

Language Specific Open House – Vietnamese

Open House – Vietnamese Group

November 19, 2020

Comments and Questions

- How does the process Balancing Enrollment and Program contribute to/improve student success? We are more concerned about the quality of school and teaching/learning than anything else.
- One of the slides of the PowerPoint Presentation mentions: More DLI offerings near native speakers. The VDLI program at Rose City Park is not centrally located in the Vietnamese community. Since there are more Vietnamese families living in SE Portland than in NE, the timing is right to revisit the location of the Vietnamese DLI program, whether relocation or add another site in SE Portland. Transportation is a huge barrier for many Vietnamese who live in SE to enroll their children in NE school. This is one way to increase students in the VDL and improve the program.
- Many parents appreciate PPS hosting language specific focus groups. The recommendation is for PPS to continue having these focus groups; especially when there are important changes, so parents feel comfortable participating in the decision-making process. It is also recommended that PPS invites parents to participate at the very beginning of the process.
- Then the conversation changed from community engagement to communication. Many parents shared that individual schools sent out information daily and sometimes messages regarding incidents happened at school to parents without going through PPS central office for quality control but rather using Google Translate. The communication often confused parents. They understand that schools wanted to send out information immediately, but this action also sent a wrong impression. Parents feel disrespected and think school doesn't care. Some parents don't bother to read materials sent from schools and they miss out on important information. Therefore, they are reluctant to participate in school activities.