

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

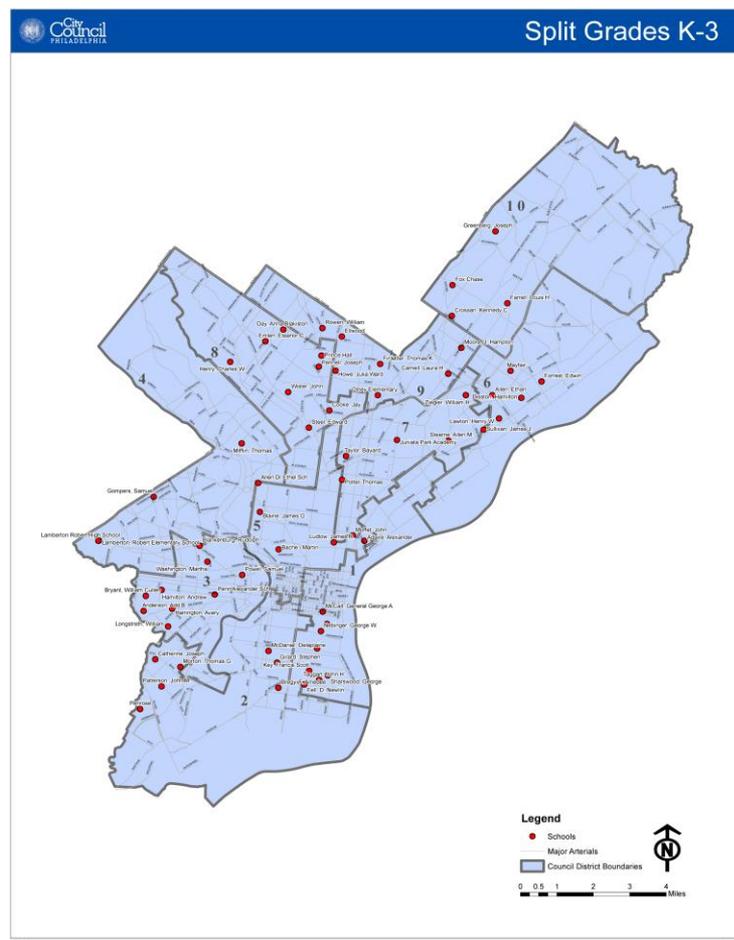
Noun: a right that is believed to belong justifiably to every person

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

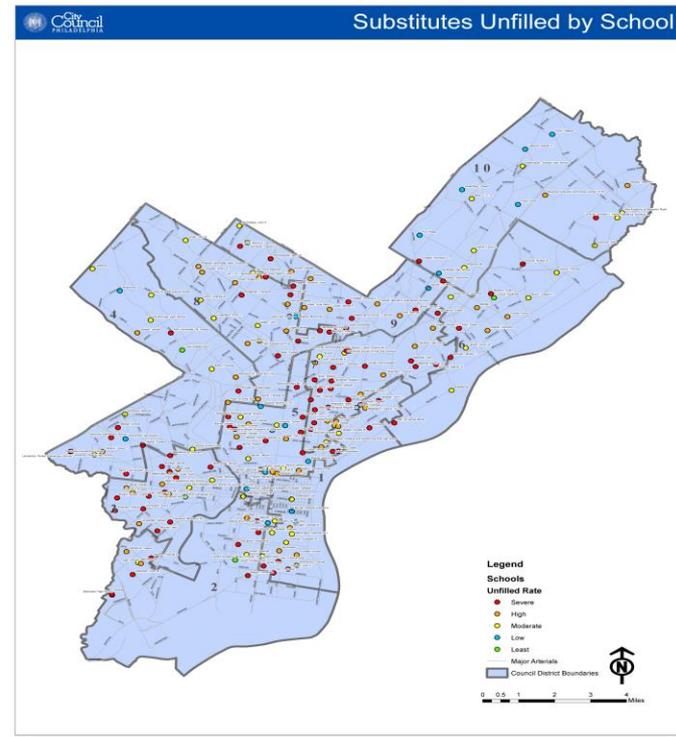
+ Findings: Teaching and Learning Conditions

