



## LRSD Survey and Sessions Ideas - Big Picture "Labs" Community Input

### SURVEY RESPONSES

**If you have any other advice or ideas for the School District about improving learning opportunities and environments for our city's young people--our community's future--please share briefly your top suggestion.**

1. Thank you for this process. Two key points:
  1. I am a proud product of the Little Rock public school from the time before charters. While there were challenges (consolidation, etc.), there was a unity between the city and her schools. That has disappeared to the detriment of both the school and to the city. New (and existing) residents are challenged to navigate the myriad of school options and the lack of consistency (see next point) drives them to charters and private schools) that appear to offer a more stable (if not academically better) environment for their children. Improving the perception (and reality) of LRSD will help not only the students but the larger business environment and the future of our city.
  2. There are a number of interesting ideas mentioned in the survey for the development of new schools, new school types, focus areas, etc. However, the focus should always be on consistent, high quality, education that teaches basic skills and concepts along with critical thinking and the ability to learn. This (perceived) lack of consistency really hurts the District. Some are zoned for a school they like, attend it but then move out of the District when they age out of the school. Some are excited about attending a particular school but if they are not admitted the leave the District rather than attending another District school. This is because they see opportunity only at certain schools. STEM (and I'm a scientist) and STEAM and single gender and K-8, and all the rest is great, but it means little and will be considered window-dressing if test scores, reading levels, teacher/parent/staff engagement, and similar items aren't strong at ALL schools. Excellence and consistency of excellence are critical for the future of our students, our city, and our District.
2. Thank you for the opportunity.
3. N/A
4. Safety - environment conducive to learning - expelling students for repeated offenses to state law and district policy should be #1. Everyone is entitled to a free education. It is impossible to learn when there is constant disruption due to student misbehavior. It the law- yet LRSD refuses to remove the problems at all grade levels in every school.
5. Updating is necessary especially to help retain & attract new students
6. I think there should be some consideration as to just having 2 grades per building. Pre-k and K; 1-2; 3-4; 5-6; 7-8; 9-10; 11-12.
7. Please do not let any of our facilities go to charter schools. Make these plans happen. We need to change to stay competitive.
8. Improve teachers and value teachers. Support the teachers. The schools only perform well based on the teachers and the students. Plans for redesigning and improve the way that the schools function should have been in this survey as well.
9. I think this is a significant project. I suggest that it may take more time. I also want to Community to know that they influenced the plan. So please highlight what Community ideas were adopted by the Commissioner. The other question is funding. A mileage is needed, then it will likely not pass without some changes in the community's perception in the Commissioner and whether the community's ideas are actually being considered. There is a prevailing though that there is already a plan in place and that this perfunctory. I don't believe that but a lot of people do. We



need to re-recruit families back to the district with targeted mailing to “compete” with the ads from charters. We have to continue to make enrollment easier and accessible.

10. NA
11. Extend school day to provide babysitting like the charters to match parents’ workday.
12. A more uniform way of communication to parents in the middle schools. It’s our first year in middle school and I am shocked at the lack of communication with parents. There should be more continuity and structure for each class. My friend has a son in middle school in Searcy and they send home a newsletter every week that includes what curriculum they will be covering, homework due dates, when tests will be given, and just general information about school activities. PVMS need something like this drastically!
13. I think we are moving in the right direction with new schools. Not a big fan of K-8 schools in general although I’d like to know more about how it’s working at FH Stem.
14. I like keeping Carver, Booker and Mann in placed
15. No
16. The district should not eliminate the magnet options to allow students to go to schools outside of their home areas...without it i believe the students who live in more disadvantaged areas are going to wind up at distressed schools ultimately
17. N/A
18. Combine Carver and Washington as a magnet STEM School K-8 School Make Booker Arts a Magnet for Coding in the Arts K-5 School to feed to Mann Magnet Arts Make Rockefeller a birth to preschool center
19. Have an Inter school district transfer between Northwest Little Rock (Pinnacle View Middle School& Joe T Robinson middle & High) or build a new high school in Northwest Little Rock in order to keep students in the LRSD school system. Please remember so many of these plans include Bussing a major failure over the last 35 years
20. We need local governance back. Democracy is messy but all of us need a voice.
21. I would like to see Forest Heights STEM Academy keep its STEM emphasis - they are doing a fantastic job - as well as its K-8 model without getting larger. And I would love to see them add an Arts designation to make it a true STEAM school. The arts and music teachers are amazing and there are regular and plentiful performance opportunities already, so this seems like an easy, logical jump.
22. More use of facilities for effective alternatives to in school and out of school suspensions. Also, a new high school is needed in west Little Rock—but their needs must always be balanced with even greater needs in lower income parts of the city that have been underserved for too long. Thank you for seeking feedback from all.
23. We must continue to strive to ensure equal and world class educational opportunities for all LRSD students.
24. Making our public schools stronger and providing quality pre-K options are of utmost importance. I like that some of the ideas presented in these plans suggest that STEM and technology-based education, as well as trades and post-graduation careers, are getting more attention and perhaps will be high priorities. I like that LRSD is offering lots of different pathways for Little Rock students.
25. Until there is a viable, robust, non-charter public high school option for students in the Northwestern parts of the city that does not require commutes across the city, LRSD will continue to bleed significant enrollment.
26. Thank you for all of the ideas and thoughts that have gone into this process. I just hope every area of town gets something that can entice parents to bring their students back into the district.



27. There seems to be a strong emphasis on science and technology education. Music education in elementary enhances a student's ability to learn in all areas.
28. Please limit the class sizes so teachers and students can get more one on one time to enhance skills. Please increase teacher's salary and medical benefits, so most teachers can stop working a second job and spend more time with their families.
29. Remove common core subjects and include more students participation activities
30. I don't see enough sport options for school kids. All kids need far more physical activity than they are currently getting. Schools need to offer more options and encourage more sports other than the Big three, Football, Basketball and Base Ball.
31. I love the idea of consolidation of multiple small schools
32. More PreK. Ideally any child in the boundaries of the LRSD would have access to PreK-4.
33. The schools are the lifeblood of the community and the central city is the lifeblood of the city. Do not ignore the older, established neighborhood schools in favor of building these shiny and new mega schools out in WLR. Keep them small and local and make these small neighborhood schools the beacons of their respective neighborhoods. Renovate them, even if you go all the way down to the studs, to make them every bit as fancy and awesome as the designs I've seen for the WLR facilities. The people will get behind these ideas. They will vote for a millage increase or straight tax increase AS LONG AS there are rules in place that the money STAYS with the LRSD. Not to charters and not to be spent by Johnny Key.
34. I would like to see a study that explains the above-average accomplishments of Asian and Middle Eastern student, who represent only a tiny part of the overall population, but nevertheless excel and dominate all the high-achievement ranks. Many of them are recent immigrants and grow up in homes where English is not spoken. They neither enjoyed "white privilege" nor suffered from laws that penalized blacks, i.e., no societal advantages or disadvantages. Publish the findings as a starting point of investigation what they do "right" that other population groups could learn from or perhaps even adopt.
35. Increasing teacher salaries---was dumbfounded that LRSD salaries are so low. If we intend to implement and improve new ways of teaching we need to our teachers to be able to focus on professional development/planning/implementing programs rather than work second jobs or struggling with the problems that come with low pay.
36. If an appealing plan (i.e. involving Robinson High School) is not put into place in a very timely manner for upcoming 8th grade graduates of Pinnacle View Middle School the LRSD will certainly lose a significant number of incoming 2019 high school students to private schools such as PA and LRCA. A majority of these students score very highly on academic testing--- as the LRSD is surely aware.
37. I want to thank the LRSD leadership for this impressive plan. I feel all the students, residents, and surrounding businesses/agencies would benefit from this. I am pleased to see updates/renovations to our aging school facilities. As a LRSD Alumni, it makes me have great pride for our future. As a LRSD parent, it makes me have great pride for my child's future and the opportunities that will arise. Thank you so very much.
38. Please consider classroom size in everything you do. To my knowledge, it remains the single most important factor in a student's progress. You have proposed many expensive plans. Hiring more teachers with adequate space to keep classroom census small is your best investment of our tax dollars
39. We need to make school more exciting for a lot of children with low focused skills to become more involved



