

# Notes from July 11, 2023 DPS61 Board of Education Meeting

These are rough notes taken during the meeting. They contain many minor errors. They are to be used as an assistive guide, not an authoritative reference. There are likely many details absent from these notes

- beth romak. Retired from dps. Subbed last year. Taxpayer. Retired 2014. Returned after 8 years. Shocked at discipline and violence issues. Shocked at struggling students with basic skills. Don't believe it's been fully addressed. 3rd grader coming back to 5th grade after pandemic would be hard. Here to plead for wisdom. Praying for you. Take a step back with important decisions. Praying for student discipline and student academics.
- breanna pierson. 4th grade teacher at dennis. Thank you for listening and keeping us together. Asking for a plan for the future. Student taught at dennis & been at dennis since. A lot of ... teachers?? Are leaving. Section C personal belongings would be moved for them, but story changed & now it's taking up space in their garages. Waited several hours for someone to get her stuff. A higher up asked how it was going & was trying to fix it. Under contract, couldn't make anyone do it or move personal belongings. Asked for email clarification, but didn't get it? Folks not willing to help pack. Questions about compensation for room tear down, packing, unpacking, etc.
- colleen vietengruber and kaylee sangster. Colleen teaches 6th math. Met with staff ... not enough admins. Admins overworked & hopping between two buildings. Being asked to do too much. Dr. Clark said necessary to have a 2nd head principal. Found out losing an assistant principal. Down to 2 admins. How can every other k8 have more admins than us when we have more students. We need 3 admins. P
- mark klaus. Moved here during pandemic. Had a hard time finding preschool & went to motnesddori academg for peace. 1st grader at dennis. Highlight some things he's heard from his peers in the community. Shock and disbelief that he would pull his montessori kids and put them in dennis. He agrees with scheiders comments about old buildings in europe. Take a breath, make sure we're doing things so the next group of kids can reap the benefits. Equity report teachers had requested. Thinks dennis is behind other schools in the district. Dennis is pbl, so let's include the students in this. Wants to see support for the teachers & compensation.
- krista hudson. HS dept chair at GLA. Advocating for gla. 2nd building lost in 2 years. Was told would have own space ... now told not getting enough classrooms. Need 13, initially given 7. Negotiations in progress. Thanks Dr marino. Only 1 hr a day to use the gym. Were k-12. What about when kids need recess and can't go outside bc weather. What about JH & HS kids. Will they get any gym access? (Sounds like no). Principal has resigned. Who is going to be that? Dianne has stepped up as asst, but she can't do it alone.
- jake tolbert. Parent of dennis 8th grader. Transparency. Will made a plea a couple weeks ago. The last couple years have not been great for this board. Sense is school board can't be trusted. There's this sense the board is bad guys keeping secrets & this is your chance to shatter that perception. Think about how you make the choices you're making & how you present the info. Understands some things aren't disclosable. Think about not just your responsibility to educators & students, but also to the community, to the physical properties & physical wellbeing of the community. Concern of urban decay. This could feed into that and make it worse, if we walk away from the buildings.
- gretchen tipsworth. Mother of rising 2nd grade dennis student. Anxieties & concerns this summer. Thanks to you & these board meetings, we feel confident you're doing your best. Thank you for putting kids first. Gla does not have a playground. Worked hard on a playground project last year through pbl. Kids need place to unwind and play.
- clevenger asked if anyone not on list would like to speak.

Clevenger. Transparency. We're gonna try our best to keep community informed. School starts back aug 14th.

Board discussion. None.

Reports from admin.

Clark. It is a challenge addressing everyone's concerns. We are open to suggestions but cannot violate a union contract. Gla admin will determine class assignments etc. 62 gla students enrolled at this time. Stephen D will remain in building & move some things around.

There will be 16 modular classrooms & district admins will filter & determine classroom assignments, etc.

Pic is of sample modular, not actual modular. Will send a survey asking if parents will utilize bussing.

Metzger. School starts aug 14th & some modulares may not be complete installation til aug 31 to sept 3rd. Etc etc.

Clark. Will add playground. Athletics will remain intact. Parents start thinking about a babysitting plan bc we may have a delayed start date. Admin moved & admin left. Those conversations have started.

Need analysis of all facilities. Will not be using BLDD to have someone not connected with dps. Will then involve community after assessments.

Gym for an hour ... gla starts 2 hours before SDms. 2 admins will need to work that out.

Dion. Q for kent. Bottleneck at 51. Is that construction city or idot? Metzger says idot. What's that look like for delivering large loads? Metzger talked to vendor & they'll hafta work out logistics with idot.

Collins Brown. Question about security with modular classrooms. Normally single entrance / buzz in, etc. Metzger hoping small kids inside gla building. Older children in modular. Visitors still reqd ti go to front door & "raptor" in. Will install cameras internally & externally in modulars. Talking about limiting vehicle access. CB asks about playground. Woll it be perma fizture? Metzger says yes. Trying to free up playground crew and break ground tomorrow. Playground is in stock.

Al scheider. Ty for timeline. Asks about masonry ppl. Wants ti know where we are with it. Metzger says have contacted those folks. Have gotten some i fo back & will pursue more. 2 masonry experts have been in touch. One looked at kaleidoscope & spent mucb time. 2nd had to expedite arrival to get off roof before storm last week. Still waitinf on reports. Havs prelim info rn. Says community asking for transparency & we want to be logistical in putting info together to provide a complete idea to present to the public. We have a significant plan & gotta being it all together for you (costs, timeline, etc). Scheider asks about district wide analysis and masonry thing. Clark says they go together. Scheider thinks board needs to discuss if these repairs should be handled separate from other district wide analysis, and wants board to discuss before district wide analysis. Questions about how long DLS will stay at GLA and if a new building will be built. Would like student, staff, and community input about coming back to dls asap or stay at gla.