

State of Schools Hearing

4/11/2016

+ Purpose of Hearings

- Authorizing the Committees on Children & Youth and Education to study the impact of five years of reduced state funding on safety, essential services, and academic outcomes in Philadelphia schools and on vulnerable student populations

+ Process

- Hearings Hosted by Children & Youth and Education Committees
- Neighborhood Hearings at South Philadelphia High, Sayre High, and Edison High
 - Attended by 350 Philadelphians
 - 300 “community priority” forms submitted
- Data request from PSD
 - Used to examine current staffing and access to key resources



What Philadelphians Want:

Philadelphians are asking for basic **human rights** to be recognized

Noun: a right that is believed to belong justifiably to every person

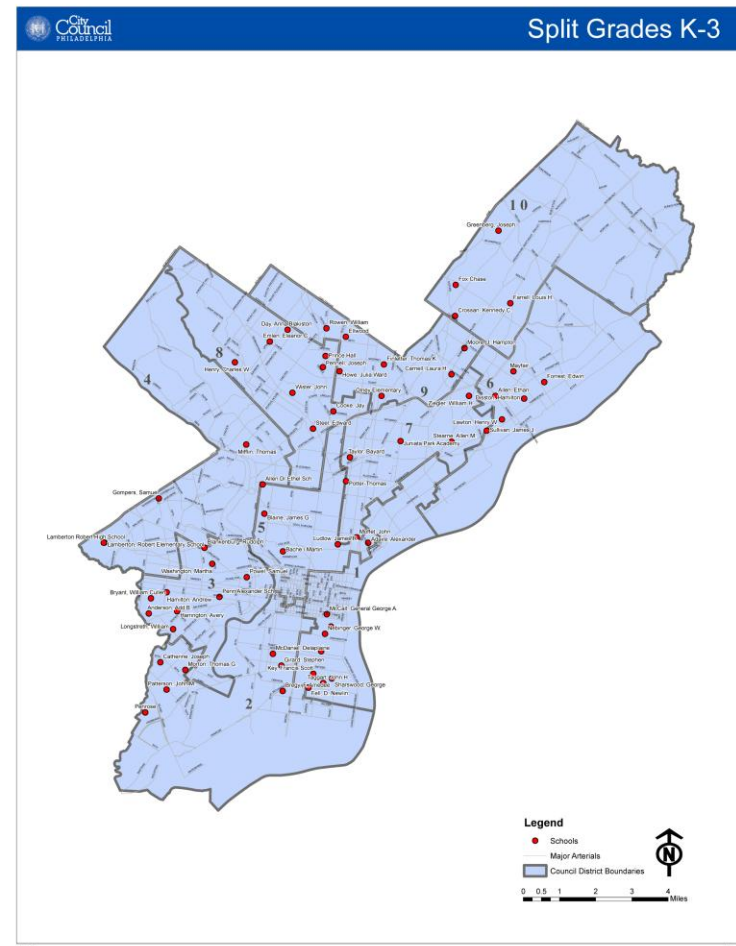
The roof leaks in the computer room; the ceiling needs to be fixed. We only have a nurse three days a week, so we better not get hurt on Monday or Tuesday.

