

## Focus Group Notes – 11/18/20 – Somali

Open House Focus Group Meeting- Somali Parents

Facilitator: Salaad O'Barrow

Notetaker: Riyaleh Said

Date: 11/18/20

Time: 6:00 -7:00 pm

Agenda: Enrollment and Balancing Program

Somali parents were aware of the meeting and eager to hear more about district proposal details. They had mixed feelings of concern and were enthusiastic to be part of the discussion and contribute their inputs. They also indicated their reservation from one another and boundary changes too.

The following is the inputs and concerns summary from families want to share with the district:

- 1) Parents in the meeting mostly they have school children attend in Harrison Park.
- 2) The have an average from 2 kids to 5 kids attend in Harrison Park with different grade levels.

The challenges district need to know:

- 1) They underscored that they want to keep their students at their neighborhood school. Separation children would not serve their best interest and they said, we need our children to be together at the same building in order for siblings to help one another.
- 2) **IF** the district approved the new proposal to split Harrison Park into two different schools they want from the district to address the transportation piece.
- 3) **\*\*** One unique family stated that she has a kindergarten student who attends an immersion program and two other kids. She said, if this proposal is implemented I have to take them to three different schools and at the same time I have to go to work which is not going to be possible for me.