

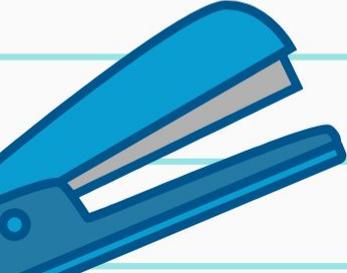
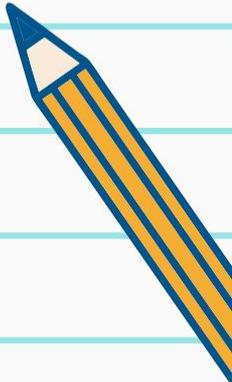
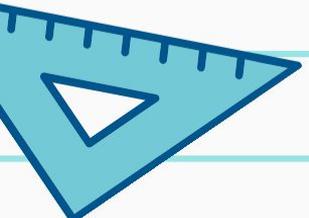
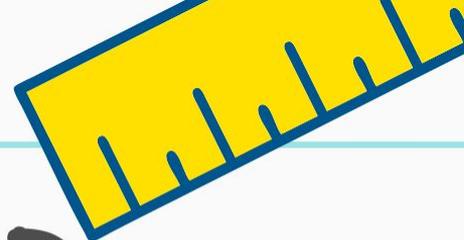
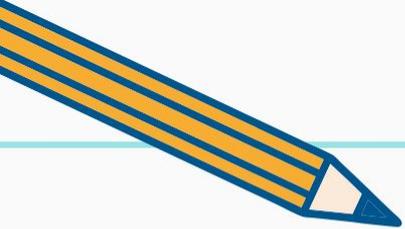
THE FIELDS
SCHOOLS
COMMUNITY
PROCESS

#SchoolsShineIn49

MARIA
HADDEN
49TH Ward Alderwoman

Agenda

- I. Welcome and Introductions (5 mins)
- II. Background and Context (7 mins)
- III. The Fields Visioning Survey Results (7 mins)
- IV. Next Steps & Recommendations (25 mins)
- V. Q&A and Discussion (45 mins)
- VI. Wrap Up



BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

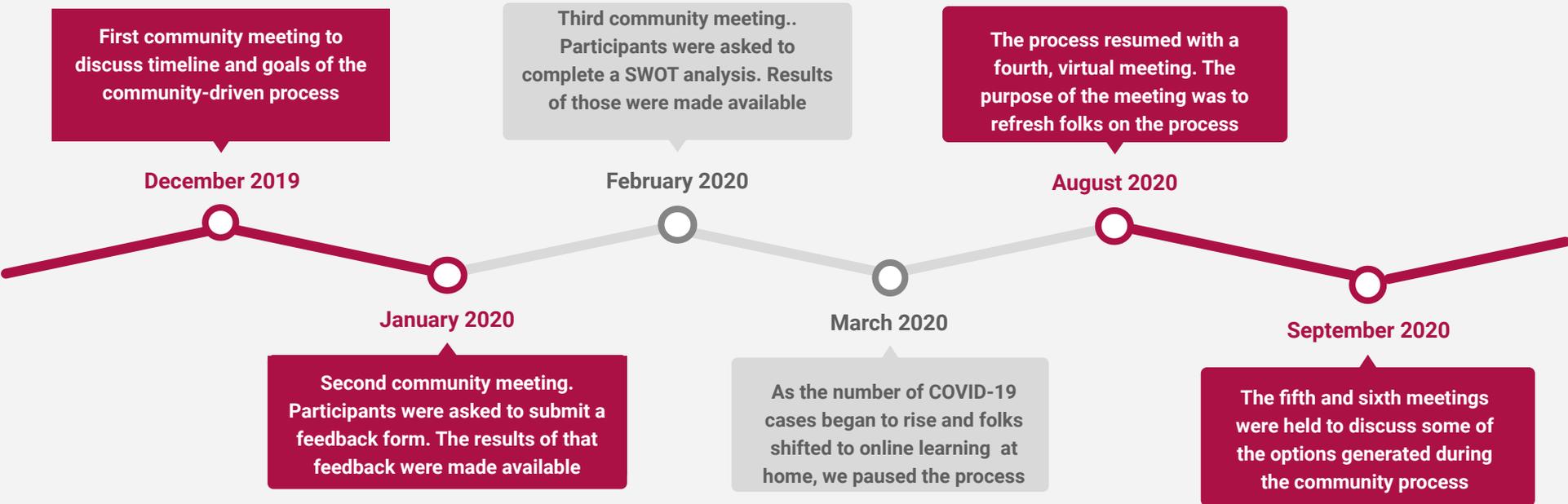
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Background

