

A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION ON DISTRICT-WIDE SCHOOL REDESIGN

June 12, 2017

Participants were asked to provide feedback on their experience and to provide comments. Results for all respondents were:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
The conversation was informative and helpful.	1 .8%	20 16%	78 62%	27 21%
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.	4 3%	14 11%	91 73%	15 12%
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.	3 2%	12 10%	81 64%	30 24%
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.	12 10%	28 24%	61 52%	17 14%

Participants were invited to check all the following identifications that applied to them: Community Organization Representative, District Office Staff, Parent/Family Member, School Principal, Teacher/Staff, Student, School Governance Council Member, or Other.

Following are their responses and comments subdivided by the group(s) with which they identified themselves.

***Please note: The comments below were taken verbatim from the Community Conversation participant feedback forms.**

Parent/Family Member Responses

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.		7	13	3	
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made. <i>Not enough time.</i>		5	15	1	
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas. <i>But not with the right people. Questions were unclear and facilitator was unsure of what was being asked.</i>	1	4	15	2	
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making. <i>Unsure.</i>	4	5	11		1

What was most helpful to you?

Hearing from educators in HP Schools. Do this activity in schools! (with kids)

Dr. Torres pointing out the characteristics of good schools was an effective reminder.

The discussion on all topics and questions.

Good to hear there will be school consolidation, cost will be reduced RE: Infrastructure - so resources can be focused on teacher training and education of students.

Meeting other parents and stakeholders, and hearing their perspective.

Talking with other parents.

Seeing who was part of the group discussions; knowing that our voices could be heard.

Saber más sobre las escuelas públicas. (To know more about the public schools).

Speaking with others at my table listening to their views, etc.

Listening to other perspectives other than by uninformed parents

All that was talked about was very important, but we need to have more of this. It's good to know how other parents are feeling and also teachers.

Talking with other people who are involved in the District in different capacities and hearing other perspectives.

That they only tried to plan this matter, but they are not really trying to help with the funding; extend this to all kids from each school and all grade levels.

The group discussion as they were individualized.

Listening to others and hearing their opinion and getting their insights.

Starting point of many conversations

What else do you want to say?

"Specials" (art, music, sports, hands on learning (metal/wood), cooking, graphic design; computer learning should be in ALL middle and high schools. We need better resources for special education teachers and more TEACHERS OVERALL.

I think the District should really keep in mind that schools are a part of community cohesion. If schools are to close, really consider the community and which resources are in that school.

Lets keep the faith - Pray for much needed change.

City needs to be heavily involved. Education is key component to turning Hartford and CT around. We can and should do better for our children.

This was more about unloading a lot of info onto attendees and less about gathering information from them. (maybe best approach when considering how many different angles it could have done in with open public forum format.

I want every child in Hartford to get equal opportunities regardless of where in Hartford they live.

En realidad es difícil opinar por que no todo se cumplirá, yo sé que es preocupante pero no todo se puede hacer. Yo creo que en el futuro poco a poco se cambie. (In reality is difficult to give an opinion because not everything will happen I know is very worrisome but there is nothing you can do. I think in the future little by little could change).

I want my kids to go to a school that teaches respect and give respect. Teachers and Principals to dress to impress all the time and not let kids (girls) go to school with inappropriate clothes or misuse of uniforms.

Distribution of resources between public and Magnet schools should be reformed before the next enrollment process. Have the schools have the funding for the students that are physically there, not just going off lists.

I feel as though doing this discussion will not change and the system will do what they want anyway.

Focus school by school, not district wide.

School bullying and when a student refuses to go to school because he/she is feeling very unsafe. What do you do as a parent, when this matter can't be solved?

This conversation was ineffective. Too high level. We need each person to discuss what's happening in their own school/immediate community to learn what's happening and how to address the issues.
 They need to have just family forums for the parents and the board of education to express how we feel.
 Have these "What We Have Heard" been implemented or are still being thought out.
 Just want to know what's going to happen with the consolidation and the impact will it have on Milner?
 The District is cutting a lot of funding that our kids need and cutting staffing that the school need.
 We need to talk more about educational equality and excellent education for all Hartford students. There should be an anonymous email option to send comments to the Superintendent.