40. My main concern is the literacy rates in this district. Without RISE being implemented in every school LRSD will still be graduating kids who are illiterate. Crime is soaring in LR and LRSD is partially to blame. School to Prison pipeline is real.
41. We must increase our budget. LRSD is becoming an embarrassment aside from a few gems like FHSA. We need to have stricter requirements for teachers (an undergrad degree and teaching certificate AT LEAST) and then pay them the salary and respect they deserve. If we put money into public education without charters, we will see better teacher applicants, more parent and community involvement, and higher esteem in the students.
42. A scholarship incentive program between the AR Dept of Higher Education and AR Public Schools for students/families that graduate from AR Public Schools. To incentivize enrollment versus private schools
43. Continue to do the good work you are doing, and please reinstate the school board soon. I am a supporter of LRSD and plan for both of my kids to complete K-12 in the district. I look forward to seeing what happens over the next few years.
44. N/a
45. I think it is important that there is access to quality education located in all areas of the city. Uncertainty about the future has always been a concern as a parent in LRSD. Both of our children will start high school in 2020, the year LRSD is re-zoning high schools. That creates uncertainty for us, since we bought our current home based on school zones. More stability in the district would be an improvement combined with an actual local school board. I am still not 100% sure our kids will stay in LRSD beyond 8th grade.
46. We currently are enrolled at LR Central High and Williams Magnet. They are wonderful schools with amazing teachers. And we are grateful to be at both. We left private schools to be more part of our city and for more diversity. I feel a way to improve the learning opportunity for our daughter and son who are elementary age would be more outside play time. Currently our 3rd grader has barely 10 minutes outside. I think that should be addressed.
47. n/a
48. You spend a ton of money busing people all over and if the courts will let you, you need to stop.
49. We need families that will teach their children how to behave so their behavior doesn't monopolize resources and prevent other children from learning. In addition to chronic absenteeism for students, it needs to be addressed with staff as well. There should be other options for PD for teachers that doesn't require them being away from their class room for 3-5 days in a week. One day this week my middle school child had a sub in 4 of his 8 periods. How is he supposed to learn without those educators? Also subs should be better screened. I witnessed a sub checking in with the school secretary and he was barely able to speak to her, I can only imagine how he did with a class full of children. We also need a school district under local control. When will we elect a new school board? When will ADE return local control?
50. Parkview should become the feed in school for students from FHSA!!
51. I think that we have to have innovative, exciting ideas to maintain our population and bring back students who have left the district.
52. I think it's time the zoning lines are redrawn.
53. LRSD needs to return to local control. No more charter schools, we have enough in the state already. Let's fix the existing schools that can be fixed and build new schools in the urban neighborhoods where we have lost schools.
54. N/A
55. Whatever opportunities they must allow students to stay together in neighborhoods to create a better sense of community and parental involvement. Across the district all students should



- have the programs and technology to excel. In a public system children should not have to compete to get in the “better” schools when one is within walking distance to their home.
56. Together SWLR and LRSD has vast potential upon the horizon. I applaud the stakeholders of SWLR and LRSD in putting education first and I look forward to seeing the fruits of their labor come to bloom. Therefore, I most humbly request that we take a look at one area that is closest to my heart and that is out-of-school time, which is a time that can occur before-and-after school, during holiday breaks, during summer break, and during any time outside of school hours. What a youth does during out-of-school time, can make a significant impact on their community. It is where a number of our societal woes are developed. Studies show that a lack of affordable (reduced, low, or no cost) access to constructive and productive activities and programs can hinder a child emotionally, physically, mentally, and academically. According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), “The growing importance of education equity is based on the premise that an individual’s level of education directly correlates to the future quality of life. Therefore, an academic system that practices educational equity is a strong foundation of a society that is fair and thriving.” SWLR’s standard of living and its quality of life hinge on factors that affect them both such as employability, crime, healthcare, housing, and so much more. The Institute of Education Sciences (IES) National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) found that "In 2017, the employment rate was higher for those with higher levels of educational attainment." These are factors that we can remedy together by leveraging resources and services that are already in place and can be put in place through future implementation and collaborations. This remedy can be achieved through one or more of the following: Additional funding and resources for current out-of-school time programs  
Readjusting the school year to be all-day/year-round  
Adding out-of-school time programs to areas in the district where none or few exist  
Retaining and/or expanding early childhood education  
Retaining and/or expanding out-of-school time programs  
Moreover, we can continue to work with our federal delegation to redirect funds from federal agencies and programs directly to state and local entities to provide those state and local entities more autonomy while reducing the duplication of services between the federal and state/local levels. Our approach of educating youth from birth to adulthood will show significant dividends, and utilizing the methods aforementioned, we can increase education rates throughout the district with the goals of achieving the following: Attracting more businesses to Arkansas  
Decreasing the crime rates  
Increasing employability  
Retaining a talented workforce ...and so much more
57. The 45-50 Million that you are allocating to build the new McClellan, why not complete some of the upgrades in all of the schools instead of focusing on a few schools for the upgrades at a time. The students and staff will feel like administration really cares about their environment and want to improve the learning opportunities. As a staff member at Parkview, the upgrades that are needed here are too numerous to list, from the classrooms to the front office to the cafeteria and on to the very hot gym. The carpet in the front office and the classrooms need to be replaced, I hate to think of how many years this tainted carpet has been down and cleaning does not work! The front office layout is not conducive to an effective work atmosphere, it is too open. We do not have enough classrooms and offices for our staff and the portables are becoming crowded as well. The halls are dim, not welcoming at all and could use some brighter paint. Parkview has never had a football stadium, we have plenty of land to build on, nice football field and track but no stadium and the athletic fieldhouse could use a little more space. I could go on and on but we are PARKVIEW and we maintain and adjust.
58. LRSD needs to consider a specific 9th grade options. Even though 9th grade is considered High School the students are not as mature as 12th graders yet they interact with them. May districts have learned it can be better to keep 9th graders apart from 12 graders? Many districts have



- created 9th grade academy that helps with the full transition to other grades. I hate to say it, but back in my date 9th grade was Junior High (7, 8,9th grades), and High School was (10, 11, 12th grades). This ultimately makes more sense for many students.
59. See answer to item #3
  60. Maybe the more affluent, thriving schools that AREN'T mentioned anywhere in this survey "adopt" a sister school that is struggling, by providing resources, insight, mentors, & parent (and GRAND parent) volunteers when needed? I had an Oprah "ah-HA" moment when I saw a news piece showing a white woman saying "You don't see schools in the Heights and Hillcrest being shut down. Why in the world would we allow this to happen to ANY child in LR". I LOVE the re-purposing ideas, & would avoid closing down schools if at all possible.... and..... oh yeah- one more thing----- We should ALL contact our legislators (especially Johnny Keys) and tell them to STOP ALLOWING CHARTER SCHOOLS TO BE OPENED IN LITTLE ROCK! Same message to Walmart-- STOP FUNDING CHARTER SCHOOLS! Thanks for listening-- full disclosure- I currently live in Rhode Island, but hope to move home to Arkansas someday soon.
  61. Create additional (District-Wide) shadowing in high-tech fields within the business community.
  62. Be bold and unafraid of litigation. Make decisions that are smart, affordable and help kids and improve teacher pay. Do not dwell on the past, look to where we are going and where Little Rock will be in the next 15 years.
  63. Implement the PVMS/Robinson plan proposed by the parents.
  64. Please continue to put our children first. Please expand recess! Please invest in our future and keep family needs at the front of your mind. All children in Little Rock deserve a quality education and to read at grade level.
  65. Build a high school in West Little Rock.
  66. Parkview is in need of major repairs. Really not sure how Parkview got completely left off the facilities plans.
  67. LR Central High School has too many students; we need improved science and technology labs and better parking. We need to get out of portable buildings and end the practice of "floating" teachers who have no dedicated classroom.
  68. LRSD needs a laser focus on reading. Particularly reading on grade level by end of 3rd grade.
  69. Since there is no high school in west Little Rock, more magnet openings need to be considered for Central High.
  70. We need more principals like Mr. Harris at Brady or Ms. Cooper at forest heights. If we can change the teachers and principals approaches on the children to be back to that home away from home feel, invested into them more parents would stay with that and a combination of a stricter curriculum. I do feel we need a GT school, strictly for those children who are advancing and have always advanced to be on a higher learning structure then the normal child their age. Somewhere where they can take middle school classes in elementary and high in middle. Where they do lots of critical thinking faster paced work to really challenge these students whom are done in class in ten minutes. We could also use an elementary for the students that need that small class group extra one on one help to get them back functional in a traditional setting. If you can be more diverse and Offer more you will bring kids back to public schooling.
  71. My kids are getting a great education. I'm proud of our school district and I am very impressed by the teachers. I'm also super fed up with the haters. We have a lot to be proud of.
  72. LR Central High is the bell cow of the LRSD. It is often the only reason parents choose public school. Don't take this for granted. Keep Central nice and up-do-date and advanced with class offerings. Also, I hate to say it, but if their sports teams are not excellent, it hurts school perception and ultimately attendance. It's embarrassing not just to LRSD, but to the capital city of Little Rock that Central High sports teams are mediocre and below. Perception matters.



