveland were converted to smaller schools within a building was to [1] create a smaller community structure where all staff knew each other and were able to collaborate with each other [2] for staff to know all students [3] for students to know all teachers. Our kids need smaller community structures due to their constant negative factors surrounding them outside of the school structure.

Looking back at my experience as student, I can honestly say I loved the small school structure I experienced as part of a special program at Lincoln West. I had the opportunity during my freshman year to participate in a special program called the Magic Program. It was modeled like the current small high school models we have in some of our high school buildings. One hundred and fifty 9th grade students all saw the same core teachers, and we all knew each other.

Then, from sophomore year and on, we kept the same homeroom teacher, but we were all integrated into the comprehensive high school. Having the same homeroom teacher all four years helped a lot. She knew all of us, and was a great support. Nonetheless, it was no longer the same. There was no longer a small tight community. The connection between staff members as well as students was distant and disconnected. I no longer knew who my classmates were.

During my freshman year, I made friends. And, we supported each other, as we had many of our classes together. For our sophomore year, our schedules were created so that we saw some of our fellow Magic Program classmates. However, towards my junior year, we were all scattered all over the place. It was no longer the same. I didn't know who my classmates were, and I felt alone. There was no longer that tight community I felt so at ease during my freshman year.

Moreover, I still remember that from the 900 plus 9th graders that began 9th grade with me, only 240ish graduated. And guess what, more than half of the graduating class were part of the Magic Program. That says something. It is hard fact data. Smaller does mean better.

That is not costing that all the behavioral issues (fights, etc) in our building were all from the comprehensive section of our high school. Our dear Magic Program seldom had a behavioral issue, but we always heard about the craziness happening in our building.

Therefore, my suggestion is as follows.

If you are combining high schools, please try to keep the small schools model. Something similar like John Marshall that has three different schools within one building. For example, you are able to combine Bard, New Tech West, and / or another smaller school into one building. Don't break what is working. If they are high performing high schools, why disintegrate them?

In addition, when combining schools please keep in mind capacity levels per building square footages. I don't know if this was taken in consideration. During the meeting, I learned that your goal is to have 500 students per high school. However, I don't believe the enrollment of 500 students per high school may be the best plan. You should base the enrollment on building capacity. For instance, John Marshall is one building that will have an enrollment of 1500 students (500 per high school or floor, plus staff members.) Nonetheless, James F Rhodes and Garrett Morgan, which are almost as big as John Marshall or probably bigger will only will have 1000 enrolled students because it only has two small high schools within the building. Max Hayes, which is stand alone high school will also only have 500.

Replicating specialty programs across East and West sides

Reps need to spend time in each building to base their decisions off of. Not threaten a friendly educational visit is important.
Small schools support scholars. Don't combine John Marshall into one school.
Some concerns about safety and transportation
Speaking for John Adams specifically, if we're trying to give the students the best learning experience, you can't merge them with rival areas. That would do more harm than good. Also, if we want to build brighter futures, can we create career pathways that they're actually interested in? Think in the mind of cosmetology or gaming and lastly, offer more than gym and art for electives.
Spend your budgets wisely and responsibly, use it on better building plans also better programs that are more helpful for college prep
Still a lot lacking
There are a lot of factors not considered as far as safety for students and staff.
Stop knocking down the empire from the bottom, start from the top
Stop planning for Lincoln-West--enrollment is only 33% with a steady decline--money can be used to close deficit
Teachers, MLTs and department have been asking a lot of questions about job retention. I know principals and APs have been notified but what other positions may also be cut based on BBB?
Tell the truth most of this info is public record
Stop taking peoples voice and fluffing your long speech
Start on time and stop talking so much its community time
Tell us the schools that are not closing. Tell us the schools that are under evaluation. We know schools need to close. Be honest and stop trying to hide this decision until it is to late to get community feedback and ability to hear feedback.
Thank you for the update!
Thank you for this space to become informed on the vision for CMSD. I am the parent of two young children who attend Tremont Montessori school. We have had an amazing experience with the education they have received. We are not residents of Cleveland, we actually live in Brooklyn, Ohio but we jumped at the chance to have them attend the Montessori program at Tremont. We as parents of students are begging you all to please not take this wonderful program away from our students, staff families and community!! While I do understand the struggles with enrollment and building conditions, if there was a way to repurpose a school or merge the program into another school that would be a better option. But please consider not taking this wonderful program away. The staff and administrators at Treamont have been nothing but amazing and supportive to our children and families. Thank you again for the time dedicated to hosting these very informative meetings. Have a wonderful day!
Thank you for using data to drive your decision making. As enrollment grows as a result of building brighter futures, please consider class size. No student should be in a classroom with over 30 students, its simply not conducive for learning. The return of traditional neighborhood schools should be considered. Return to K-5 and 6-8 models. Why do some schools have a strong enrollment? Is it due to programming that is offered? Provide the community more data, this is great info but additional information is needed. Perhaps give more on the timeline, other than 'seasons'.

