



PRESS RELEASE

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OKLAHOMA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS RELEASES FINAL PATH FOR PATHWAY TO GREATNESS PROJECT

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS SHARES RECOMMENDATION FOR FINAL P2G PATH

(Oklahoma City, OK) - This afternoon, OKCPS Superintendent Sean McDaniel shared his recommendation of a Final Path forward for OKCPS to reinvent the District. For more than a year, OKCPS has been on a journey to design a future where students are served equitably and have access to more educational opportunities and support services -- regardless of their zip code.

“It hasn’t been easy, but I am so grateful that our staff, as well as our families and our community, have been willing to share their ideas, concerns, and considerations along the way,” said Dr. Sean McDaniel. “We have been able to respond to a number of great ideas from our stakeholders to make the plan better. By placing our trust in each other and by leaning into difficult conversations, we’ve been able to chart a Final Path that will lead to new levels of success for all of our students. The plan isn’t perfect, but no plan is. We have 45,000 reasons to say YES and move forward for our students.”

The outcome of the Pathway to Greatness project will impact every student, staff member and family in OKCPS. Through the P2G trade-ups, our students will have access to more learning opportunities and added social supports; our teachers will be supported with smaller class sizes in grades K to 6th. District leaders believe P2G will ensure that all students have access to quality learning environments and other resources they need in order to be successful in the classroom and in life.

OKCPS has also identified four schools that will become transformation schools for the 2019-2020 school year; Britton, Martin Luther King Jr, Thelma Parks and Rockwood Elementary schools. OKCPS is excited about the enhanced opportunities all our students will experience, but this strategy wouldn’t be complete without a deeper focus on our most fragile schools. Not only is this called for by our board’s commitment to equity, but it is also imperative that we focus on our highest need schools in order to allow all boats to rise across the district.

In addition, OKCPS announced tentative plans for repurposing district buildings that are slated to be closed. Community health centers, early childhood centers, and special programs such as the Oklahoma Children's Theatre and Junior Achievement are on the table. We believe these repurposed uses will be a positive asset to these neighborhoods.

"I know it's been a long journey, but we must keep our eyes on the horizon. OKCPS' Pathway to Greatness is paved with increased access to learning opportunities, more social supports and better support for teachers -- and those building blocks will mean a brighter future for OKCPS and for our entire city," said Dr. McDaniel.

To help ensure families and the community are familiar with the Final Path, OKCPS will host a final round of informational meetings next week before the Board of Education votes on whether to move forward with Pathway to Greatness on March 4:

Monday, February 25th - Capitol Hill @ 6:30 pm *Presented in Spanish

Tuesday, February 26th - U.S. Grant @ 6:30 pm

Wednesday, February 27th - NW Classen @ 6:30 pm

View the P2G Final Path Presentation, the project timeline and find additional information on our website, www.okcps.org/PathwayProject.

About Oklahoma City Public Schools

Oklahoma City Public Schools (OKCPS) is a multi-cultural district that serves approximately 46,000 students, including charter schools. Our students are educated throughout 54 neighborhood elementary schools, 16 secondary schools, 2 special centers and 15 charter schools all of which are located in a 135.5 square mile radius in the center of Oklahoma. For more information, visit www.okcps.org.