73. I think expanding the prek program and proving a high school out west should be priority.
74. If a new high School was a considerable idea, why not place it near Central. Central is an excellent school but it is congested.
75. The district I live in is terrible!! Most of the children in my neighborhood go to private school for this reason. You need to refine the districts to improve the schools in the Hall high area or you are not going to ever have students choose those schools over private.
76. I am excited to see our southwest community and Hall High getting the attention it deserves. I worry that added emphasis out west neglects our dedicated midtown schools and families. I believe all efforts should be made to prevent these schools being renovated, closed, or reconfigured from becoming charter schools. I am wary of partnerships with UALR or other funding sources and what that means for LRSD as well.
77. My top suggestion is for individuals to realize nothing is the same and transformations does produce chaos but the main focus as a parent is to try and raise or students to be decent and respectable prior to school so that teachers and staff can work effectively. Make all the necessary changes that are needed to save money.
78. Every child matters and every effort needs to be made to make sure all students receive the best we can give them.
79.
  - \*All high school should have access to Concurrent Enrollment courses
  - \* Zoning should make sense. If we aren't going to provide transportation to some of these new, innovative proposed school, we should not implement them.
  - \* Do we have a partnership with the culinary school at Pulaski Tech? What about with their plumbing, electrician, or construction management programs?
  - \* We have to find a way to provide gifted students with a learning environment conducive to academic success. Many parents pulled their students from schools because they felt the school did not provide the challenging environment. This isn't an indictment of the teachers but of the system. Too many good teachers are forced to spend precious time putting out fires and handling discipline problems from repeat offenders. This must be addressed.
  - \* Athletics- We need a comprehensive program to educate student athletes on NCAA rules and requirements. I've witnessed students (not necessarily LRSD students) miss out on college athletic scholarships because they did not understand the process.
  - \* Is it possible to change the curriculum and offer Civics to seniors instead of freshmen? It seems that teaching about civic responsibility and engagement just before you are eligible to vote would make more sense than forcing 14 year olds to learn and then forget. Just a thought.
80. Focus on improving LRSD K-8 facilities is a great start in maintaining students and attracting new students. High Schools in central Little Rock where the majority of students will come from must also be equipped with the latest technologies to retain those students.
81. You need to provide a HS for West Little Rock. It is way overdue and the time is now. Thank you!
82. The district should strongly advocate for regaining a school board and demand a timeline/process from the State for doing so. The district should strive to achieve as much integration as possible across races and socioeconomic statuses - allowing district lines to be drawn around certain communities serves to disadvantage all students. Teachers should be given more encouragement, support, and resources from the administration.
83. N/A
84. N/A
85. I am discouraged by the prevalence of charter schools. I would like there to be more emphasis on public NEIGHBORHOOD schools. My children would be far more emotionally and socially connected and protected if their neighbors were also their schoolmates. LRSD should partner with the city on integrating neighborhoods rather than integrating by flinging children around



town. Also, I understand that STEM is important, but how about we improve the quality of STEM education in all schools rather than picking out some for specialization? My children wonder what they aren't learning that others are by being in a "regular" middle school and elementary school. Having magnets or "specialized" campuses deteriorates interest in neighborhood schools.

86. Please make needed updates to Central. This can be done without taking away the historic value away. As NLR did for the west campus. The lot for the portables is small and an eyesore.
87. We just need better high school options!
88. Pay the teachers more money instead of closing down schools and building new ones. Spend more money on educating our students because I feel we are failing them.
89. None
90. none
91. Science of reading curriculum used from day one in schools so that we no longer have such a literacy issue. Using a true science based program will teach ALL of the children to read, avoid the struggles of dyslexics and free up SPED for children that need it since dyslexics could spend more time in the classroom learning to read and not missing out on other subjects. As it stands today, intervention for dyslexics (1in5 kids have it, but we know they are not all being found!) takes up specialists' time and they are NOT pulled during "reading" time so they miss other subjects in the classroom to simply learn to read. This change in teaching strategy could save millions in time and money, not to mention the self-esteem and confidence of these kids.
92. Parkview High School looks exactly the same as it did when I graduated from there in 1994. The science classrooms are not state of the art and considering we are a science magnet and the #1 high school in Pulaski County, imagine what we could do with state of the art science classes. We are a performing arts school and our classroom size does not meet the needs. We have to cap our art and dance classes lower than we would like because our art rooms and dance rooms are not large enough. We need updated paint throughout the building. We have several trailers on the property and we have space to build an additional annex so that we would not have so many teachers that have to float from class to class because we do not have enough space. Our media center is outdated and could use a facelift. The front office is poorly designed and if a parent needs to see more than one person, they will likely have to go to several different areas just to see a principal, attendance and the registrar. The principal secretary sits out front and does not have an office of her own. She works with confidential information that anyone could walk by and see, which is not fair to her or employees. The registrar's office is full of file cabinets and there is not any room to put anymore. More storages definitely needed at Parkview. If the front office and main hallway office were reconfigured a lot of these issues could be resolved. This would also make the school safer. Knowing that all office personnel were in one area instead of spread throughout the school would be very beneficial to all.
93. See above need for WLR high school.
94. Converting schools South of I630 does not help with the racial climate of the city. We need our youth to not continue racial biases. If you segregate schools by zones we as adults aren't allowing our tomorrow (youth) the opportunity to develop skills of needed for life.
95. Booker Arts Magnet needs its facility in order to accomplish the excellent delivery of fine arts instruction. They have a gym which doubles as a drama and orchestra performance space, which also gives it the ability to host large events for the district and community. The building ranks high on the Fanning Howey building chart as well. Parents need to see what is available for them in order to compete with the charters in the area since Booker is the only elementary school that offers all the fine arts programming. None of the current suggestions mention anything regarding expanding the arts program offerings as mentioned in the introduction portion of this



- survey. Academically, Booker is one of the outliers for achievement and growth with the economic status of their student body. Booker also has a great technology center and students have access to Chromebooks and iPads. They could be used to enhance the arts and technology paired together with their partnerships with the Arkansas Arts Center and the Innovation Hub.
96. Please place Parkview on the Ballot for improvement. You guys has look over Parkview High school which is during so great academically and sports as well. Please let's Make Parkview even greater with the school remodeling, adding a football field, baseball and other the things that are deserving of Parkview. Or moved them to J.A. Fair.
  97. None
  98. Sports complexes for use by Elementary students with adjustable basketball goals. A centralized performance hall for Elementary productions.
  99. I am very concerned about the number of students the LRSD might lose after the 8th graders at PVMS graduate this year. I have a 6th grader at PVMS and honestly, I don't even know where we are zoned for HS. I think it is Hall, but there is talk about Hall becoming a magnet (or STEM) school, so I don't know what that means for us. I would guess that a few 8th graders at PVMS will apply for Central, a few will go to Hall and a whole bunch will leave the LRSD. These students want an option where they can stay together as a class and go to a thriving high school...and there just isn't an option like that right now.
  100. Will all this moving around of students and building be cost effective? It seems very expensive. Also, will it help diversify the schools?
  101. Put Parkview in fair
  102. Let's convert Booker Arts Magnet into a STEAM School K-5 or K-8 where the school theme is "Coding in the Arts" with an infusion of technology into already existing arts programs to compete with area Charter Schools. Booker Arts Magnet already has the ability to host large events due to its full-size gym (that includes drama performance and orchestra) and track with a football field. Furthermore, Booker Arts Magnet is the only elementary school in the LRSD and the Little Rock Charter School System with an elementary arts program, which includes orchestra, piano lab, drama, creative movement, choir, and visual arts. It is ranked in the top 4 in low facility upgrade needs according to the Fanning-Howey with recognition for having a greater percentage of students in the ready and exceeding categories on 2018 Spring ACT Aspire.
  103. Lower the class sizes especially for students in high poverty schools. Stop saying "under-utilized" because all these charters mentioned earlier don't have packed class sizes. They also can't keep staff. Another reason parents come back to the district.
  104. Teacher raises.
  105. I don't.
  106. Keep Carver a prek-5 facility. The team works well together and I feel families like having their pre k students in the same building as their elementary siblings. It provides a great place for students to grow and work together.
  107. None
  108. Dunbar is the forgotten stepchild middle school of the LRSD. It is basically indestructible with brick and stucco walls that students cannot break. Nevertheless, little is done to improve it. A new AC system was put in but some genius decided control of temperature in each room is controlled by an office elsewhere instead of each teacher controlling their own room. Accordingly, some rooms are hot, some cold, and some just right. In addition, the new thermostats do not completely cover the old box so that wiring is exposed but somehow this apparently is okay. New piping for the air conditioning was not properly insulated causing the pipes to sweat onto ceiling tiles causing mold. Finally, the roof still leaks into numerous classrooms as it has for years. District personnel come out but nothing changes. Instead, the