The futuro looks good

I just hope that teachers don't lose their jobs

I hope the Especial education students keep their programs without cutting

I hope the number of student per class be lower

The information shared was informative and a fraction of what will be used to finalize recommendations. I encourage to use additional foresight in the model when determining who h buildings will remain open. Then have renovations made to meet the 100% building conditions goal that the district does not then turn around and close those buildings later. Thus causing inefficient use of goals. Also considering impact to the community overall, academics and equity of resources must all be considered in connection with information shared. Thank you for sharing h th is information and hopefully obtaining real take away that benefit the district overall.

The meetings did not fully explain where the constraints showed up. Targets were expressed, but the factors which led to their selection was not clear. What is missing is how it relates to other Ohio county/state peers. Without a clear definition the goals feel insignificant as an optimization vector. I would want to understand how efficiencies are achieved and measured with this factor. There was no definition of shortfall and full context to drive decisions. There are other limiting factors which govern other support metrics/ special needs and other items which were contextualized.

The stated enrollment goals for high schools (500) and pre-k thru 8 (450 I believe) are a good start. Based on the current and projected enrollment the district must know how many schools are needed thus how many schools should be closed (for example: CMSD ONLY NEEDS 60 buildings vs the 100 currently open). Clearly the location of the remaining schools is key however factors such as required capital and maintenance costs (age related or other) is also crucial in the decision making process. Success and focus of the existing schools is also important. If available, sharing these details would help the community “get its head around the task at hand”. If this is going to be implemented by the start of the next school year now is the time to share it.

The timeline is too broad, we want to know when we will be informed of decisions to close or merge schools. You keep saying that the data doesn't show that Cleveland children are going to charter/online/other districts...where is this data? What other sources of federal/state funding have you sought to close the financial gap?

As a staff member, I want to know as soon as possible what my options are and begin the seemingly inevitable transition. As a special education teacher, I want to help my students and their families feel good about the further limited choices they face. As a CMSD parent (by choice, we live out of district!), I am saddened that my child will have to endure another change, that we have so few good options for her education, and that none of these options will be in a district looking to pack kids into classrooms and buildings to save money while continuing to spend on unused or underused programs, technology, initiatives, administrators, etc.

The westside specialty schools have excelled with one hand tied behind their backs for years. The buildings are awful and yet enrollment is high (Valleyview/DMAC) these students deserve better. Especially the girls, they have earned consideration.

The gender schools are amazing! They are productive, affective and there is an obvious appetite for this learning model.

There is a correlation between the low enrollment K-8 Southwest schools and the building conditions. The schools with the lowest enrollments have the worst conditions of buildings. The environment, condition and location of the schools do have an impact on the community of learners and teachers.

There is no plan to address the low level of literacy of the students. Staff will be cut but they should be placed 2 teachers per class, co-teaching for 3-5 years, to make a lasting impact on the students growth in learning to read & do basic math. These students keep getting pushed through your system due to politics not achievement. Celebrate after a huge win not 4%. That's terrible. Save money on actual buildings not staff so the students can benefit! Make a choice to put student achievement first!

There should be more events and opportunities to get communities involved with the district in order to help with enrollment. Also, stationing college and career specialists in more schools should be considered vital to plans for college readiness changes

This was very helpful. I'm a district partner, and this was helpful to understand how changes may impact my program as well as understand why it's been difficult to run larger teams at our school sites (not enough classrooms). Additionally, as a Lakewood resident where we are preparing to close a school, it's helpful to see that the low enrollment struggle is felt across the region/state. I wish everyone could see that declining birth rates are at the epicenter of the issue, and it's not a matter of marketing the district. Thank you for providing this wonderful webinar - I look forward to seeing CMSD continue to thrive and improve!

Tremont is an amazing school. It is so beneficial for the children. Keep us open!

Tremont Montessori is the first and only AMS accredited public elementary school in the state of Ohio. The entire Tremont Montessori family worked extremely hard for many years to achieve this amazing accomplishment.

The Montessori program was moved to Tremont in 2005 when two schools, H. Barbara Booker Montessori and Dike Montessori, merged. At that time the district had made the commitment to a new building and even brought a 3D model to the school of the proposed building. The Tremont community did not want the program to move, and the plan was put on hold.

We do not want our building to close since that would compromise our program. Administration could change, teachers would need to reinterview for their current positions, and we could lose students due to the negative connotations of a building closure.