Parent/Family; Community Organization Representative Responses

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:					
Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful. <i>Too scripted</i>		2	3	2	
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made. <i>But not all of them have come to the surface.</i>	1	1	4	1	
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.	1		5	1	
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.	1	3	2	1	

What was most helpful to you?

Listening to the parents in the conversation.
 Having a community forum like this is important as voices gives strategic impetus. (strategic not reactive)
 Community coming together to create solutions.
 The small group discussion. I was able to express my thoughts and ideas.
 We cannot talk about redesign if we are not talking about cost.

What else do you want to say?

There has been no consideration of community conditions that impact learning nor any thought of the socio-emotional impact on learning.

Want Hartford students and families to find excellence in school, community and life.

We need solutions not just talk and surveys. Action needs to be taken then expectation and response.

We need to have life skills program installed in the school system to help our children get ready for the real world.

My name is Sherice Morris. I am the Outreach Supervisor for Achievement First and my niece attends Summit Middle. I want to know what plan is being put in place for Summit in terms of getting a large space.

Better marketing to engage community.

Plenty.

Additional information:

We will review through the website to get information.

Parent/Family; District Office Staff

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:					
Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.			2	2	
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.			3	1	
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.				4	
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.		1	1	2	

What was most helpful to you?

Tener la oportunidad de ver los diferentes puntos de vista de los participantes en mi mesa. -(Have the opportunity to see the different points of view of participants at my table)

What else do you want to say?

Nuestros estudiantes merecen la mejor educación en todas las escuelas. - (Our students deserve the best education in all the schools.)

Parent/Family; Other,PTO

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:					
Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.			3		
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.		1	2		
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.		1	1	1	
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.	2	1			

What was most helpful to you?

Hearing school consolidation will take place in connection with trying to offer better opportunities for all students.

It was very good to hear perspective outside of my school community.

What else do you want to say?

HPS has a terrific opportunity for improvement here. I hope it's not squandered because of inertia....

I think it would have been good to make tables intentionally diverse in terms of sitting with those from many schools.

Parent/Family;Other (unspecified)

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful. <i>Too scripted</i>			1	1	
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made. <i>But not all of them have come to the surface.</i>	1		1		
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.			2		
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.	1		1		

What was most helpful to you?

The opportunity to have small group discussion was positive.

Conversations with different members across the table. Appreciate different voices. This is not enough! We need transparency! We need a timeline! Thank you!

What else do you want to say?

I want a more positive focus on the system trauma informed and more holistic care of kids. It would have been helpful to have more time to actually get details on the "What we heard" - hard to make an informed decision on my top 5

We need more; this wasn't enough of a conversation to base really important decisions. Our greatest assets are our students please consider this when making decisions about their future.

Teacher/Staff

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.	1	2	11	2	2
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.	1		14	1	2
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas. <i>Not enough time allowed.</i>	1	1	9	7	
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.	1	1	8	4	4

What was most helpful to you?

Listening to the thoughts and opinions of others about the District.

Being able to talk to people across the district

Having a respectful conversation about the schools. However, it was difficult to come to an individual vote regarding agree/disagree of what makes a great school based on the whole district.

Discussing/debating topics

The information and opportunities to connect with others which were provided to us.

The conversations were focused around important elements of school change, and the discussion was facilitated well.

Opportunity to work with others at grade-level tables. Also, having a facilitator at the table to take notes and guide the conversation was helpful.

Learning about the research based qualities the District is using for redesign purposes as well as the top 5 conversation.

I don't think this process was well thought out. It lacked depth and it didn't allow the group to really suggest things for redesign.

Having an opportunity to share thoughts on the points on which HPS is succeeding/not meeting.

It's great to be part of the conversation and process of HPS redesign and change.

Talking with people who see Hartford's Education System from a different perspective.

Hearing others points of view.