- 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



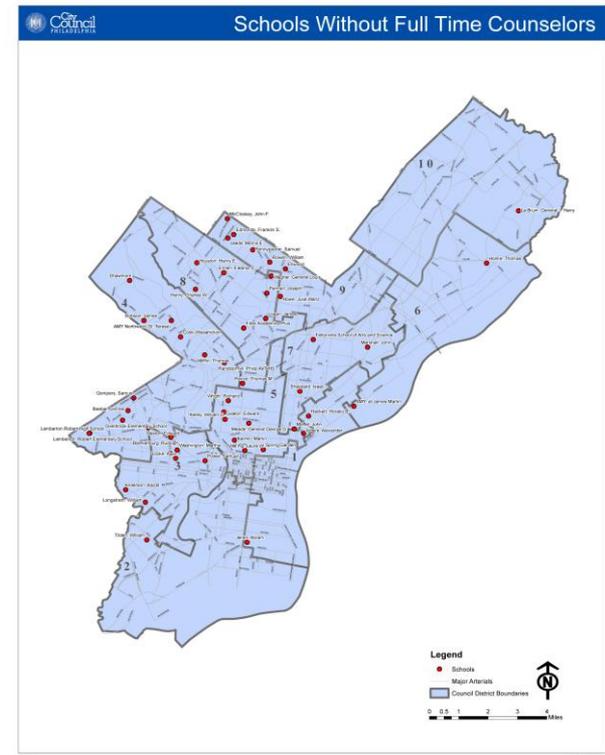
+ Findings: Source4Teachers Contract

- 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

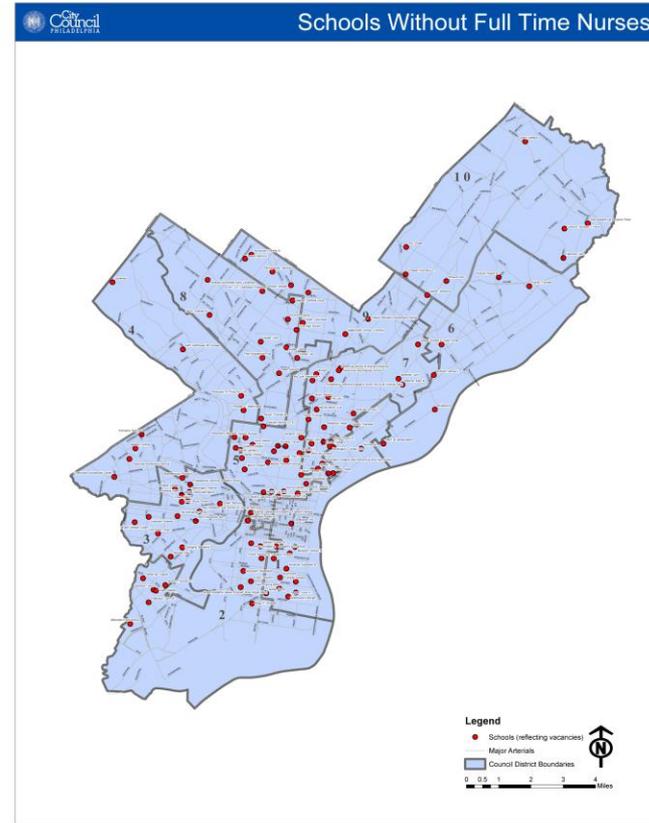
“When we don’t have enough educators you feel like you can’t get anywhere.”