If it is determined that we can't stay at our current location, we want our entire community to move to a swing site, including all students and teachers, administrators, office, kitchen, and custodial staff. Every single member of program has been pivotal to our success.

One option is a return to our former building, H. Barbara Booker. The building's name was to honor our former principal, Helen Barbara Booker, that advocated for Montessori education in CMSD.

We were not permitted to bring the name to Tremont when we were moved 20 years ago. We could return to the building when Marion Seltzer moves into their new building and return the name to honor Mrs. Booker.

Merging with another school would also compromise our program and our accreditation.

Location should also be considered to support the Montessori program.

Please take this information into consideration. Our program offers a unique opportunity for CMSD scholars. Thank you for supporting the Montessori program.

Try your hardest to not close the schools please. Our Principal at miles park is the very,very best she is great with our kids and she keeps them safe in their school she is so great and a very good person to all the kids there. She does so much for them and she is very,very respectful to everyone

in her school if there is ever a way to Honor her please do so her name is. Mrs. Ivroy please she is so great and she has treated my family with all the respect that she has best person
Tutoring return to schools Keep community informed Trades back in school Bus transportation for school choice
Understand that Seltzer and Louisa May Alcott are the only schools in the area. Please don't make our families go to charter schools.
Unless CMSD changes its philosophy of having schools that only focus on attendance and turn a blind eye to behavioral issues in order to maintain that student numbers rather than student success.
Use finances that will be beneficial for all schools collectively. Have more ways to hype up schools to get more kids to enroll/know about the schools. For finances, try more charity type of events. Make more schools known throughout the city. We don't have enough time to get from class to class (3 minutes).
we merge some schools together some schools dont want to shut down so it would be better to merge. The Highschool New Text West should get a possibility of getting merged with another
We need data on how many students have moved to charters. We need data on safety and CFL surveys. It seems like the capacity issues are worse at the high school level, and high school students have more ability to get to a school that is further from home than elementary students. Therefore it would make sense to consolidate them first.
We need more classes experienced for childrens future. When combining these schools together what if the change is worst then what it was. And when combining schools that's even more money being transferred to schools needs how ill that be established? Not only that but building sizes. If there isn't enough space how will that be controlled? transfer to different schools also have to think about an parent's payment towards funding for students education how will that need be provided. An issue also needed to be cleared for Glenville schools are proper education for the field of their future but there arent alot of classes that allow the students to be in there needs to be college classes or the students in an 4.0 and higher and security for our school safety. is that going to be established? Also better food and nutritional items
We need to have more help in the schools
We should stop relying on levies to fund schools. Our funds should come from tax dollars. If all departments gave .5% or maybe less of their budget it wouldn't impact the departments very much but would make a huge impact for CMSD
What are the main determining factors which will drive the decision making process?
What can we do to get more enrollment in Cleveland school
What considerations are being looked when combining schools whose neighborhoods are in conflict? Also for schools like JFK, who has a history of being a school with a lot of fights, what

staffing considerations are being taken? How is special education being conducted in regards to college and workforce readiness?
What is the plan and process for establishing and maintaining school culture, which is much more impactful than a new building? I do understand that new buildings are important and our students deserve it, but the teachers are the ones changing and shaping kids lives.
What is the vision for remote education in the District? Are there plans to market the remote option to parents or utilize the platform for instruction to more audiences?
What was Dr Morgan referencing specifically when he said “there is more we can do with central office to be more in line with our finances.”
Is there any discussion of changing the k-8 model to a k-5 6-8 model?
What will happen to the Northeast region schools, especially high school?
When consolidating highschoools, what will happen to the teachers? Will there be too many or will there be not enough? If there's too many will the teachers be fired or moved? If there's not enough will teachers be moved into the schools?
When consolidating school communities, I think it is important to get information from both students and staff. I believe that the voices of students of what should be fixed and or added to make the school community more safe, inclusive, and active is just as important as any other.
When consolidating school what school would stay and which one's would go away.
When is the announcement? How can we plan for changes? How will you incorporate community data?
When will the decisions/recommendations be made?
When will we find out what facilities will be shut down? What are the actual dates?
While I appreciate that senior leadership is taking their time to come to an informed decision, as someone with the opportunity to interact with both families and staff, us not giving a more concrete timeline for the final recommendation list is sowing a lot of distrust both internally and externally. I have been to many of these BBF meetings, and the parent participation has dropped off dramatically with each meeting. This is a symptom of a greater problem: the families are not convinced that we have their best interests in mind. Even worse, there are rumors that we know more than we are letting on. Moving the date to potentially January or February is not giving families enough time to plan, especially when it comes to high school decision making for those with 8th grade transitioning students. The lack of clarity —and frankly, transparency— is making school staff nervous and uncomfortable. These emotions directly translate to their ability to communicate with students in the classroom, making families even more uneasy. “If I don’t have a job next year/our school is closing, what’s the point.” I am begging you to make the decision sooner rather than later. Our district is suffering as a result of inaction.
While information was presented, timelines were vague and decisions on schools to stay open or closed is still ambiguous.
Why are the leadership academies under enrolled? (K-8)
What is the purpose of these meetings, how will this info be utilized?
The data in the packet is incomplete, since those in attendance aren't able to see the full picture, how will you ethically make decisions with feedback from these meetings?
Why are we building new schools?
Why put AP classes in ALL highschoools if that's not what the students might want or need?