In December 2019, the 49th Ward office undertook a community process to help vision and brainstorm ideas for the Fields Schools (i.e., Eugene Field and New Field). During the process, we identified strengths, weaknesses, challenges, and opportunities that these schools face. With a slight pause in the spring due to the COVID-19 crisis, the process resumed in August with a modified timeline.

Timeline to Date

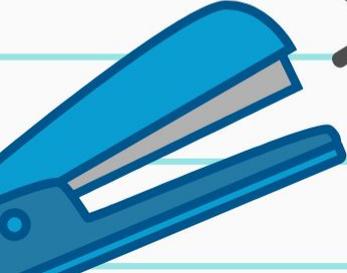
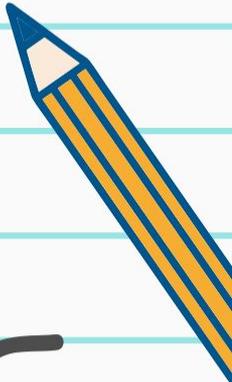
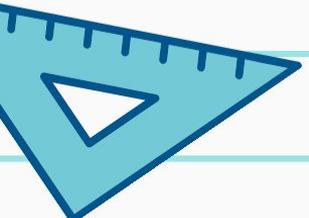
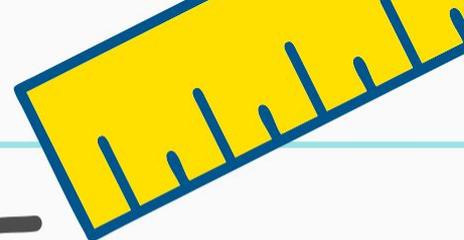
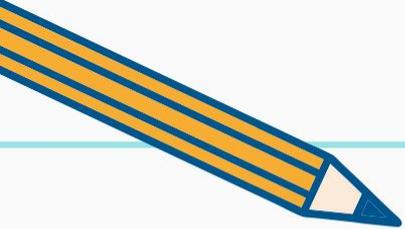


More info at 49thward.org/the-fields-community-process

Where We Are Now

After the August meeting, we shared a visioning survey for people to complete. That survey closed at 5pm on Friday, October 9.

We will present Chicago Public Schools with recommendations based on the feedback we've received in surveys, conversations we've had to date, and information we've received from CPS.



THE FIELDS VISIONING SURVEY RESULTS

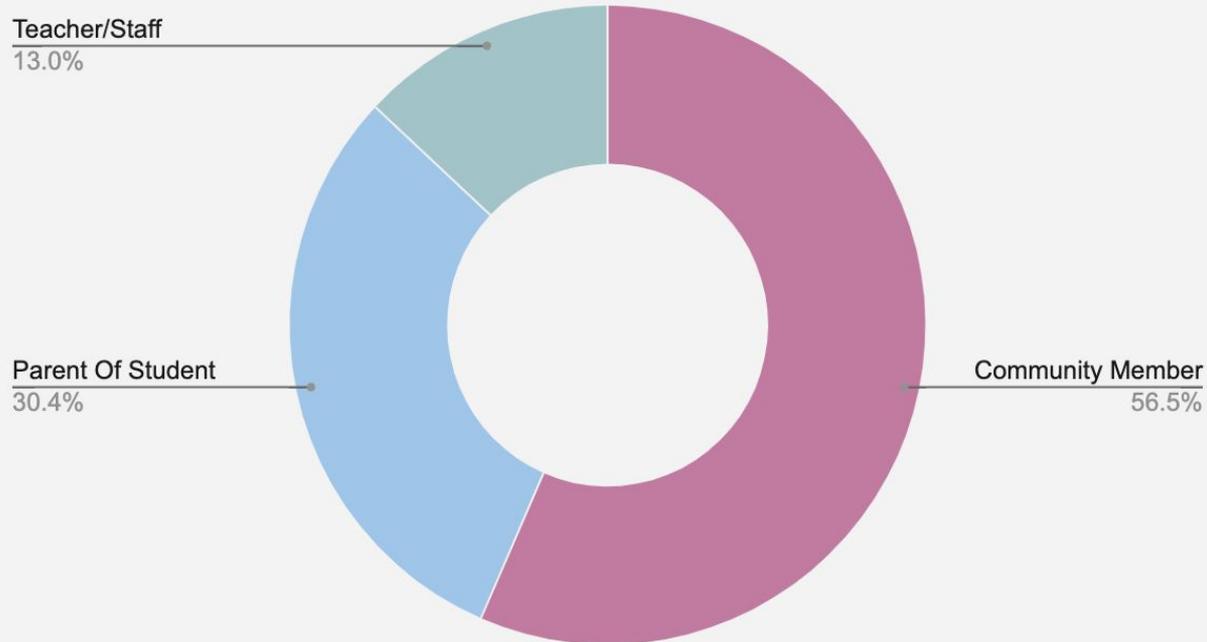
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Respondents Breakdown