-Student, Sayre High School



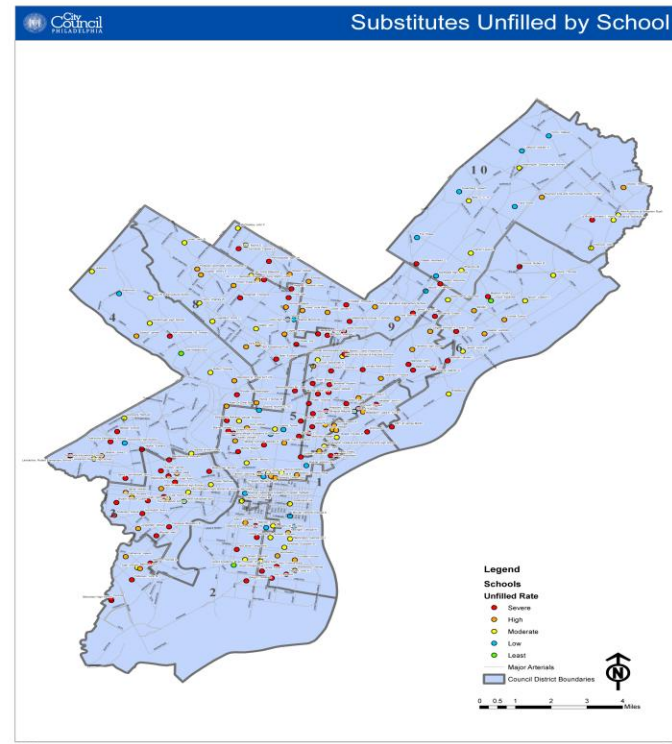
Findings: Teaching and Learning Conditions

- 180 teacher vacancies mean an estimated 9,600 students without teachers
- Nearly 2,000 students are in 64 split-grade classes
- 300 high school classes over contractual limits, impacting thousands of students



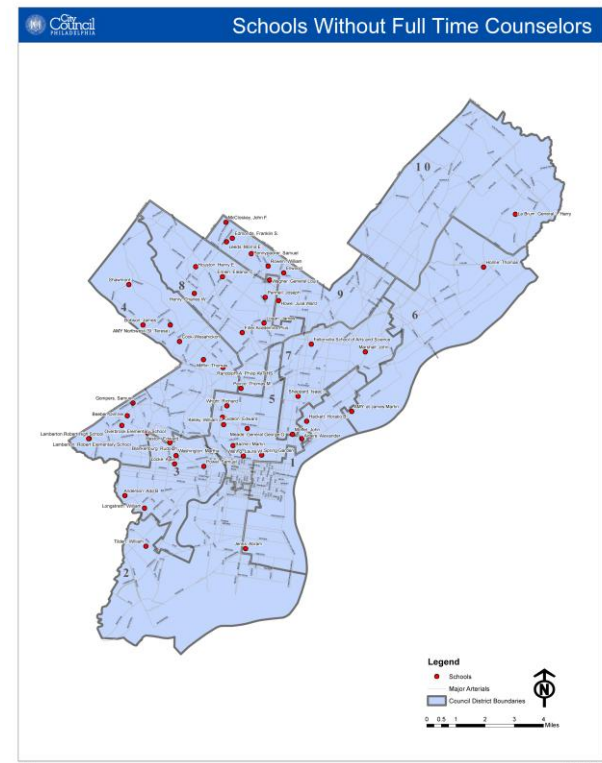
Findings: Source4Teachers Contract

- A two-year \$34 million contract was awarded to Source4Teachers to increase the fill rate for substitute teachers
- Promised 70% fill rate in September; 90% fill rate in January
- By January, only achieved average 35-45% fill rate



+ Findings: Counselors

- Today, 17,000 children in 31 schools attend schools without a full-time counselor
- The PFT's contract requires one counselor per school



“We have a lot to worry about at home and at school. I struggle towards the end of the month, it’s hard to get work done and deal with things at home. I come to school and it’s hard to get help. The teachers are doing their best but I’m tired. We are all so tired.

