



## ON THE SCENE WITH DR. GREEN

Tucker Middle School - October 11, 2018

*The following are items were discussed during the event:*

1. **Concerns with Special Education Dept.** – Speaker stated that she called Superintendent’s office and spoke with Ms. Cloud to schedule an apt. with Dr. Green. Special Ed. team will reach out to parent.
2. **Lance Hammonds, NAACP** – Speaker expressed concern around the importance of volunteers in our schools. Requested Dr. Green to address volunteering and make comments. Dr. Green spoke about our work with volunteerism in DCSD.
3. **Tucker MS- Special Education bus driver** – Driver expressed concern about driver pay and prorated pay for substitute drivers. Dan Drake, interim chief operating officer, addressed this concern and suggested that the driver submit the concern to her representative, to be added to the upcoming DMAC meeting agenda.
4. **Graduation Plan** – Parent requested graduation information. Dr. Green provided the plan for DCSD high school graduations.
5. **Mercedes Larkin- Parent DESA** – Parent concerned about K-12 arts program, and requested information on the construction and next steps for the K-12 arts program with timeline. Development of the program is ongoing.
6. **SPLOST funding & musical instruments** – Parent asked about the roll-out of musical instruments to schools from SPLOST 5 funding. Dan Drake addressed the question and shared the proposed timeline for the instruments to be in the schools.
7. **Lance Hammonds, NAACP** – Mr. Hammonds requested that Dr. Green address schools on the Governor’s turnaround list. What will it take to get the list to “0”? Mr. Hammond would like to see “0” schools on the list. Dr. Green & Dr. Phillips addressed the DCSD turnaround plan and tiered school approach.
8. **Turnaround list tier** – Board member Jim McMahan asked how many schools in the Tucker cluster are on the Turnaround list, Tier II or Tier III. Region 2 Regional Superintendent Trenton Arnold addressed this question with a response that none are on the list, but also spoke to the plan for working with schools in the cluster to close the achievement gaps.



9. **Smoke Rise Elementary land** – A question was presented about the status of the land purchase for Smoke Rise ES. What is the plan for a facility in the existing location? Dr. Green addressed this question by stating that community conversations will occur around plans for the existing facility, assured the speaker that the building will not be boarded up. Dan Drake spoke to the proposed plan of a fall 2020 opening at the new location.
10. **Strategic Plan Public meetings** – Debbie Martin Hertzberg asked what does Dr. Green want the focus to be for parent input? Dr. Green referred to our current goals and discussed vision for the future. Also, Georgia Milestones assessment concerns were presented about the value of the assessment vs. other testing options. Dr. Green and Dr. Knox Phillips, chief of accountability, addressed this concern and spoke about DCSD local assessments and forward-thinking regarding assessments.
11. **Bus breakdown** – A student speaker, assigned to bus 1852, noted the bus broke down and she was not picked up. She was almost late for school, and the substitute bus broke down as well. Her parent requested feedback on the plan for fleet maintenance. Dr. Green apologized to the parent and student and Dan Drake addressed the question speaking to plans for strengthening the current bus fleet.
12. **Transportation App.** – Mr. Drake indicated this app would be available to parents next school year.
13. **Failing/low performing schools** – A speaker asked about failing/low performing schools and the need for additional resources for special education students. Dr. Green addressed the question and called on Darnell Logan and Karen Manahan from the Special Education Dept., along with Chief Academic Officer Stacy Stepney, who spoke to resources and professional development for special ed. teachers.
14. **Transportation Troubles** –Tucker MS parent expressed concern about having to call transportation for several weeks to get a school bus to pick up her child.
15. **Tucker SRO's being overloaded** – Concern expressed regarding Tucker's SRO's. Speaker stated there are no replacements for directing traffic when officers are out. Safety issue. Dr. Green indicated we are in the process of hiring additional SRO's and called on Dr. Vasanne Tinsley, deputy superintendent, who shared the challenge with hiring additional officers due to the salary. Dr. Green encouraged referrals for SRO vacancies.
16. **Schools and polling places** – Parent does not want DCSD schools to serve as polling sites due to safety concerns. Dr. Green addressed this concern and spoke to the district's civic duty as well as current security measures to ensure the safety of our students.

***Mrs. Vickie Turner (board member) closed out with comments and acknowledged Mr. Jim McMahan (board member) who was also in attendance.***