

PAWTUCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Slater Middle School
Redesign



Community Advisory Board Meeting

1/29/2026

Interim Superintendent: Randy Buck



Welcome Back



Quick Warm-Up:

- One word or phrase to describe your headline reactions from the pre-work



Objectives

- Ensure CAB has a common fact base
- Review and discuss current data from needs assessment
- Identify strengths, opportunities, and 3-5 key priorities



CAB Norms

- **Students at the Center:** We ground all discussions and recommendations in what best serves students and their long-term success.
- **Listen to Understand:** We practice active listening, seek to understand different perspectives, and make space for all voices.
- **Share the Air:** We balance speaking and listening, stepping up or stepping back or calling in so everyone can contribute.
- **Be Present and Engaged:** We come to meetings on time, focused, and ready to engage with materials and each other.
- **Respectful Dialogue:** We assume positive intent, engage in honest conversation, and disagree with ideas, not people.
- **Equity and Community:** We intentionally consider the impact of redesign ideas on diverse student groups and elevate perspectives from the broader community.

Needs Assessment Refresher



- Formally required, precursor to application
- Goal = understand current reality and why prior efforts have failed; name an ideal, future state, and what it will take to get there based on evidence
- Understand where student needs are greatest (to be targeted and intentional in redesign)
- Examination of school's data (academic and non-academic measures)

Today's Grounding Question

What do students need in order to thrive in a redesigned middle school?



Headlines

- **Take 5 minutes to reground yourself in your pre-work notes/thinking before we discuss**
 - What patterns or trends stood out most to you?
 - What data points surprised or concerned you?
 - What data felt affirming or hopeful?



Small Group Discussion: Outcomes



Share with your small group:

- What is the data telling us about the student experience? (Academic, social-emotional, engagement, belonging)
- Where are students being well-served?
- Where are students struggling the most - and who is most impacted?

***Pick a notetaker and a reporter.*

Whole Group Discussion

Each group shares headlines on:

- What is the data telling us about the student experience? (Academic, social-emotional, engagement, belonging)
- Where are students being well-served?
- Where are students struggling the most - and who is most impacted?



Discussion Notes

Strengths:

- *notes*

Opportunities/Challenges

- *notes*

What is most pressing?

In the chat, please identify the two most pressing/urgent needs you believe need to be addressed.



Closing

- Closing Whip Around: *What is one insight you are leaving with that should guide our redesign work?*
- Next meeting will focus on part 2 of the needs assessment: root causes and possible solutions
- Next meeting in February