–Student, Edison High School

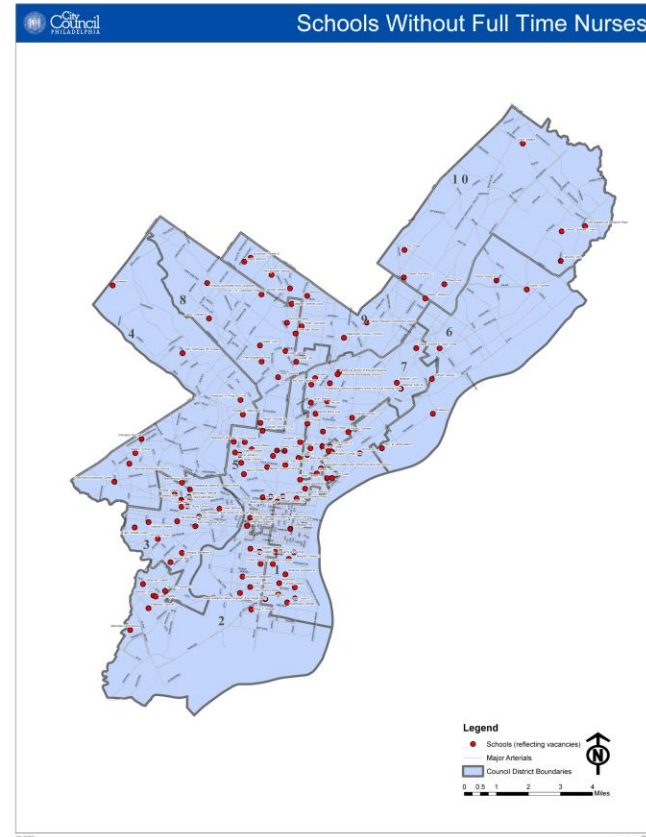
“When we don’t have enough educators you feel like you can’t get anywhere.”

–Student, Edison High School



Findings: School Nurses

- 64,000 students in 131 schools attend schools without a full time nurse



“Sick children sit in our office while they wait for the secretary or the principal to call their parents. Parents are forced to miss work, I know a mom that was fired.”

–Parent, Sayre Town Hall

+ Water Fountains

- Requested data for location and operational status of all drinking water sources in schools
- Requested information about safety testing of water, and results
- Commitment given to create new inventory
- Commitment given to retest representative water sources



Looking Forward

- District has unveiled 5-year plan with an agenda for additional spending.
 - \$88 million fund balance for FY 15; \$134 million projected at end of FY 16
 - 7.5% increase from state
- This should be an opportunity for any spending plan to reflect community priorities for the restoration of essential services.



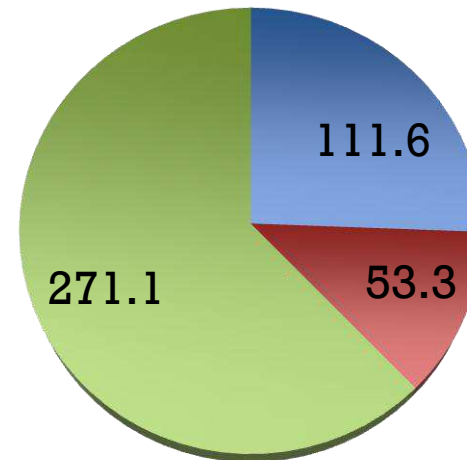
District Priorities - Current

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■ Literacy Initiatives

- Instructional materials refresh; Ad'l Literacy coaches; New turnaround schools
- **College and Career Readiness**
High School tech refresh; High School labs; AP courses and gifted ed; Summer enrichment
- **Labor and Workforce**
 - Supplemental hiring; Counselors and Nurses; Workforce agreements; Rightsizing central office staffing

District Priorities



- Literacy Initiatives
- College and Career Readiness
- Labor and Workforce



District Priorities - Future

Additional Investments to Accelerate Change

The spending plan includes basic investments to advance the goals of the Action Plan. Additional investments currently not included in the Preliminary Five-Year Plan would enable accelerated school improvement, including:

- Elimination of split classes in grades 1-3, reducing class size
- Expansion of the Summer Institute program to ensure that all teachers are “Ready to Teach”
- Classroom Transformation Project, refreshing all classrooms over four years
- Providing for a Reading Specialist and an Early Literacy Coach in every elementary school
- Instituting Common Prep and Planning Time/ Music and Art for all K-3

If additional funding were available to the District, these recurring investments would begin in FY18. Estimated costs are \$92.2 million beginning in FY18, with a total cost through FY21 of \$382.8 million.