41 total respondents

Relationship to School(s)

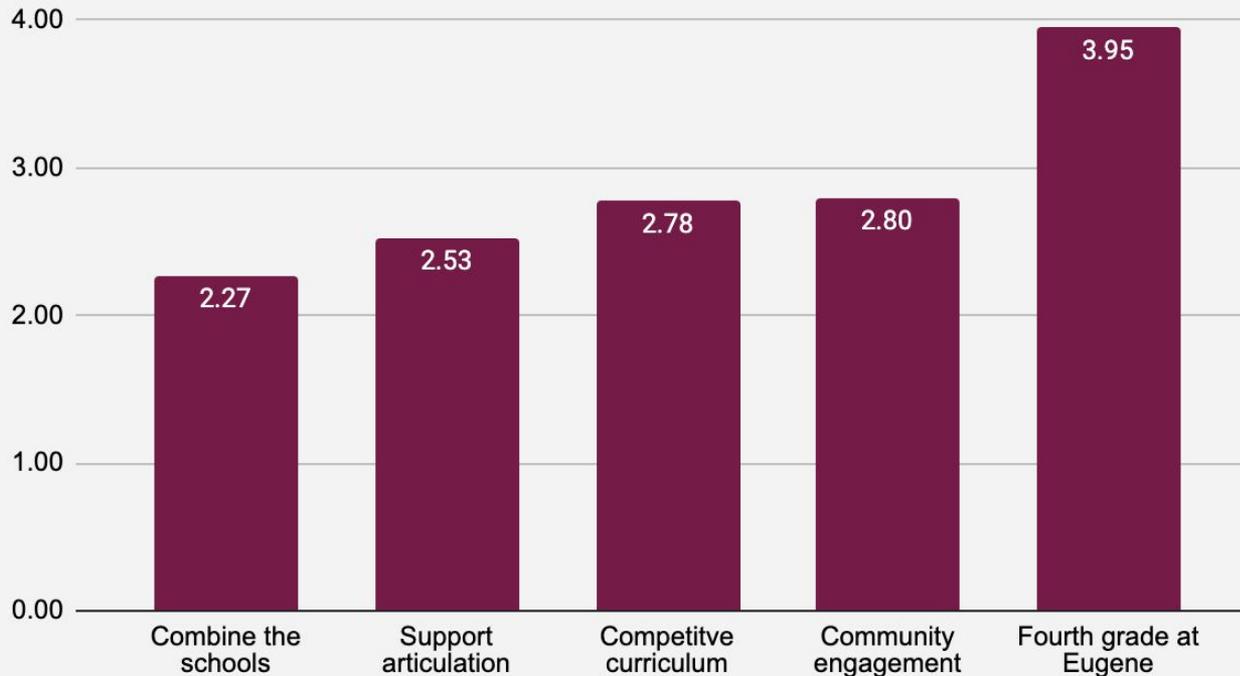


Evaluating the ideas

- Support the articulation of the curriculum between the two schools so students have a seamless transition from 4th to 5th grade
- Introduce a competitive curriculum program (e.g. STEM) at one or both of the schools so they can compete with CMSA
- Bring back the fourth grade to Eugene Field
- Combine the two schools, Eugene Field and New Field, to have one pre-K thru 8th grade school
- Increase enrollment at Eugene Field through community engagement (e.g. creating a community identity, maximizing use of the new sports field, etc.)