-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

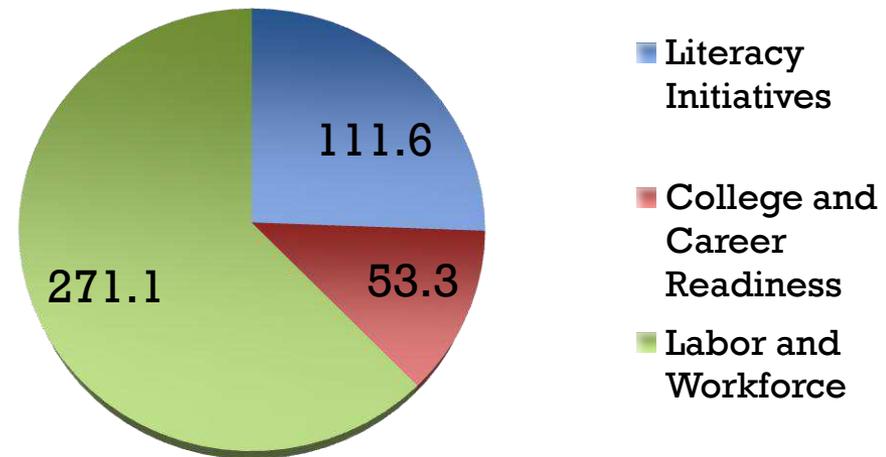
■ Literacy Initiatives

- 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



+ 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

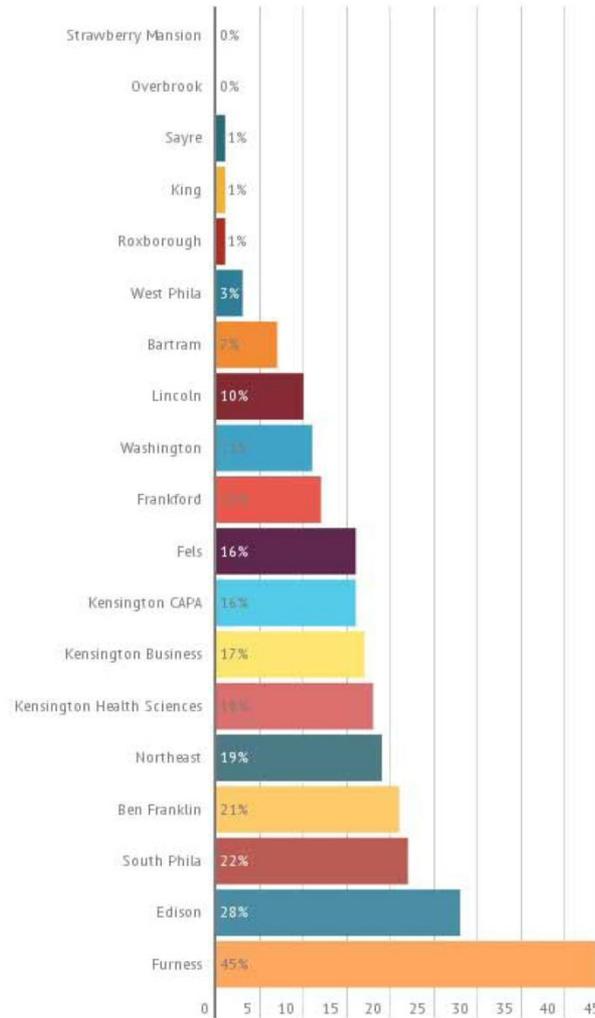
+ Community Priorities –

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

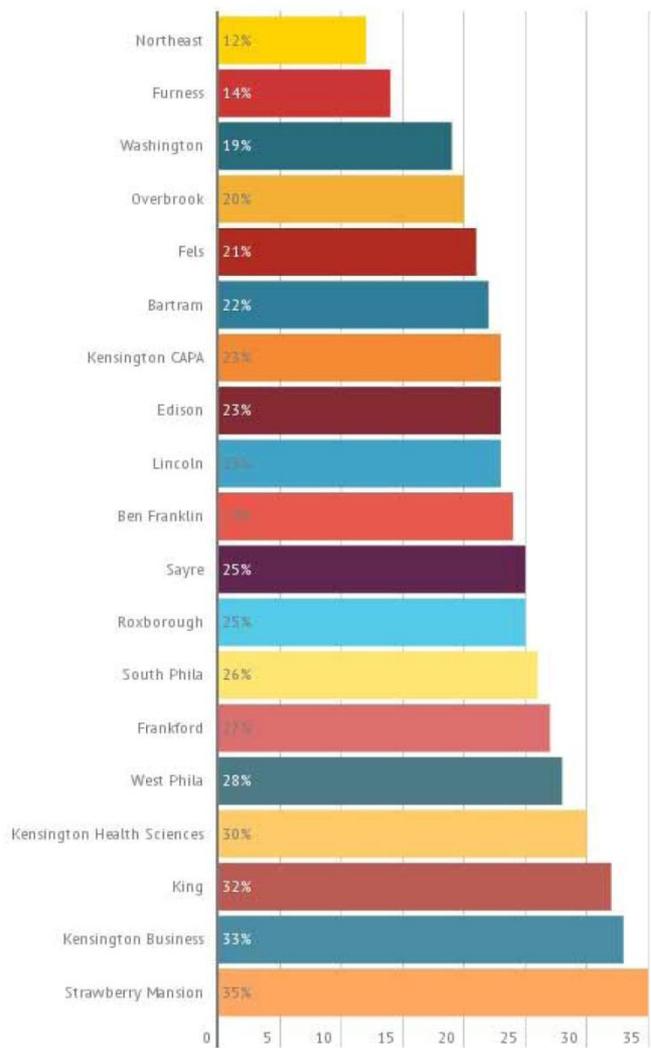
ELL STUDENTS IN NEIGHBORHOOD HIGH SCHOOLS



From the PCCY report:
