

Dear Franklin Middle School Family,

Minneapolis Public Schools has served this city for more than 100 years. Over those years, student and family needs have continued to change. Even today MPS and Franklin Middle School must evolve in ways that meet those changing needs and also position our district and our school to serve students well into the future.

The days are gone when MPS was the only public school option available. Some families are happy with the way we do business. Some are not. MPS recognizes that we cannot be all things to all people. Over the past 18 months, MPS has examined data to weigh options for a sustainable path forward that better serves all students. We've been working to answer the question: How do we equitably serve all students while still being good stewards of the financial resources provided by the very people we serve?

We are eager to share the initial recommendations of our Comprehensive District Design, a plan for fundamentally improving the way MPS educates its students.

The Franklin Middle School community plays an important role in crafting how MPS moves forward. With every recommendation made, we've tried to consider every impact that change causes. We've thought about Board and community response, and are now looking to get your feedback directly. We must all be ready to have difficult discussions about longstanding programs that may or may not be effectively impacting achievement. And we have to ask and answer tough questions, such as are we ready to realistically consider whether taxpayer dollars are being most efficiently used by keeping all schools open instead of consolidating some buildings?

Our first year recommendations focus overwhelmingly on strengthening academics, especially for children experiencing the greatest disparities. Throughout this plan we will prioritize MPS's sustainability and our students' academic achievement, now and in the future. Learn more about our proposed recommendations on this MPS [website](#), or by reading this [one-page](#) overview.

Following a preliminary presentation of the District Design on April 30 at the Board's Committee of the Whole meeting, we will look forward to receiving Board and community input in May and beyond before the Board votes on a final plan—which is scheduled for August.

As you examine the opportunities and challenges represented by the Comprehensive District Design, please remember this is a recommendation. Let's all assume good intentions, focus on solutions, and come forward with our best ideas. Thank you.

Ron, Carla, Brian and Rochelle