Sitting and exchanging concerns and ideas with different members of the community was an eye opener. Others look at things differently than myself, and it makes sense.

Small table discussions were best. However, there was not enough time to discuss solutions. Allow more small group time.
Parents, former HPS student feedback re: engagement

What else do you want to say?

The District creates an unnecessary barrier that severely hinders students' academic and social/emotional success in neighborhood schools. Staffing is created by unions and districts not based on school need/wants. The voices of the school and community truly need to be heard.

There are inequities across the state which makes the issues and difficulties more intense.

We need to look at the whole child social/emotional and not just academic. Build it into the curriculum. Family engagement; less homework so families can engage among themselves and not taint the family relations due to homework frustrations.

Where is the money coming from to make this happen? How will we make the District sustainable so we don't have to make cuts every year? What have other urban cities done? What does the data say about approaching these issues?

Purposeful mixing of attendance would diversify the table discussion. Speaking from PPT notes feels disconnect with the objective of the forum.

I think people who haven't responded to these events should sign in so the District has a better idea of who is here and how many are in attendance.

Resources, district and school wide, need to be prioritized to address the social/emotional needs of our students. Grading Policy at high schools needs to be re-assessed, no grades lower than 50 does not align with our high expectation. Schools must enforce and be held accountable for attendance policies.

In the future, please make handouts in black and white and only place 2-3 slides on a paper in order to make it a readable document.

NOT all data is relevant or beneficial to the redesign. Please shift through and find the genuine expertise/creative problem solving from disgruntled remarks from individuals who are only here to blow off steam.

Change is necessary. School equality and pathways for our children are important.

I want to see all of the responses and data from the other groups → TRANSPARENCY is key. This type of meeting should be done at all schools because the voices you are getting at this meeting are self selected. You should want to hear from all schools.

We need to continue this conversation and try to come to an agreement as to the proper course of action to take in this regard.

Restructure the entire district into K-5, 6-8, 9-12 schools allowing for some 6-12 magnets to remain). This eases transitions, allows for neighborhood K-5 and consolidation of middle and high for better allocation of resources and student opportunities. Also, schools need effective leaders for success.

Include career opportunities for students as well as college opportunities; internships too!

There needs to be a formalized structure that will ensure that input is considered and included in future plans. We are not being taken seriously.

Parent/Teacher

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:					
Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.			5		
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.		1	4		
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.			5		
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.	1	1	2		1

What was most helpful to you?

Seeing the big picture with all of the considerations on the table.

When are we going to address the "elephant in the room?" (Which schools will close and when?) The discussion, however it was limited - when picking 5 things, we should have had the back story/explanation concerning each topic/point - too much discussion of the PPT not enough time to discuss with peers.

The collaborative conversation, breakout sessions.

Being able to freely express ourselves.

Listening to the various comments from members at my table.

What else do you want to say?

I would like to see more teacher accountability in their ability to engage the students in learning.

When giving a vision of what makes a great school we should be speaking to our unique schools in order to get a true picture of the district.

We need to make sure that educators are culturally competitive.

We need more time or more opportunities to speak on the issues that were being discussed.

We need to have a discussion regarding increasing the number of students with IEP graduating with a Certificate of Attendance to an actual HS diploma.

Teacher/Resident

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:					
Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.				1	
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.				1	
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.			1		
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.			1		

What was most helpful to you?

It was extremely helpful to see the list of characteristics and discuss their presence in our schools. Moreover, the recommendations provided by our team demonstrate that it is possible to improve the current state of our schools but this must be approached intentionally and strategically.

What else do you want to say?

While it was refreshing to see many people attend, there are still many parents whose voices need to be heard. How can we go out into the community and visit our parents and engage them? This must be a District priority to know our students and families. Can we hear specifically from students? Parents?

Principals

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.		1	3	1	
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.		1	3	1	
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.		1	3	1	
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.		2		1	2

What was most helpful to you?

- The fact that we're having the conversation.
- Conversation with diverse group.
- Small table conversations allowed more voices to be heard.
- Discussion and perspectives.