- LRSD just wants to build new schools which are not necessarily needed or gives schools like Pinnacle everything and the hell with the rest.
109. While I am happy about the improvements that are going to be made, I would like to see how we are going to recruit and retain high quality instructors and support staff--as well as develop a quality of hire program to remove staff who do not have the children's interest at heart.
  110. Do something about buildings with rodent infestation and damages that pose as safety hazards.
  111. Find a creative way to get all parents, community leaders and partners involved in making the school district second to none.
  112. Allow magnet school pre-k students to automatically 'roll up' into the magnet school kindergarten. More than that: HOW CAN WE GET BACK CONTROL OF OUR SCHOOL DISTRICT? It is unconscionable that the Little Rock School District is still being overseen by the Board of Education when we out-perform districts that are receiving no interference whatsoever. The taxpayers of our city deserve to be able to elect representatives for our school district. It has been three years. Is there even a plan to cede control back to us?
  113. Continue to focus on STEAM as our district curriculum set up. The arts such as dance, drama, speech, creative writing, music, art, etc. make children better-rounded and is an attractive learning environment for families.
  114. LRSD has its pros and cons. It suffers from a political battle from over 61 years ago. LRSD should focus on the students they have and start with improvements there from literacy to math. Invest in your current students, build them up, take care of your teachers, and the results will come that will attract the parents and students back to the district.
  115. Education of parents. Educations of Birth-PK. Health through community gardens.
  116. As a resident in the Roberts/PVMS area, zoned for Hall High, my biggest concern is having a good High School for my daughters. THERE IS NO GOOD HIGH SCHOOL OPTION in West Little Rock. YOU HAVE TO COME UP WITH THIS OPTION or you will lose West Little Rock students to charter and private schools. Central and Parkview may not be able to absorb all the PVMS students and these 2 schools are currently the only viable public school options in my opinion. The parent initiative of working with Pulaski County special school district, absorbing their middle school students into PVMS and turning their new Robinson Middle School facility into a high school for West Little Rock sounds like it may be the best and most cost effective option but has a lot of red tape and bureaucratic obstacles that will need overcoming. Bottom line - you have got to create a traditional high school option for West Little Rock. That's where the population is growing and this need will only increase. WEST Little Rock NEEDS A HIGH SCHOOL. It is a high priority.
  117. We need to market LRSD. I get something in the mail from a charter school at least weekly. I know LRSD doesn't have the funding for that but I do think we could require charter school parents to participate in an open house at their zoned school or a magnet before they apply for charter. LRSD has a lot to offer people don't know about. This should happen at every level before parents apply for charter.
  118. none
  119. Lower classroom sizes. Try it out in a couple of schools with different dynamics for a couple of years. See how it affects student test scores and behaviors.
  120. LRSD owes it to all its students to give the same opportunities across the board. WLR is not the only need in the area. Spend more money on getting the schools that are falling down physically and lacking academically. It's a shame how Pinnacle View looks but McClellan keeps leaking, the new AC is not working and the horrible ordeal with the football field. The taxes paid by all the parents should serve in the best interest for all the students. You should not have schools on one end that look like Pinnacle View and Forrest Park.. Then on the other end you have McClellan



and Watson. Your motto is putting students first. Let's make sure your actions line up the same way for ALL the students.

121. Ideally, the district could come up with a phased plan to renovate all buildings in the district systematically. Shift populations to larger or newer schools and create true zones with exceptional academic possibilities for all students. I love STEAM Based learning and students opportunities to learn with their whole bodies. Ultimately, creating too many specialized schools might become self-defeating. Is it possible to integrate the STEAM model into schools without making the entire school solely Science based? I would love equal opportunities for students in the arts, sciences and core classes. I loved the dual language concept mentioned for one campus. Perhaps we can integrate more immersive language into all schools especially at the elementary age, where they pick it up easier. The state has grant money available for environmental and conservation related curriculum from the fees they collect through game and fish. Perhaps we can create some opportunities within each of our campuses to focus on environmental or conservation studies given our natural environment in Arkansas. Additionally, we have food desserts in parts of Little Rock. Perhaps we can cultivate some gardens in the elementary and middle school campus in our economically disadvantaged areas that allow the kids to collaborate with the community and outreach with their own neighbors (and benefit themselves from nutritionally optimal meals).
122. I would suggest to proceed with focusing on cultivating trust through community meetings, the news media, keeping patrons involved, examine and know when to scale back on some items proposed if there are indications that certain proposals are too grandiose, build on strengths and interests of each area, and encourage and require training for LRSD personnel to be aware of the mission and goals of the Little Rock School District that benefit students and the community at-large.
123. No
124. I think the LRSD would do well to start processes of possible changes, developmental growth, and vision planning with community rather than host community conversations after ideas, plans and decisions have already been made. In the absence of a school board, who would have likely done so or at least would have had the responsibility to do so, it seems the LRSD has been practicing tyranny that has driven a wedge and expected disengagement and distrust from community rather than implement genuine diplomacy and meaningful community engagement while trying to development more community support and involvement.
125. I think it would be cool to reach out to students to get ideas and input on things that affect them to see if they think they are good ideas before proposing them, and students have a unique outlook and perspective. I think good ways to do this could be through social media, which a lot of students use frequently. I'm not very familiar with most social media, only a little bit for class related stuff, but I know that Instagram has a poll feature and you could post things to keep students updated and in the loop.
126. All of these plans are nice but they still won't help the students is we do not have great teachers. The district needs to increase the pay so that it can recruit and retain excellent teachers. And provide incentives for teachers with students with great test scores.
127. Seek all waivers available from the state; Empower building level control of personnel and operations, then hold principals accountable; replace Central administrators responsible for decline of district with bold student-focused leaders; decertify the union for collective bargaining.
128. Please consider everyone in the city of Little Rock. We need to make LRSD schools better for EVERYONE. I am a proud LR Central graduate (2006) and went to PHMS and Jefferson Elementary. It is very easy to forget about the other schools in the district is given to these



schools that continue to perform. If we want our schools to thrive, we cannot allow charter schools to take over our city and give people the choice to send their children there and our money there. Thank you for listening to our opinions (and Mr. Poore, I hope you register to vote in our wonderful city). Thank you!

129. Booker is Great
130. Tell Johnny Key and Gov. Hutchinson, and the State Board of Education, that we need a democratically elected board. The people of LR feel helpless and voiceless. They cannot feel like they have a "buy in" to this process until there is a board. No amount of surveys and community meetings will take the place of a school board. Treat the employees with respect. Respect the negotiations process, respect the employees associations, respect the years of loyal service.
131. The decision you all are making appear to hurt the growth of Little Rock City, who would move their families here with such mass confusion. Poor school district under state control which is out of control trying to swallow up as many school districts as possible and not equipped to handle small problems.
132. N/A
133. Build a new high school immediately on the adjacent land by PVMS that has been owned by LRSD for 10 years. Use money from sale of schools in low populated areas that are past due to be combined with other low attendance schools. Quit spending millions on outside firms that all conclude that overwhelming majority of LR population west of 4-30 with NO high school. Use common sense. Where has all the millions set aside for "building funds" gone in the past few decades? Or push for Robinson HS to be new WLR high school. Quit with the virtual reality talk. Our kids deserve a quality, community based, traditional high school. It's a basic right to have a physical school. The millions in tax revenue from the majority of the capital city's population that has funded the LRSD for decades, needs a high school. We want the diversity that our community provides, we don't want to be forced to send our kids to private school where everyone looks the same. We demand a quality education. LRSD has failed our kids for decades. Enough is enough. Build it and they will come. It has been proven with Roberts and PVMS. Roberts was at capacity by year 2. PVMS will be at capacity by year 3. Fulbright busting at the seams for 30 years before Roberts built. Where are these kids supposed to go??? Build on the land adjacent to PVMS that has already owned by LRSD. Quit wasting millions on surveys. Close schools with low enrollment, combine with other schools. Sell what you can. Fix the schools that are in dire need of repairs. Quit wasting money. Find out where the money went. Millions wasted on severance for past LRSD superintendents and employees. Do right by these kids. Thanks.
134. Continue to be open in your conversations, report your feedback publicly, engage all stakeholders in the process, keep trying to tell your story as often as you can, enlist the support of the business community and ask them to publicly stand with you, get them to push for local control and when you get that have something of worth to showcase that everyone can take pride and ownership in. Get used to being smaller it may be better in the long run. Stop trying to win students back show by your results that you are a better choice for parents. Invest in Telling the story well over and over until it never gets old. Don't worry about the students you don't have focus on the ones who stayed for the duration. That is where your best efforts will be realized.
135. For the future there needs to be a lot more transparency in order for parents and educators to have more trust in operation of the school board. If that doesn't happen you will continue to see a decline in enrollment. People are concerned about their kids' education and they should be. Simple stated we have to do better.



