



PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# Phase 1 Community Feedback

## Enrollment & Program Balancing: Southeast Guiding Coalition

Drawn from our community-created vision, Partnerships and Collaboration is a value that shapes our design process. In 2011, the PPS Board of Education voted to adopt the Racial Educational Equity Policy, which links partnerships with stakeholders through district decision-making as a key strategy to eliminate the achievement gap between White students and students of color.

Utilizing data, community input, and facilitated conversations, scenarios were shaped from the many lived experiences throughout Southeast Portland. Although rich data informed a community-centered proposal, the communication and timing of the process remains an essential component to advance.

### FOCUS GROUPS

#### Highlights from Black, Indigenous, People of Color, and Multilingual People

- A large desire to encourage students to learn a second language, such as Spanish, and open more immersion programs.
- Parents expressed they need time, especially during a pandemic, to understand the proposal and the changes that will be offered.
- Participants valued neighborhood schools in close proximity to home.
- Prioritize social and emotional needs of students.
- Changes must be paired with effective, early communication, and transportation supports.
- No division of specialized school programs/teams for students, and maintaining neighborhood school programs

**Student survey data from Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Pacific Islander, and White students reported 85% support with dedicating Harrison Park to a middle school.**

#### Highlights from Public Engagement Opportunities

- Balanced resources and considerations for transit-dependent families of color should be prioritized in planning.
- Overall support for Kellogg and comprehensive middle schools.
- Families named a lack of certainty in the process may create mistrust.
- The voices of students and community prior to decision-making phase should be prioritized.
- Families expressed a desire for lower amounts of students in overcrowded schools
- When driving is not an option, families need safer ways to commute to school

Detailed feedback can be found at [pps.net/enrollmentbalancing](https://pps.net/enrollmentbalancing)



**1200** online inquiries in **6** major languages



Roughly **200** Black, Indigenous, and students of color surveyed



Over **500** participants in PPS multilingual sessions



**293** phone surveys of middle grade families were conducted