

Date : 1/5/2024 5:56:45 PM

From : "Rebecca Strimer"

To : "Maggie Fehrman"

Subject : Re: Friday Follow Up

Attachment : 20230814\_134308.jpg;20480005\_10155636222352360\_7498627612465842154\_n.png;

Hi Maggie. Thank you for these updates. Could let us know who will be invited to the middle school merger session? And how will they receive notification about the meeting?

Thanks!

Rebecca

Rebecca Strimer  
Board of Education member  
Asheville City Schools

On Fri, Jan 5, 2024 at 11:56â€ AM Maggie Fehrman <[maggie.fehrman@acsgmail.net](mailto:maggie.fehrman@acsgmail.net)> wrote:



Friday, January 5, 2024: Follow-up

## ðŸŽ‰ Happy New Year! ðŸŽ‰

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday and a happy New Year!

Here's your Friday Follow up items for this week:

1. **Middle School Merger Stakeholder Meeting - January 18th from 6:00pm - 8:00pm:** I am collaborating with a facilitator to lead this meeting to ensure we are authentically engaging the community as we investigate the possibility of merging AMS and MNSA. During this meeting I will share the rationale for why we must evaluate the potential merger along with the current data we have regarding capacity, class sizes, and building usage. Heidi is also gathering information about the cost of staffing both buildings and potential savings if schools are combined. After the information is shared, stakeholders will work in small groups to process the information and identify: what additional information they feel should be gathered, what concerns they have with the information provided, what resonated with them about what they heard, and what additional options should be examined and presented to the Board. After the meeting, we will transcribe all the info gathered and publish it publicly on our web page along with a list of my next steps prior to presenting options for the school board to consider. I don't know that Board members need to attend this meeting, as I want to be sure the stakeholders focus on the intent of the meeting instead of trying to sway Board members at this meeting.
2. Upcoming Meeting Reminders:
  1. **Board Retreat: January 18 8:00am - 4:00pm:** Chris and I will lead a review of the PBR policies changes with the edits suggested by the Board members, along with a review of the enhanced procedure 1710-P and discuss making this a policy. The next component of the retreat will be to work on drafting Board norms. The third topic will be creating a list of reform policies the Board would like to draft. To support this work, make sure to review the chapter from the book, What School Board Can Do, which I provided the Board at our last retreat about Reform Policies. Also, review the examples of reform policies I provided from other districts. I will send a digital copy of all printed information so you have that electronically as well.
  2. **Budget Work Session: February 1 5:00pm - 7:pm:** Heidi and I will review the budget data that was shared at the December board meeting and facilitate a discussion for the Board to consider if a supplemental pay increase is doable and if so, should that be a one time adjustment or an ongoing increase to the local supplement. We will also review the budget data we are presenting at the Middle School Merger Stakeholder Meeting and data for potential savings if SILSA and AHS are combined. If you have additional budget information you would like to review at this meeting, please send me an email with the details by next **Friday, Jan 12th**, so Heidi can work on gathering that data.