FY 2017 Concerns

- \$121 million in new charter costs
- \$23 million to be used for 'turnaround'
- 3 new Renaissance Charter conversions proposed; no fiscal analysis of impact on other district schools
- Plan to close three schools annually starting FY18 and continuing indefinitely

+ Community Priorities –

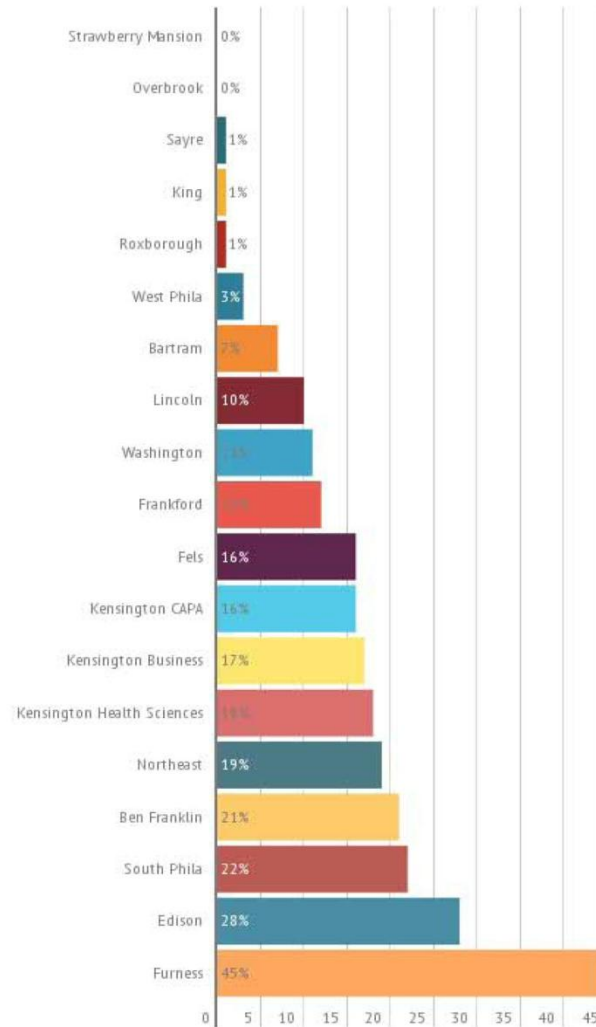
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Restoration of essential services equitably across District schools

- Teachers
- Counselors
- Nurses
- Books
- Functioning water fountains
- Safer schools
- Support for special education students and 'English Language Learners'

+ Appendix

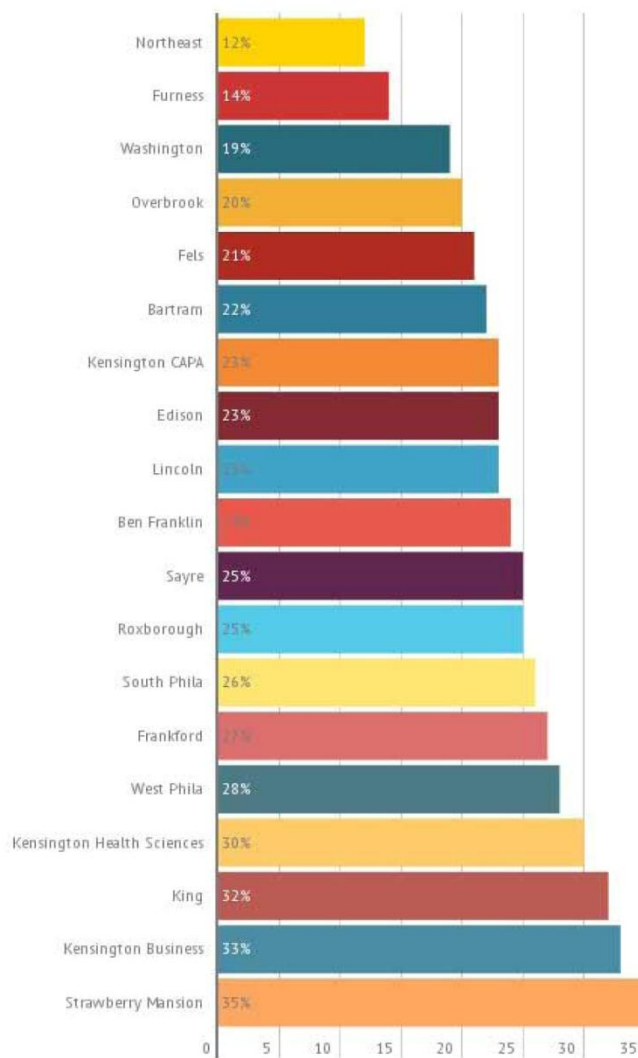
ELL STUDENTS IN NEIGHBORHOOD HIGH SCHOOLS