What else do you want to say?

- Social/emotional learning was not on the agenda/developmental stage of students, etc. Must be clearly addressed (K-5) (6-8) (9-12) grouping of schools a must.
- Maybe capture school stakeholders through a survey monkey link.
- It is important for each school to have an opportunity to evaluate their school using the Agree/Disagree activity be able to share that assessment. This information would give a different perspective on each school that is not seen as well at the District level.

Student

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.			1		
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.			1		
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.			1		
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.			1		

What was most helpful to you?

Being given the ability to express my opinion

What else do you want to say?

Not everyone is comfortable with decisions being made and I believe that is the reason this meeting was held.

[continue](#)

District Office

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.			6	1	
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made. <i>Kind of needs more discussion.</i>			4	2	1
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.		1	5	1	
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.			6	1	

What was most helpful to you?

Hearing the perspective of parents and teachers

Hearing from parents and community representatives

As an educator, it was a great opportunity to work with families.

Logic in process

Hearing the different perspective based on role i.e. community school coordinator, principal, parent, business partner, etc.

What else do you want to say?

We need to bring a focus on science as the glue to solidify math and literacy.

More community forum in various NRZ areas

Don't prolong the process and wait for consensus. Move! The urgency to help our students is more important than everyone feeling good and heard.

District Office/Resident

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.			1		
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.			1		
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.		1			
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.		1			

What was most helpful to you?

There were collaborative conversations at my table.

What else do you want to say?

The process is taking a very long time.

continue

Community Organization Representative

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.		3	10	5	
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.		3	12	3	
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas. <i>With my table</i>		1	11	6	
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making. <i>Didn't really know came to learn. n/a Unknown</i>		2	11	1	

What was most helpful to you?

The second exercise

Conversation with parents and teachers, great facilitator

Interchange. Broadens the amount information available to consider

Opinions of students and recent graduates at our table were insightful.

Hearing perspectives of various community members at my table (Principals, teaching artist, community provider)

I was glad to see that Dr. Torres-Rodriguez listed the points generated during the 2020 Community Generations and we were able to rate them.

Hearing from representation at other schools

Our facilitator was phenomenal (Jackie) clear directions/expectations of the team.

The facilitator

Dr. Torres explanations of process and considerations

Engaging in structured collaborative activities within a framework was helpful.

Our facilitator (Karen S.) was great at getting the conversation started and kept it going. Hearing what others had to say (esp. what their experiences have been) was eye opening.

Hearing from the teachers, staff and parents also at my table

Learning more about some of the issues facing HPS schools like class composition

Getting to talk to teachers, parents, community leaders

The "What makes a great school" actually.

Dialogue with community members at table. Vision statement and update from the Superintendent.

What else do you want to say?

This conversation provides all stakeholders to have their voices heard we need better visuals.

Spend the money to make larger PPT slides. It's a shame not to read the HPS progress report - a huge missed opportunity.

A lot of people, so difficult to hear. Even more difficult to see presentation. Was a distraction. I think possibility for success is great.

Current students and recent grads should complete these same exercises.

Rather than Agree/Disagree on the first exercise, consider rating each item on a four point scale.

Nothing was really announced so it wasn't horribly informative, but I do appreciate the effort. It will be a hard battle, but this is a start.

Asking for community/parent input on topics that aren't widely understood "data-driven decision making, coherent/alignment, culturally responsive teaching" what does this mean to parents?? Give examples.

Wish we had more parents in the room. Too many Central Office Staff.

Hacer esta conversación en cada escuela específica: por ejemplo en la Rawson las cosas están bastante bien excepto que se hable más español y más actividades que participen los padres como: Talent Show, fiesta de navidad de fin de año. En la Burr School hay mucho bullying y un buen maestro de quinto grado renunció por el ambiente escolar (maestros y una estudiante en específico era malo). -Have this conversation in every specific school, for example at Rawson things are very good, except they need to speak more Spanish and have more activities for the parents to participate like Talent show, Christmas party at end of the year. In Burr school there is a lot of bullying and a good 5th grade teacher resigned due to the school atmosphere (teachers and one student were bad)

We really need to focus on what parent's deep concerns are towards each of their children's school and work from there first.

