



Press Release – For Immediate Release

March 4, 2016

PPS Board of Education to Further Incorporate Student Voices in Selection of Next Superintendent

Sparked by a direct email and telephone student inquiry to the Perkins Consulting Group, the firm has designed an innovative, unprecedented process to further incorporate the voices of PPS students. A student committee will be formulated to generate a question to be used in consideration of the next superintendent of schools.

During the month of February, a PPS High School Student wrote to the Perkins Consulting Group with a follow-up phone call to suggest a process for students to interview candidates for the position of superintendent. Since this was not possible and still maintain applicant confidentiality, the firm designed a process to have the students review a written response from the final candidates in advance of their interview. The board has agreed to formulate a sub-group of students who participated in the January 28 student forum at University Prep. This sub-group will comprise a committee that will articulate a question for superintendent finalists identified in the search process. Finalists will receive these questions and be given one week to respond. These responses will be transmitted anonymously to the committee who will have one week to provide feedback. That feedback will be utilized by the BOE as they make their final decision on who is chosen to lead the PPS system.

The PPS Board of Education is committed to the development of student voice in the city of Pittsburgh. The call for applications states that the board is seeking an individual who has demonstrated a commitment to student leadership development and listening to student voices. In this unprecedented approach, this board has taken the lead, through their example, to develop a culture of valuing student voices.

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