136. I am concerned with the overcrowded conditions at Fulbright Elementary. Fulbright has fifth grade classes crammed into small portable classrooms. Fulbright is getting the overflow from other schools that do not have portable buildings. Fulbright either needs additional classrooms and a multipurpose space for inclement weather activities or the district needs to reassign students not living within Fulbright's attendance zone to other schools.
137. Need to enforce school district's attendance policy. We should not be giving students credit if they are missing 30-45 days a semester!
138. The more that we can support what is working in our schools without shifting and reconstituting the better our students will fair. Major changes are difficult for everyone involved.
139. Let's get Parkview a football field
140. I would like to see more emphasis in the arts also. Why is everything that's an "upgrade" geared towards STEM? I understand that the US is falling behind in this area, but STEM isn't the only area with job openings. We can't as a society, completely ignore that side of ourselves, and this seems to be the direction the district wants to head in.
141. Connecting students with mentors in specific areas of study!! We can do this!!
142. Utilize the areas we already have like Booker Arts Elementary it has a Full size Gym that is used for Drama Performance and Orchestra but could be used for other purposes like basketball Games at LRSD Elementaries. It also has a full sized track and field area. It could create a school based on performing arts, there is not any other school in Central Arkansas based on ARTS that includes dance, drama, band, music, choir, and art in the elementary. It can be enhanced through these programs and their partnerships to create a true center of diversity and learning through the performing ARTS.
143. Booker has track and field, arts programs, and so much potential to offer for kids growing up with different learning styles and expression methods
144. Improve our parks and recreations programs. So many students leave the city to find better managed parks and recreation programs. This will help the athletics programs within our district. Also hire athletic coaches with experience in their sport. It is so vital to the success of the students wanting to remain student athletes in the LRSD at the high school level. Please consider improving Parkview Arts & Magnet School's infrastructure. If JA Fair's buildings are fair, then please consider Parkview for those facilities. Parkview needs nice classrooms, gyms, and fields. Great job with Forest Heights STEM. Please model the FHSA's format in other schools around the district.
145. Would love to see a high school option with a closer commute in West LR.
146. Keep the schools as is... Think about the children that this is going to uproot. Sometimes its not all about the money!!! Keep the kids where they are!!!!
147. I think we need to put some emphasis in Parkview, why are we not looking into it?
148. Please reduce class size, allow more time for collaboration & spend time listening to the employees -- some are holding onto frustrations & need to be heard. I appreciate that you are looking at the physical plant of the schools -- it is easier to build pride in a facility that has been taken care of/renovated. I would also suggest the families that are concerned about K students being in the same building with middle school students to visit FHSA & see how it works to their advantage. FHSA has many mentoring opportunities because of their population.
149. Improve sense of safety within schools by supporting students in having their needs met (counseling, interpersonal skills supports, artistic outlets, opportunities to find what inspires them, and finally removing threats that persist despite those preventatives)
150. Improve communication. The district needs additional communication staff, a better (mobile-friendly) website, online portals, and more innovative ways of communicating with parents on a day-to-day basis and about strategic or newsworthy topics. Adding additional culturally-



- competent, language-accessible communication could also benefit families in the district. We WANT to be partners if we are only invited in with open arms through clear communication.
151. I am not a fan of neighborhood schools. I prefer thematic to make them more appealing- arts, science (NASA), technology, etc.
  152. Control of the school district must be returned to a local school board. With the numbers of children with autism and/or autistic features reaching 1 in 50, special educational and vocational plans to help them become productive, engaged, successful citizens must be part of these plans. Private entities must not be allowed to become influential in the operations of public schools.
  153. Again, the fastest growing population in LR is the northwest section, yet we have no HS in this section of the city. The LRSD has “dropped the ball” by not planning to build a school in this area in past years. I am happy to see that LRSD seems to be moving in the right direction and is being proactive in its current planning. However, I think it’s too little, too late for my family and that is very frustrating to me.
  154. Facilities is the name of the game. We want to keep our students BUILD new facilities. Get EVERY student 1 to 1. Get the buildings upgraded to be a part of the 21st century. Build athletic facilities for the HIGH schools!
  155. Budget for maintenance, upgrades and professional development long term to support any proposals put forth transportation costs must be factored in as well. consider streamlining the provide own transportation options to families to increase their choices and to afford equitable access to all specialized programs
  156. I think to directly compete with the private and charter schools in elementary age the district needs to look at adding new options. Foreign language starting in kindergarten and increased recess time for elementary age children. I think something that is not mentioned when looking at charter versus public is that eStem for example does not offer music or art to elementary age students. STEM should be shifted to an emphasis on STEAM. This would allow the combination of elementary schools that focus on arts and science in a meaningful way. One of the biggest complaints that I have heard from parents is the uncertainty. No one seems to know what the boundaries, application requirement, feeder patterns, or registration dates from one year to the next. There also needs to be more transparency when decisions are made such as the recent reassignment of teachers at the elementary school level. I still have not heard a single thing from the district as to why my child's school lost two teachers almost a month into school. I would like to see a specific plan with dates of implementation and outreach well in advance of the changes.
  157. We need to have our own school board for LRSD before any of these kind of changes are seriously considered. Making these changes without the voices of the neighborhoods and families is going to increase the distrust in the “leadership” of the schools so that there will be little/no trust or confidence from the community.
  158. More diverse school teachers and better training for the teachers
  159. A high school where students can graduate with professional certifications in place is a must.
  160. Move the entire administration into the Henderson Middle School building and move Henderson K-8 to the old Parkview High School building.
  161. Don't waste any more money on pre-K as most studies show it is worthless once kids get to 12y/o.
  162. Instead of closing schools in areas as the SOMA and Pettaway neighborhoods begin to revitalize. Let’s rebrand the schools. Look at revitalizing the integrity of the magnet programs. True neighborhood schools are needed in the east LR areas as well as the west LR areas. To create larger schools with more concentrated problems cause parents to choose alternative schools. Charters! We have to create clarity about our purpose before we can create competence



163. I would love to see some revitalization of Terry Elementary - I went there as a child and after moving back into this zone with my children am sad to see that most of my neighbors no longer send their kids to this wonderful neighborhood school - instead they send them to private or charter. Some very nice areas are zoned for Terry and making it a magnet might entice those areas to start sending their kids again.
164. So where does Parkview Stand In the District? They are Little Rock School District right? No improvements to the school one of the oldest schools that does not have air in the gym, nor a Football field where they can play games nor a track so will it be Hall High school or J.A. Fair? The building is old the gym is old and small, how do you not include Parkview Arts and Science Magnet High School in Your Improvements? Lastly k-8 is a Bust! Failure. Glad my son is almost about to graduate. I feel for the future of our youth in Arkansas at the hands of the State. K-4, 5th grade, 6-8, 9th grade, 10-12, I'm from Russellville, Ar. This is Ideal plan that works for raising and grooming and educating well behaved strong minded kids. God Bless! It's not about Money, or Politics take all that away. It is about The Youth! They are our Future
165. Probably but I'm tired. This took a lot of time.
166. Make Carver a true Steam school. Close Booker, whose land we don't even own, and send them to Carver and Washington.
167. West Little Rock high school!!!! We do not have a nearby option and the majority of the city's growth is in WLR. Other communities build schools where the population is and we should as well.
168. I feel that we should focus more on the children with other learning disabilities instead of placing them in Special Ed classes. This doesn't teach them how to learn with their learning styles. We need a state of the art facility for these individuals.
169. LRSD loses numbers due to not having viable option in North West. That is where the majority of students live that occupy PA and LRCA. Numbers went up for LRSD with the opening of Roberts Elementary but then would drop off when students got to 6th grade. Numbers for LRSD have increased with PVMS opening, increasing each year the last 3 years. There is not currently an option for current 8th graders to attend a traditional high school in the neighborhood next year. Robinson High School is just a few miles down Hwy 10 from PVMS. It makes the most sense to quickly work with PCSSD and make something work so that LRSD can keep the funding of students for High School. If the 2 districts worked out something like proposed so that both districts kept the dollars of the students zoned for them, then you could get around the de-seg lawsuit PCSSD is still under. The repurposing of JA Fair for a High School for North West that was proposed is not really a viable option because it is still very far away and I have not heard from any parent that they would consider this either.
170. I believe we should have a lot more focus on fine arts. One thing young people all have in common is the need to express themselves. Unfortunately, when it comes to making changes and budget cuts, the arts departments are the first ones to suffer. Including STEAM activities and programs in our schools will help further our students' fine arts education.
171. My top suggestion is to focus more on advertising the positive/great things we have going on in the district.
172. I'm most concerned that my child does not have a real math book that comes home with her each night. It is very hard for parents to teach/help children when they did not grow up learning common core. A real math book would help parents understand the concepts, as well as reiterate concepts for the child. I feel like Terry (or other elementary schools in LRSD) have low math scores because of it.
173. Give our school board back to us. Stop giving away our property to charter schools.