STUDENT VOICE! Meeting demographics? (% parents, community members, students, teachers, race)

Transparency is a huge issue that came up. The district seems to be moving in a direction that will allow for more transparency and communication. Keeps it going!

Missed an opportunity to organize responses by perspective (those below) to understand how the schools are perceived by each one and when the work needs to be done. There was no context around the data provided by Dr. Torres (what time frame are the stats from?)

Please stop encouraging 100% of students to attend college. It isn't for everyone and kids need more viable options to support themselves as adults.

There must be focus on the family

Agree/Disagree format for "great school" section erases nuance and led to misleading definitions and confusion.

Community Organization Representative/Other

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.			2		1
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.		1	2		
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas. <i>Yes, but we needed a little more discussion and solutions generating time.</i>			1	1	1
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.		2	1		

What was most helpful to you?

Team discussion

Seeing others getting involved gives me more faith and confidence.

A chance to sit and discuss with a mixed group of people (multiple schools, positions, organizations, etc.) and hear new ideas/share my voice.

What else do you want to say?

HPS must establish more credibility by explaining what expertise you have vs. doesn't have. I express why this work is so hard.

We should do this with all students, all grade levels. More time for discussion and solution generation (more freedom to innovate).

Additional information:

Lover of Hartford 😊 Thank you for the opportunity. GREAT FIRST STEP! Excited to see what's next.

Parent/Family;School Governance Council

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.			2	2	
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.			2	1	1
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.		1	2	1	
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.		1	2	1	

What was most helpful to you?

Information presented from last year's equity 20/20 events.

The group discussion

Hearing from most community voices, but we are still not hearing from the entire community.

What else do you want to say?

Beyond what had been presented and exchanged, when will these changes take effect? Do not get lost in the process of going over data and not have a chance to use it and make it work.

Collaboration and leverage of Resources. Thinking out of the box, need to connect with more families and students.

Continue conversations; make choices that positively impact the community.

School Governance Council

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.			1	1	
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.			1	1	
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.			1	1	
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.			1	1	

What was most helpful to you?

I realized that I am not alone.

Obtaining the feedback from the community and hopefully considering this as part of the next phase of the planning.

What else do you want to say?

Empower students and teachers and reduce the OVER administration of the District.

continue

School Governance Council/Parent/Community Organization Representative

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.			2		
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.	1		1		
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.			1	1	
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.		1	1		

What was most helpful to you?

It is hope that conversation spoken will be heard and documented. However it needs to happen again at the individual school.
 Prioritizing of ideas that were important to me

What else do you want to say?

The money for our school are not being put into our schools to much is being pocketed at the top and teachers and parents are not included in the decision making process along with parents.
 To have more of these conversations

continue

School Governance Council/Teacher

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.				1	
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.			1		
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.				1	
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.			1		

What was most helpful to you?

The Dialogue

What else do you want to say?

It is difficult to have conversation with various experiences and be able to fully contribute to the dialogue because of lack of information.

continue

School Governance Council/Teacher/Parent

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.		1			
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.			1		
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.			1		
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.		1			

What was most helpful to you?

Did not learn/hear about anything new

What else do you want to say?

The conversation was diluted by the fact that we were talking district wide... pointed-insightful experiences were missing from conversation because we were trying to speak on a district level. It might have been more useful to have people answer specific to their experiences or on a continuum. It doesn't matter what your school looks like or what they have to offer if student behaviors is not appropriate. Discipline issues are a MAJOR concern and impediment to good teaching. We need adequate staff and options to address these problems to get a sense of the magnitude of significance of any one indicator.

Additional information:

Please give more information about the TIMELINE are we consolidating in 2017-18 → or following year or ...?

School Governance Council/Parent/Other

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.			1		
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.			1		
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.			1		
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.			1		

What was most helpful to you?