From the PCCY report:
Separate and Unequal: A Path Forward for Neighborhood High Schools
December 2015 www.pccy.org



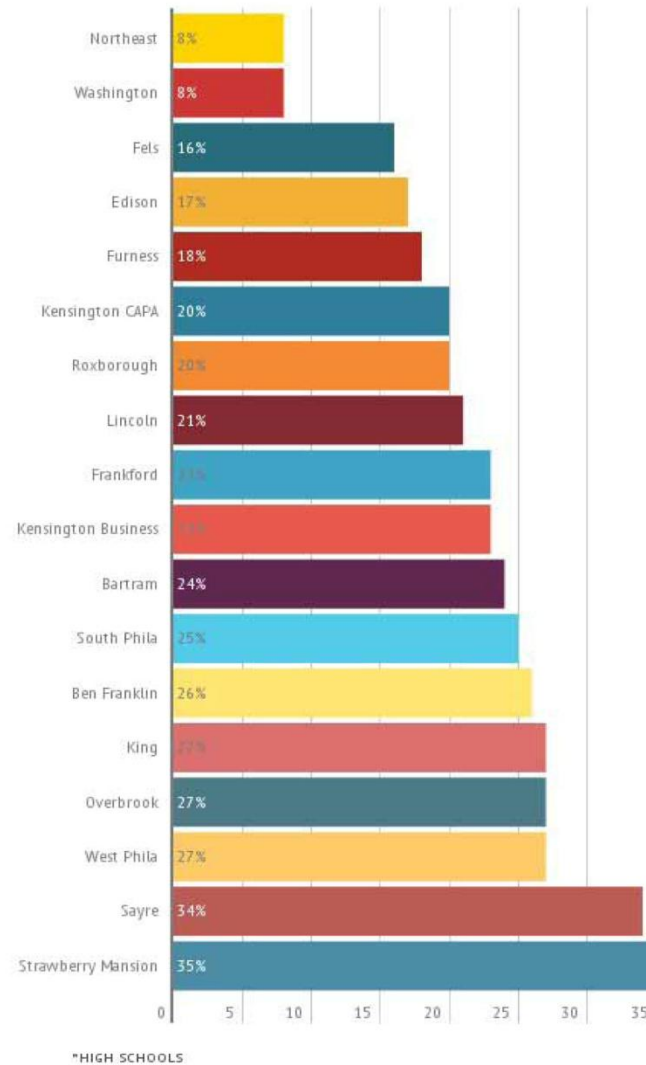
SPECIAL ED STUDENTS IN NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS



From the PCCY report:
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DHS INVOLVED STUDENTS IN NEIGHBORHOOD HIGH SCHOOLS



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www.pccy.org



District FAQ

Vulnerable Group	Percentage	Total Population	
Special Education Students	14%	18,441	
English Language Learners	9.83%	12,951	