Ranking Averages

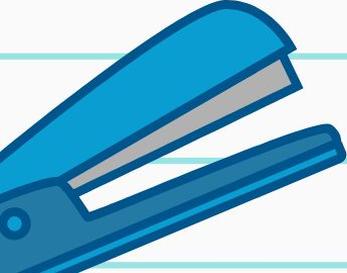
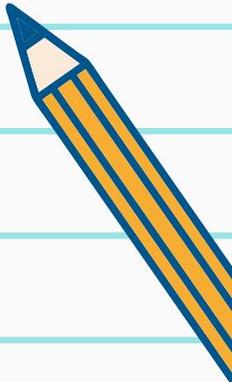
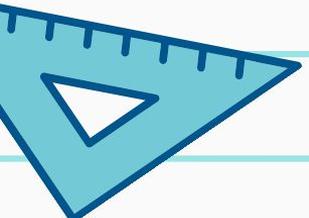
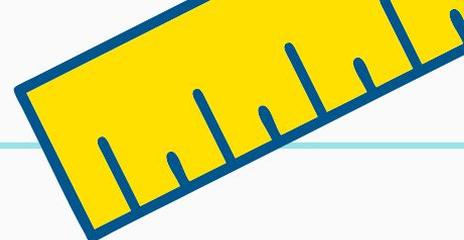
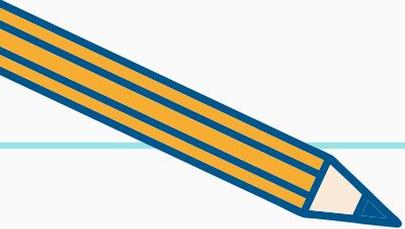
Average Ranking



*Lower ranking = higher priority

Sprawl of Rankings

	Support the articulation	Competitive curriculum	4th grade to Eugene	Combine the schools	Community engagement
1st choice	8	8	3	24	9
2nd choice	15	10	6	3	7
3rd choice	9	8	3	2	13
4th choice	6	13	7	3	7
5th choice	3	2	22	9	5



NEXT STEPS

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What We Heard

- Students are leaving Eugene Field after 5th Grade to go to CMSA
- Any introduction of competitive curriculum needs to be in partnership with the feeder high school, Sullivan, to ensure a pipeline is being created
- Parents want continuity, stability, and cohesion in their children's academic experiences
- Any recommendation needs to address the systemic issues within CPS' student-based budgeting and SQRP models
- How we talk about and build up our neighborhood schools is important in making them appealing to prospective parents
- The number of school-aged children in the ward has been on a downward trend