174. • The experience at Booker Arts Magnet can be enhanced thru partnerships that will provide access to a diversity of professional artist, actors, dancers, and musicians to visit the classroom
- o Arkansas Arts Council § Arts In Education (Arts on Tour, School Residency Program)
  - o Central Arkansas Library System – Literary Festival – School Visit Program (April) Facts about Booker Arts Magnet that need to be considered:
    - The only Elementary School in the LRSD and the Little Rock Charter School System with an Elementary Arts Program including: Orchestra, Piano Lab, Drama, Creative Movement, Choir and Visual arts.
    - Ranked in Top 4 in low facility upgrade needs according to the Fanning-Howey.
    - Arkansas A+ School (Combine interdisciplinary teaching and daily arts instruction offering student opportunities to create innovation ways of thinking, learning, and demonstrating knowledge
    - Popular, Easily Accessible, and Convenient Location – off Downtown Little Rock, close to Quapaw Quarter and the Clinton Library/River Market District
    - Recognized for having a greater percentage of students in the ready and exceeding categories on 2018 Spring ACT Aspire as reported in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette and Arkansas Times.
    - Current enrollment is 429 and increasing!!!
175. Booker Arts Magnet is the School that would provide and amazing head start for the student in the Eastern Little Rock Attendance Zone. Convert this school into a STEAM K-8 school infused with technology in their already existing arts program to compete with Charter Schools and fill the void.
176. Reducing class sizes would positively impact student achievement, reduce discipline issues, and allow for more personal engagement with students and parents. It is also one of the biggest reasons that parents look for other schools outside of the district, particularly as their child approaches the middle school years. Our district's middle schools are (and are perceived as) overcrowded with students being on their own as teachers are overwhelmed by too many students. Additionally, overcrowded classrooms make project based learning difficult and increase the potential for tension and conflict.
177. I have a 6th grade in attendance at Pinnacle view and have already begun researching charter and private schools for high school. The scores shown for our current zoned high school, Hall, are definitely an incentive to move out of LRSD or use private facilities. I appreciate the efforts being made to update/upgrade the facilities.
178. Vo-Tech programs / apprenticeships
179. Invest in athletic facilities. We lose more kids to surrounding districts because of our lack of facilities. Successful athletic programs generate way more positive publicity for the district than anything else.
180. This sounds as if the District has already made up its mind about the facilities plan and what will be done. This is another extension of the state take over and how there is no local public control of this District. I realize that any comments given here will not be looked at and that this is just a way for the District to appear that they are interested in the public's opinion.
181. We must stop suspending students and leaving them in the community unsupervised. LRAD must develop a plan for these students that surpasses the Alternative School Approach. Please consider addressing the African American male students with a facility and teachers that understand them and the issues they face. A separate facility should be considered for African American young ladies in the same category.
182. Diverse offerings, diverse staff and administration.
183. Boundaries need to be redrawn to reduce attendance at Central. The only way the portable buildings will be removed is if the student body is reduced. While it is a wonderful and historic



school, part of its success since 1989 has come at the expense of other LRSD high schools. The 1988 redrawing of boundaries and transformation of Parkview to a magnet school shifted all of the higher income neighborhoods to Central instead of what had been fairly evenly distributed between Hall, Central and Parkview. This needs to be addressed.

184. Give the LRSD back to the people.
185. Williams Magnet should become a feeder school for Forrest Heights middle school program.
186. There are entirely too many elementary schools in close proximity to each other. Some can be combined due to enrollment numbers. Most of the schools need major improvements. Instead of building or rebuilding place the funds into your existing infrastructure.
187. Project for future GROWTH-where are people wanting to attend public school? Give them one. :)

### **RESPONSES FROM AREA SURVEYS THAT ARE GENERAL: FOR LABS**

1. It was very hard for us to decide what school was best for his needs. It was kind of stressful.
2. Geographic considerations are key so that kids' commutes are too long. But most important is a commitment to and investment in consistent excellence and student achievement so that all Little Rock residents will recognize and be attracted to the Little Rock public schools.
3. The current ideas and plans sound good. Student population will increase if the schools also function and perform better.
4. Re recruit students and families that attend charter schools.
5. Open enrollment schools in our city make sense to me. Everything should be open enrollment if you really want parents to have choices. Different schools should have different focuses, including an option for bilingual immersion for both native Spanish and native English speakers, to attract and retain parents.
6. I would actually put security back in the schools.
7. Classes of students should remain together throughout their elementary years.
8. Eliminate common core subjects, reintegrate civics and Arkansas history. Also, allow the teachers to teach without so much interference from administration.
9. Don't want it to interfere with forest heights and other schools where things are going well
10. Renovate these old schools! They're established neighborhood schools. They are a part of the neighborhood and the community. Do not abandon them - renovate them.
11. I understand and appreciate the concerns about the high costs of renovating the buildings, but this approach of mega schools makes me highly uncomfortable.
12. Do not know enough about individual schools/communities/programs to comment. However, I hope you are not committed to building new instead of fixing up older structures.
13. I do not have an opinion. Use our tax dollars wisely. I do think keeping students close to their neighborhood helps parents stay engaged and students attend with regularity
14. The district should focus on equity!!! This entire set up looks like 1957!!! The public schools will be completely segregated!!!
15. Teach kids how to read
16. I think the input from those that are currently at the schools that would be closed is most important. Since I am not attached to any of those schools, my input is not as valuable. But if you are going to close schools, maybe start with a smaller school to decrease the amount of people affected. And open up enrollment in the new school with a lottery system like the magnet programs.
17. I don't live in that part of LR and am not as familiar with the schools or neighborhood distributions so I don't feel I have enough information to answer this question.



18. I cannot make suggestions because I am not aware of these schools performance!
19. I don't-agree with the proposed plan.
20. Bigger lockers for the students.
21. All programs must be built around community keeping neighborhoods together.
22. Business Incubators, apprenticeship training centers, out-of-school time facilities, multi-purpose event centers, mixed development, housing for children and their families experiencing housing difficulties, and still a mixture what was already mentioned in the survey. The biggest thing is to ensure that these buildings are used as described herewithin and not sold to those interested in opening yet another charter school.
23. Are there any ideas to consolidate schools NORTH of 1-630... it would seems that all these plans are ONLY affecting certain zip codes : /
24. I don't know much about any of these schools so I don't think my opinion should count. I think this should be a conversation for students, parents, & teachers of the schools that will be involved.
25. Need to consciously plan to minimize commutes and keep families well served.
26. I don't want the abandoned buildings to be taken over by charter schools. The property should be sold.
27. I suggest keeping neighborhood schools open. Not everyone wants to be bused out.
28. I think pre k3,4 and kindergarten should be kept apart. I like the idea of combining the older kids. What about moving 6 grade back to elementary and 9th grade to middle school? I never understood why the change even happened. My 5th grade year when I was going to be the part of the older kids, was the year it was moved to middle school. 1st - 3rd, 4th - 6th, 7th - 9th, and 10th - 12th. I was looking at buying a home in Texas and noticed their schools where broken down like that.
29. I believe school choice would be best.
30. k-5 not 8TH
31. None. I do not live in that area, and do not have kids in those schools. I'd defer to those who are invested in those schools as to the needs of that area.
32. That is a lot of elementary students in one building. Students feel better in smaller learning facilities. Low socioeconomic students need smaller and more support.
33. Together SWLR and LRSD has vast potential upon the horizon. I applaud the stakeholders of SWLR and LRSD in putting education first and I look forward to seeing the fruits of their labor come to bloom. Therefore, I most humbly request that we take a look at one area that is closest to my heart and that is out-of-school time, which is a time that can occur before-and-after school, during holiday breaks, during summer break, and during any time outside of school hours. What a youth does during out-of-school time, can make a significant impact on their community. It is where a number of our societal woes are developed. Studies show that a lack of affordable (reduced, low, or no cost) access to constructive and productive activities and programs can hinder a child emotionally, physically, mentally, and academically. According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), "The growing importance of education equity is based on the premise that an individual's level of education directly correlates to the future quality of life. Therefore, an academic system that practices educational equity is a strong foundation of a society that is fair and thriving." SWLR's standard of living and its quality of life hinge on factors that affect them both such as employability, crime, healthcare, housing, and so much more. The Institute of Education Sciences (IES) National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) found that "In 2017, the employment rate was higher for those with higher levels of educational attainment." These are factors that we can remedy together by leveraging resources and services that are already in place and can be put in place through future implementation and collaborations. This remedy can be achieved through one or more of the following: Additional funding and resources



for current out-of-school time programs Readjusting the school year to be all-day/year-round Adding out-of-school time programs to areas in the district where none or few exist Retaining and/or expanding early childhood education Retaining and/or expanding out-of-school time programs. Moreover, we can continue to work with our federal delegation to redirect funds from federal agencies and programs directly to state and local entities to provide those state and local entities more autonomy while reducing the duplication of services between the federal and state/local levels. Our approach of educating youth from birth to adulthood will show significant dividends, and utilizing the methods aforementioned, we can increase education rates throughout the district with the goals of achieving the following: Attracting more businesses to Arkansas Decreasing the crime rates Increasing employability Retaining a talented workforce ...and so much more