Why are we merging if every student has different diseases. Them having such options is now it makes it us but merging in makes it pointless. Also, not every student need or want to take the same classes.
Why aren't student outcomes higher on your priority list?
Why aren't PK-5 schools being considered?
Why don't other school combined in sports?
Why is student outcomes not part of the primary data? Will the building improvements currently being done be factored before the final outcomes are made?
Why is the timeline so secretive? Just rip the band-aide off.
Please look at safety and security info when making decisions. I don't want my kid going from a safe small school to a large school with lots of fights
Tell the truth. You just want to close boiler buildings regardless of safety.
Why not combine all 3 schools into one?
Will a buy out be offered to more senior staff?
What is being done to recruit more students to attend our CTE programs?
Will a new high school be built in NE corridor to replace Collinwood and/or Glenville?
How will the date ensure equity after we have been misled in the past?
Will high school enrollment be looked at by grade level or only as the whole building?
Will school like Mc2Stem be merging with others and I wouldn't like because I like being in the college setting
Will the west side near west region still have a Montessori program? I do not want to drive my grandchild all the ay to Glenville every day.
Would the choice portal still be available if many schools get closed down to home locations?
Yes, I had left the meeting with a few questions still: One, is the goal of the closures and consolidation to close the gap between the red and the green in that chart about finances, or will these next steps take CMSD into the black on the budget? Two: To what degree are the closures being analyzed? (i.e. Collinwood holds upwards of 1500 students, but the state of the facility is one of the poorest in terms of upkeep. So is shutting down the big expensive school more valuable long term vs consolidating a bunch of kids into Collinwood so that all their assets can help make Collinwood withstand a long-term renovation) Someone had answered my question about how faculty will be treated, as in CMSD doesn't just fire everyone, they try and spread them out, especially to fill the gaps that will be created when all the schools that are kept reach their building capacity [they may not be the same in terms of staffing capacity]. These were the concerns I wanted to make sure were addressed when I was asking that second question. Third- and it's contingent on if the first question's answer is that there's room in the budget: If these closures are for sure happening next year, not in the middle of this year, then shouldn't the ball be ready to roll after the holidays to make a transition kind of team; people who, after vetting (like I've already seen the school district do in other regards) can assist whichever families say they will need assistance if the school they relied upon closes. School transportation, and things of that nature. I believe it's possible, so long as the other issues aren't in objection, and the transition can be quite smooth. My name is _____. I was at the meeting just today, on the 14th. Lastly, I believe the pandemic has a

bigger dip on enrollment than birth rates, but I understand I may be biased because I only came to CMSD because of the pandemic moving my family from Florida. Just saying, and take care.

You are missing a crucial school model in your planning. Many parents of young children find the PreK-5 model appealing, particularly when first enrolling their young ones. We don't want our young, impressionable children molded by teenagers! The needs of adolescents are vastly different than those ages 3-11. Some parents with children in different grades may appreciate keeping their children together as they grow but often the complaint is that younger children suffer. And, as has been repeated, people are having fewer children and keeping siblings in the same school is less and less of a concern. Please consider adding MORE Pre-K-5 schools in your plans, in each community.

Families want smaller classroom sizes in schools in their community. Even the least knowledgeable parent is primarily concerned with class size because they know their child will get more attention.

- How is CMSD going to attract families back to CMSD instead of losing them to charter and private school options?

-Will Mayor Bibb do more to help CMSD? The city is continuing to grow, but how can we bring more families here instead of suburbs?

- How will CMSD communicate the changes of schools to current and upcoming families?

-I suggest CMSD should HEAVILY invest and consider doing school fairs to help community members understand the great options the district has.

-When will CMSD start looking into grant funding for before and after care? Families are struggling with child care. Enrollment would rise if school offered these services to families. All the community members I know of in surrounding suburbs have these options, CMSD does in few locations.