The Elephant in the Room

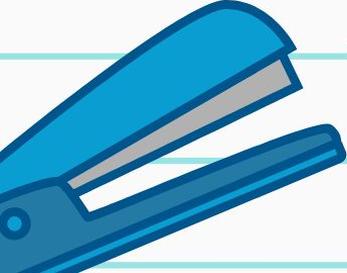
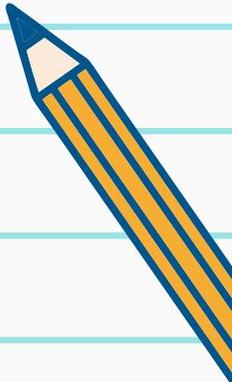
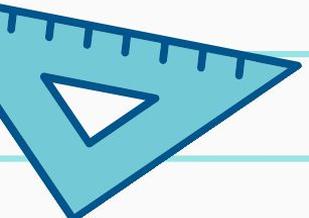
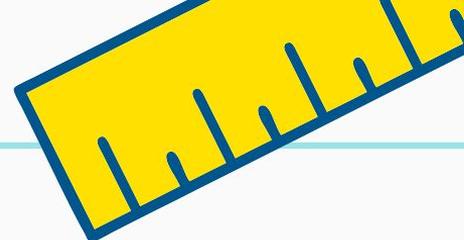
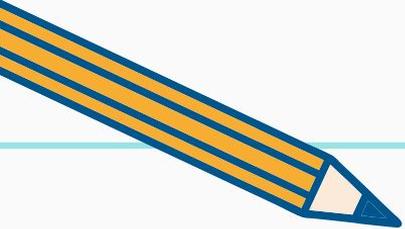
- This process was started due to a grassroots effort to combine the two schools. We needed a process from our office that we could stand behind and is mindful of the externalities of any recommendations
- The Unite the Fields campaign was started because, at the end of the day, we all want the same thing: strong neighborhood schools
- There's a history of tension (racial, cultural, and economic) surrounding the schools - the latest campaign to combine it stirred up some of those underlying tensions
- Other schools that have merged had an overhaul of their administrations (at both schools), including an interim principal and eventually a new principal. Combining the schools doesn't guarantee we will get to keep the leadership or staff going forward

What We Learned From CPS

- CPS has established a robust process for school communities to recommend school actions
- This would be a coordinated effort led by a steering committee that is representative of the school community
 - ◆ To combine New Field and Eugene Field, a committee would need equal representation from both schools (including student representatives)
- There would be specific requirements around outreach and engagement, with participants and meeting attendance recorded throughout the process
- At this stage, CPS does not feel that the school communities have met the criteria to approve an action recommendation of merging the two schools

Alderwoman Hadden's Recommendations

- We will push CPS to AGAIN, reconsider the SBB funding model that is bad for our schools
- We will push CPS to reconsider the SQRP rating model and address the concerns around equity when using this system
- We will ask for additional support from CPS to create robust articulation between the two schools, including more opportunities for students at both schools to engage with each other and the administrations
- We will advocate for additional resources for Eugene Field so they can more effectively market the school to neighborhood families, especially prospective parents who are just beginning to look into schools for their children
- We will continue to engage with the two schools with activities and
- actions to bring healing to the two communities



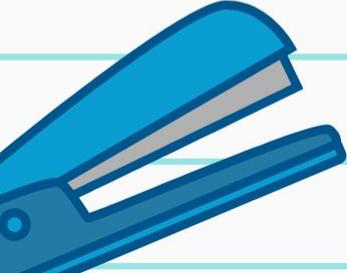
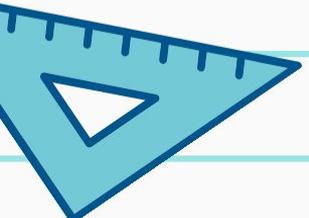
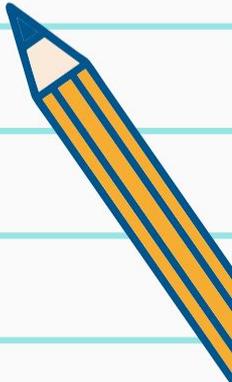
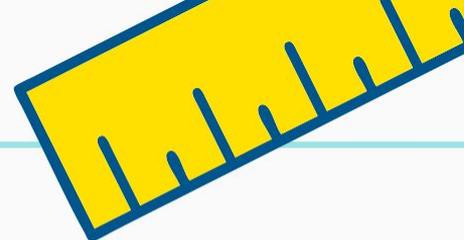
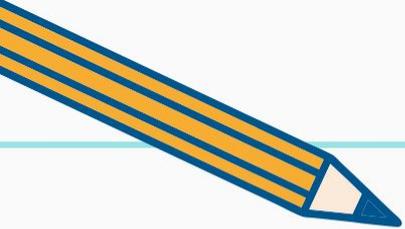
Q&A
AND
DISCUSSION

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Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who participated in this process over the past year. We know that this topic is extremely personal to many, so thank you for engaging with our office around it. While we plan on making these recommendations at this juncture to CPS, it doesn't mean that we wouldn't support other proposals or community actions in the future. We would support the formation of a steering committee that can explore potential community actions that follow CPS' requirements.



THANK
YOU!

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