34. Use a curriculum that actually teaches the students we have. Our current map does not fit the needs of our students.
35. Most of these schools were built in response to the integration that was happening in LR. Instead of focusing on attracting new students, take care of your current population. Improve things for them first and once they see the effort it will show and attract who it needs to.
36. If you want to build student population, then put more attention on the individual students instead of looking at them as a whole. Parents in that area send their kids to school to get an education. They are not as focused on the other kids in the classroom. They are focused on what the school is doing for their kid. Lower student ratio. Testing scores can sky rocket if we can spend more quality time with the individual child instead of the whole class. We can do this with less students. This will also cut down on behavior. Big PR opportunity. LRSD could be the ONLY district that is finally lowering class sizes. Teachers don't recommend this to be selfish. As it is said, we are not in this job for the money or recognition. We are here to help kids become self-sufficient learners. Today's kid needs more individual time with the teacher.
37. All the schools in LRSD should have a better mix. This school should not be majority of black and brown students. To totally enrich the culture of the school, it should be balanced in race and economic status.
38. Get some grants from the big organizations that funds schools in low income areas. Get a good grant writer.
39. I would take the students in the schools that are already closest to McClellan to keep it as a neighborhood school.
40. Redraw the attendance zones, study populations. Consider looking at the racial make-up of the zones and how it will impact the new McClellan.
41. Like you said the buildings are old and all structures need some renovation at some point. I just don't think consolidating that many school is the answer.
42. These plans disproportionately focus on schools that serve lower income, minority communities. The turmoil of moving and reconfiguring a large number of schools, student populations and school staffs will create a difficult adjustment period that will likely push more families out into charter schools.
43. I don't but think a component we might include in the middle curriculum is 'service learning.' Having an entire middle school engaged in and learning about 'service learning.' The engagement would occur with businesses that provide students with sustained service learning opportunities and where students develop service learning projects, etc.
44. See note about self-contained classrooms.
45. Whatever approach is used, what will the increased transportation costs be? How are young children best served by being warehoused outside of the neighborhoods. In hope the primary school houses all of the K-3 students in the district. At the time I was there, there were 9 or more



- sections of each class. It was frightening for the kindergarteners and 1st graders who were overwhelmed by the size. What does removing neighborhood schools do to the integrity of the neighborhood? If the resulting vacant buildings are sold to charters, as provided for my state statute, what prevents families from returning to schools in their own neighborhoods?
46. I prefer keeping the pre-K and elementary students in a separate school environment from the middle school students.
  47. Campus security: Please look in to modern ways to design facilities that prevent violence on campus against our children (bullet proof lobbies, etc.). I'm sure that has been heavily discussed, I just don't see that explicitly on the list.
  48. Make the building more secure for students.
  49. True neighborhood schools are good for our community.
  50. With testing being done on computers, every school needs at least complete labs. Students are not getting computer time due to continual testing.
  51. I don't believe this is about what is best for the kids and communities. I believe money is the main concern. What about safety and building maintenance. How will these mega schools be maintained? The district couldn't keep up the current schools.
  52. JA Fair would be a better facility to renovate for a K-8 school because it is enclosed.
  53. Be sure to market the benefits of attending LRSD schools over charters and give parents compelling programs and facilities to stay.
  54. Don't need to build student population, not losing students due to school in this part of the city. Just worry about improving the facilities or combining as described above.
  55. I do not believe in closing neighborhood schools, especially elementary schools. They are the fabric of the community, they strengthen the community and bring people together.
  56. It should be a feeder school to the new SW High School and offer programs that complement each school like we have in the magnet programs.
  57. Don't want it here.
  58. New facilities are great but none of this addresses the alleged problems the State used to seize the LRSD. What will be done to help underperforming students?
  59. Instead of building new fix the current schools.

## **DESIGN SESSION RESPONSES**

### **LRSD Idea Lab FROM MCCLELLAN**

1. Conquering the classroom "disruptive element"
2. addressing discipline strategies
3. Encourage diversity. We need to train staff to work with this generation of students.
4. Elevate schools by reducing number of schools; this will increase funds to help remaining buildings.
5. Entice excellent teachers here to Little Rock with better pay.
6. Diverse city matters! Si, se puede!
7. Find more ways to get input from the students themselves. Not many of us kids come to these forums. Ideas Instagram page and poles. Have a place at schools where kids can send in info.
8. Connect with student council's in a group to get input and ideas from them. Present new ideas and plans to teachers and students as a question to see if they think it's a good idea.
9. Parkview works because it is how it is. No changes needed to Parkview. Here's why: As a freshman Parkview student last year, I took classes with seniors and I take science and drama etc. Smaller [size] is a perk. . One of the great things about Parkview is its community and family like feeling. Central has lots of kids and is larger.



10. Raise teacher's salary by 6% over the next three years.
11. Can we change the name, "Southwest high school"? It sounds very territorial and derogatory. Is there another name of a famous Arkansan that the school could be named after?
12. Increase District Communication Budget to enhance advertisement of the district strategically.
13. Need vocational curriculum.
14. More gender neutral bathrooms for gender non-binary or gender complicated students.
15. Advertise Carver as a top STEM elementary magnet and promote the space sciences.
16. How do we get all schools the same?
17. Overall, the City needs to be a better partner.
18. Bring people in to the district with great programs that are unique to each school.
19. Scrap current facilities upgrade options. Improve all schools in the Little Rock school District. Stop closing schools. Stop attacking certified teachers. Support public school students, parents, and neighborhoods where the school district has schools. No more segregating our schools. No creating charters and choice schools in the school district Stop sub-contracting jobs in the school district like security. If one school in the district and one area in the district has more need than others, supply the needs. We need to see equity in the resources and support of students and their families. Our students need Community representation that is elected by our peers.
20. Equip all teachers and classrooms with necessary support and resources to make them excellent for every student in every class. Build up every student in the district, with brick and mortar, but with access to resources with certified teachers and educational support with their clock classrooms, schools, and Community.
21. We would like you to start using the resources within the school district and Community that did not support the takeover and instability of the district--who do not support the privatization of the district and our tax dollars. We would like to see less tracking of students and more equity for all students in all classes in all schools. Focus on education inside the schools for all. We want a community conversation on the educational performance in the schools.
22. We recommend advertising aggressively on TV and radio.
23. We need a strong plan to fix the schools we have before we build new ones

### **LRSD Idea Lab FROM J.A. FAIR**

1. Build schools and the LRSD by recruiting students that are not currently attending the LRSD – thought
2. Develop a transportation timeline to/from school for students with proposed plan
3. Invest more time with parents and students in each school to be sure that they are aware of the proposed charges and areas where they can suggest options changes – thought
4. Central to all strategies that are pursued I think LRSD should adopt a core commitment to establish the most diverse school populations in the city – thought
5. Create a facilities plan that is a growth rather than a shrinkage model - thought
6. Build community and corporate relationships that will partner and invest more in the LRSD based on producing better academic outcomes – thought
7. Build better personal relationships with LRSD staff and parents, guardians, and students – thought
8. A quality facilities plan include creating and maintaining better relationships and communications within school families currently throughout the district to help establish a plan that the LRSD parents and guardians will be more apt to commit to supporting and helping recruit others – thought
9. Pinnacle view pre k – 8? Try to build from the youngest children in area of most growth and least represented in elementary schools and early childhood – thought



10. Build a better relationship with the City of Little Rock to help attract younger families to the city and to public schools - thought
11. Decide now what you want the culture to be and sell that – thought
12. Sell diversity as relationship – thought
13. Bring City Year to one of the schools who are closing. Let that be the new office space. Maybe a huge City Year after-school program at one of the schools. – thought
14. Promotional campaign around the metropolitan area. – thought
15. Aggressive recruitment of new teachers to the district – thought
16. Specialized schools for students that excel in the Arts, STEMs and science.
17. Look at similar cities with demographics that mirror Little Rock for ideas – thought
18. Need small classroom size – thought
19. This plan based on getting larger ☺ - thought
20. Get business and industries to support the LRSD \$\$\$ - thought
21. Open attendance zone for possible new Pinnacle High School – thought
22. LRSD student recruitment/retention plan promoting “diversity” inclusive but (not just race) in every manner/level – thought
23. Other community services, such as ESL – thought
24. Keep classroom sizes smaller (fewer students/teacher) (not close) –thought
25. Add to schools you’re thinking of closing – thoughts
  - a. Adult learning center
  - b. Parenting classes/resource center
  - c. Drop-in clinic for vaccinations, routine wellness checks
  - d. Other community services such as ESL
26. Make teaching/understanding diversity of opinion and culture an underlying principle for teaching and learning – thought
27. Recruit businesses for financial and PR support – thought
28. Recruit alums for financial and PR support - thought
29. Increase amount of parent and teacher interaction – thought
30. Build up LRSD as a center for:
  - a. Community services
  - b. Expanding students’ understanding of living in diverse culture
  - c. Vocational education, i.e., education for students with variety of abilities and aspirations
31. Who is moving the teacher’s classrooms? What will the transition look like? – thought
32. Integrate and promote technology as a draw 1:1 (with purpose) – thought
33. LRSD should choose a few things to excel in – and publicize what those few things are Ex: foreign language opportunities from K – 12
34. Study % of residents who are going to LRSD schools in various parts of town compared to where we are opening and closing schools – thought
35. More training should be incorporated into LRSD to represent the “restorative justice” aspect. - idea
36. Buy out retirement age – Eliminate those just “hanging on” – thought
37. Training for teachers on what/when/how/why restorative justice is important – thought
38. LRSD can win back students and families by honoring teachers and getting staff input when big announcements go to the news before employees feel disenfranchised and morale is down – thought
39. An all 9<sup>th</sup> grade academy #just9thgradeonly!! – idea
40. Spend money on PR! – thought
41. Fund destination imagination for creativity a 21<sup>st</sup> Century skill – thought