Separate and Unequal: A Path Forward for Neighborhood High Schools



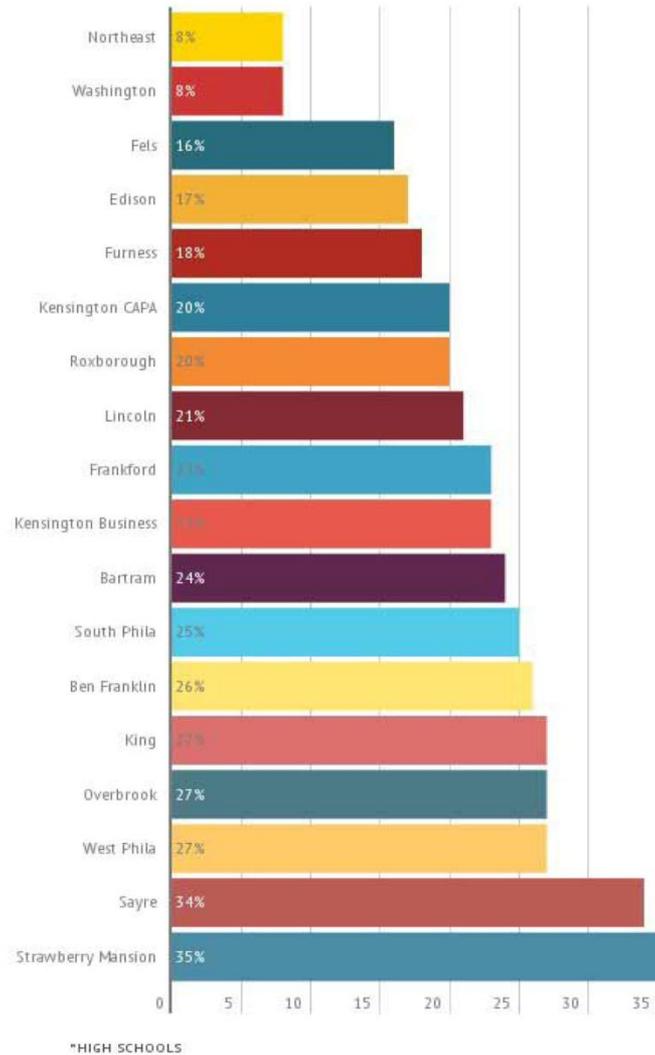
SPECIAL ED STUDENTS IN NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS



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DHS INVOLVED STUDENTS IN NEIGHBORHOOD HIGH SCHOOLS



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December 2015

www.pccy.org



District FAQ

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