

ECHS New Support Building Community Comment Sheet Summary

On Dec 9, 2021, at 6:00PM, a community meeting was held in the auditorium at Trident Tech's Palmer Campus. The meeting was held to gain community support and feedback for the Phase 5 Capital Program's project to design, construct, and equip the future Early College High School (ECHS) support building located at the Wilmot J. Fraser campus; which was passed in November 2020 by Charleston County Voters for the second extension of the one-cent Sales Tax Program.

68 individuals signed in to hear the presentation. In attendance, individuals identified as; Neighborhood Residents - 39%, Community Leaders - 22%, Teacher/CCSD Staff - 19%, Parents - 17% and Students - 5%. Attendees were offered a comment card and provided an email where CCSD staff would receive comments and concerns about the project. As of Dec 13th, 9 comment sheets were received, 2 of which did not include any comments. A summary of the collected comments is provided below.

ECHS Student	The support building is needed and a portion of the Fraser building should remain to preserve the school's history. Against the idea of moving ECHS to Burke HS as the program needs to be on a college campus.
Neighborhood Resident	In favor of increasing the enrollment of African American students and Eastside students at ECHS.
Neighborhood Resident	Concerned about the impact on Burke HS. Parking and traffic concerns. When would the Fraser building be demolished? ECHS student demographics.
Neighborhood Resident	Addressed parking count and losing the green space behind the building.
Neighborhood Resident	In favor of the fence being removed.
Neighborhood Resident	In support of increasing D20 enrollment at ECHS. Stated that additional parking is not needed, and adding parking would cause flooding.
Neighborhood Resident	Preserve the front and green space behind the school. Concerns about flooding and accounting for the Dutch Dialogue. Wants to increase enrollment from D20 and the Eastside. Will ECHS use Hampstead Square? Keep Hampstead Square public.

What we know:

Parking/Traffic Impact - Total number of parking spaces will be finalized during the planning stages. The design stage is scheduled to be complete by November 2023. Traffic study is currently underway.

ECHS to Burke HS - Early College High School is a college based program and the Trident Technical College Palmer Campus provides the college campus environment to help students become college ready.

Increase D20 Enrollment Opportunities - The New ECHS Support Building is an expansion project and the enrollment will not increase as a result of constructing the project. The ideal is that by providing a new state of the art support building students would desire to attend the Early College High School program. The new support building is scheduled to open August 2024. D20 currently has 643 sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth graders who may want to come to the school and in turn increase the enrollment. The maximum enrollment is 400 students.

ECHS Demographics - Currently, ECHS has 57% African Americans, 16% Hispanic, 24% Caucasian students, and 3% other. 73% of ECHS students report being first generation college-goers. ECHS is a program offered to all 8 Charleston County Constituent districts. Based on the FY 20-21 45-day report, student enrollment consists of 49% D4 (North Charleston), 19.5% D10 (West Ashley), 7.9% D3 (James Island), 7.6% D9 (Johns Island), 7.6% D2 (Mt. Pleasant), 5% D20 (Downtown), 2.8% D23 (Hollywood), and 0% D1 (McClellanville).

Remove fence - The fence location was not identified on the comment card. If this comment is related to Hampstead Park, the Hampstead Park project is not in scope.

Stormwater - The Wilmot J. Fraser site is located in a Special Protection Area for stormwater management that will require CCSD to reduce stormwater runoff from the existing conditions and retain water on site for a period of time after storms. The surface area is not sufficient to meet these requirements and will need a subsurface storage below the parking lot. The extent is unknown.

Next Steps

CCSD Capital Programs received community feedback and is currently evaluating design alternatives. As the project progresses further into design, we will review and share additional information via future community meetings and monthly project updates that can be found on CCSD's Capital Programs webpage, "Project Status by District", "District 20", "Current Projects" <https://www.ccsdschools.com/Page/7325>

Any additional comments or questions can be directed to our Capital Programs e-mail address at: Capital@charleston.k12.sc.us.