42. Retain some of LRSD's best student and staff by continuing to fund programs like destination imagination – thought
43. IDEA – move Gibbs to Washington along with Rockefeller K-5 and use Gibbs as a home for axillary needs/admin needs – idea
44. Can teachers be told how they will be affected? – thought
45. How will teachers be selected? – thought
46. Give teachers a raise – thought
47. PD for staff to visit each other's schools for ideas and showing/growing best practices – thought
48. Upgrade district Wi-Fi and Internet capability (other AR districts have) (weakness)
49. Wireless broadband
  - Improve as selling point – thought
  - Provide support to area around school for student support at home (like suburbs around Hot Springs) – thought
50. Current "Best Brands" include Central and Parkview. How to build more? Rockefeller? WRF? – thought
  - a. Internships
    - Would get great students in community and build the brand
  - b. Might attract new students and would improve economy.
  - c. AfAm entrepreneurship – LABS work with Venture Center & Remix ideas – thought
  - d. Establish an entrepreneurship program – Hot Springs Math [ASMSA has one, and there would community support] – thought

### **LRSD Idea Lab FROM PINNACLE VIEW**

1. Attract highly certified teachers.
2. No gender-splitting
3. Continue special programs like EAST
4. Expand programs like Destination Imagination.
5. Attract educated immigrant families like Roberts and FHSA seem to.
6. Partner with firms that fit with themes like NCTR (environment, health, food).
7. Pay increase in beginning salaries is welcome. Teachers nearing retirement need to be ensured that their diligence coming to work will be rewarded through District paying for un-used sick days. Had the days been used, District would have paid for Subs. Why not? Pay for sick days and reward teachers
8. What are the weights for the different criteria to evaluate ideas to recommend for the Blueprint? The criteria for the evaluation of ideas don't say the idea should have "7 of 9" to be considered by the administration. Criteria decreasing student travel time should have higher weight than any of the other criteria to avoid discrimination on racial groups.
9. Just repair our facilities—fix mold and leaking ceilings. Don't sell any more schools. Add computers. We have ample space. Neighborhood schools make them better. Give District back to us. State hasn't made any improvements. Either use zoning or "use zoning." Stop selling/trading education with the Waltons, Stevens. West LR is fine—not broken—no needs: focus on Inner City schools for real. Give Booker back to City and utilize other schools that belong to District.

### **LRSD Idea Lab FROM BALE**

1. Lower class sizes will bring people back to the District.



2. Training faculty, teachers, staff how to communicate effectively with parents. Team approach.
3. I believe we are not losing people to gender-split schools and wouldn't get anyone back that way: gender split= bad.
4. Gender split is a minor issue. People are leaving the district because of safety concerns, bullying, and curriculum. Turn this around with lower ratios, raise reading scores, decrease behavior issues, and bring families back with higher connection and parent involvement. Parents want the focus on their child.
5. Student Outreach. Instagram campaign, possibly student-run where students get to give input on things that concern and affect them, and provide ideas rather than having adults make all our decisions for us. Instagram can do polls, reach a lot of students, keep students updated, and students can comment with ideas and thoughts. Then, students can express ideas, etc. and stay informed. This could give LRSD important info about what the kids want and allow student perspective to be heard by adults.
6. Billboards on I-30 about arts and STEM in the area.
7. Give successful schools what they need to continue to be successful.
8. Improve and advertise extra-curriculars: Destination Imagination, Chess Club, Drama-Arts programs, Math Teams, Robotics—things we have and Do Well.
9. Homework centers after school.
10. K-8 programs: cafeteria-lunch schedules [are hard], moving kids—transportation and responsibilities for younger kids.
11. No more community schools--doesn't look good for the District. Loss of community involvement.
12. Has data been collected on current K-8 to see benefits? Has it shown improvement, staff retention/turnover, and student retention, etc.?
13. Year-round, continuous LRSD Recruitment Specialist
14. All children stay within Comfort Zone as opposed to venturing out further away from home. Saves resources and all students staying within the community.
15. Open enrollment for the new high school.
16. Henderson is centrally located (has plenty of parking) and could combine: IRC, Administration, Student Registration, Child Nutrition, and other departments that are spread out through the city.
17. As a student at Parkview I don't think Parkview would work being split, but turning Henderson into a sports place and letting Parkview sports students use their field and stuff might be a good idea to solve multiple things.
18. Are there plans to address the "meshing" of Fair, Hall, and Southwest students? They don't necessarily "mix" well.
19. Less testing, more teach time.
20. At the present time our registration process for new students are not parent-friendly.

### **LRSD Idea Lab FROM DUNBAR**

1. Need social workers - (Family support workers)
2. Clear explanations to students \* staff about changes once determined
3. Promote LRSD middle schools at academic tournaments
4. Our diversity that makes us strong applies to school types too better to not have all K-8 or all small neighborhood some of each
5. No Schools in Schools - Hall/FHSA
6. Student Outreach
  - a. Let students put out ideas and reach out to connect with them.



- b. Ask students about new ideas that affect them to see what they think before deciding on it as adults more removed from the situations
- 7. K-8/combined schools
  - a. Personally I like k8s some of them, but I don't think all of the schools should be we need some variety and neighborhood schools
- 8. Whose idea was it to combine k-8 grades. Not a good concept for bussing.
- 9. If Romine Elementary is repurposed as a crisis center, is it for LRSD students or the community?
- 10. Will the \$\$ saved be invested in the things proven to [train] students
- 11. What happens to kids who set in trouble?
- 12. With schools closing – How will teachers be reassigned or retained?
- 13. Why are our schools losing so many students?
- 14. How can we attract students back to LRSD?
- 15. To keep kids in district may be increase programs/extra curriculums/academics
  - a. Better/bigger lab spaces/facilities
  - b. More clubs/school (increase club budget) partnerships
  - c. More arts (visual, drama, dance, crafts, choir, etc)
  - d. Opportunities you can't get at charter/private schools
- 16. Parkview/District
  - a. Air conditioning is controlled not in building
  - b. It's been either really hot or really cold
  - c. Can we please control our own ac/heat?
- 17. How many schools would there be left with all the proposed k8s?
- 18. What would happen to all the displaced teachers?
- 19. Would they be given new jobs in the district, given the opportunity to funnel into new schools with their students or what?
- 20. Combining schools leaves a lot of empty buildings, what will happen to or be done with them?
- 21. Mr. Poore, you stated that you will turn this information in by Dec. who will you be turning it into?
- 22. Rumor is that Henderson has already been sold. Handout says it's a maybe?
- 23. Who is in charge of out reach?
  - a. There's virtually ZERO info on these meetings online
- 24. Shrinkage plan for the district
- 25. Parents, community, students and educators were not involved in the "options for the LRSD Community Blueprint"
- 26. No Data, evidence about LRSD students and facilities that are being proposed to bring together students who have not traditionally gone to school together by age/grade level and community
- 27. No evidence/information about property taxes that we have already been paying and how they are being used
- 28. No visible plans for recruitment and retention of students and certified teachers/educators
- 29. No visible plans for using facilities after school hours to meet community needs – community centers after hours; extended school day; recreational facilities for community building; increase pollers sites; build community programs
- 30. No visible marketing plans to grow the LRSD and draw students from current and surrounding communities
- 31. Make no changes to baseline Wakefield and Romine
- 32. Would there be one or two birth to pre-k5 centers?
  - a. If plan is approved?
- 33. Prioritize certain schools for K-8 development
  - a. Meadowcliff etc.



34. Why is the burden of transportation always being done to minority/low income students?
35. SW High unifies town demographics – pro
36. Birth- Pre-K - pro
37. Good for the parents to attend nearby schools – pro
38. Need more community engagement (perhaps... a coordinator)
39. Beside railroad – con
40. K-8 concerns with separation of grade levels - con
41. Need more vocational opportunities – con
42. Communication Communication Communication
43. Embalm Birth – Pre-K in neighborhoods (decentralize)
44. Invest in schools that have innovative and impactful programs (Wakefield, Baseline)
45. K-8 with parent engagement with wraparound services
46. Need more healthcare partnerships @ schools – con
47. We need a growth strategy
48. Get these parents engaged
49. Bigger marketing – PR strategy + action
50. Schools can be extensions into the community with connections w/ all other groups
51. Treat us all the same equal in all schools
52. What about ROTC @ SW High, Hall
53. Smaller classrooms are seen as preferable
54. Dealing with peer-pressure @ K-8 with such age range
55. Will we still have enough schools better our kids come back if we let them all go