Appreciate the feedback from our Superintendent team. Great forum

What else do you want to say?

Schools in the District should have a conference with teachers to discuss what works and what doesn't. Teacher collaboration. Base on the fact that we have new participants at these forums. New ideas or solutions come up to "what makes a great school". These ideas were not captured. WHAT NEXT!!

continue

School Governance Council/Parent/Community Organization/Other

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.	1				
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.	1				
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.	1				
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.	1				

What was most helpful to you?

Facilitators

What else do you want to say?

Have 2 facilitators 1-scribe: 1-facilitates

continue

Other/Unidentified

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.		3	10	3	1
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.		1	15	1	
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.			15	1	1
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making. Not sure.	2	2	9	3	

What was most helpful to you?

The positive buzz (not withstanding a few negative public comments)

The availability for me as a positive citizen to engage my thoughts within the communities most pediment of subject the guidance of learning for the young.

Learning about the other schools representative perspective in the District "What makes a great school". The opportunity for this discussion to even occur but also with the thought in mind of extending this opportunity to hear the voice of our students

Hearing the different perspectives of parents and how they view our schools and their input toward the future.

To learn perspectives from parents in different schools across the city

The Superintendent's report

Replace school suspension with meditation/mindfulness.

Getting the perspectives of teachers, who I suspect are often neglected in these processes.

The exercise to start the "What We Heard" exercise.

The opportunity to engage with others

Hearing multiple perspectives/different lenses, (where are the students?).

The opportunity to attend this forum

Multiple opinions and parties at table

The open discussion we had about the District. This was a very informative meeting.

As an outsider, learning more about the challenges facing Hartford Public Schools was informative. As a college, it helps us look at ways we can help.

What else do you want to say?

Few questions; Better VISUALS = TOO SMALL!!!

My goal for this presence of spirit here now was to bleed the same blood and beat by the same heart. The students can be aided in their discoveries of themselves by reducing the stresses of a grading system and replace within it a process of enveloping within them a growth vs. fixed mindset. We must also honor the student's ability to think upon a system of application of knowledge, learn/then apply. We as students of the earth will progress regardless but we must give them a foundation of mind that allows them critical thinking and judgment. We are not graded individually within a workforce, the entire school is judged.

I also believe "What makes a great school" discussion was difficult because of the many different perspectives from various schools but also without fully understanding/hearing the facts about other school across the District makes our overall response very difficult to respond accurately!!

While conversations are helpful to formulate consensus I feel much like statewide conversations around hospitals and the saturation the same holds true of HPS. There is a need to consider the impact of choice and magnet in the number of schools needed.

To expand this to another area of the City - South End (see presentation)

Educate our children

A need to sit down with the parents and teachers

Hard to fix, but most of the tables seemed pretty homogeneous.

The process was not the most effective. The space was loud and cramped. The first activity where we have to agree or disagree should have other choices to capture more intricate perspectives that are not black or white.

School climate is critical. Family engagement (when parent/family is partners with teachers and administrators needs to focus. What is next? How will parents/community see how their voices were heard tonight?)

Considerations of equity in all aspects of education are paramount. If children come first make this so.

I hope we can continue working on a strategic plan.

Community Organization Representative/Parent/Student/Other

Please rate the conversation on each of the following criteria and add comments in each box if you wish:

Answer Options	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Neutral
The conversation was informative and helpful.				1	
I have a good understanding of the things that need to be considered as decisions about redesigning the district schools are made.			1		
I had an opportunity to ask questions and express my ideas.				1	
I believe my ideas and feelings will be heard and considered in the future decision making.				1	

What else do you want to say?

Hearing insights from new teachers and Principals. Hearing the Superintendent speak on behalf of our students in our community and getting an understanding from her stand point.

What was most helpful to you?

I'm hoping that some of these stipulations that are required for parent family aids to receive a small stipend to come in to engage with the students since there are so many students of color who have to interact with white teachers of the suburbs who tend to rub students the wrong way. Not being culturally advanced. Education of what quality looks like, feels like and what it means for students and families to be fully engaged,