

Identified Patterns and Trends Related to PPS Middle Schools

[Click here to view the charts with prioritization charts.](#)

Challenges: What are the biggest challenges facing our middle schools?

- Soc/Em Challenges
- Transitions: academic and Soc/Em
- Parent buy in and response **
- Behavior vs consequence
- Addressing needs of high performers and those with high levels of need...
- Make middle school have purpose and meaning
- Preparation of staff, pd to address needs of staff to ensure that they can address the needs of diverse learners in their class. **

Opportunities: What opportunities exist to improve student success and well-being?

- Student extracurricular activities, getting student voice/interests
 - Expand beyond athletics, theater, arts, tech, etc...
 - Consider partnerships with local agencies: BGC, Girls Inc, YMCA, etc..
- SEL
- Open up transition activities to more students, make these program available to a wider audience
- Ability to meet student needs in all areas due to larger cohort in each grade level
- Enrich and remediate to ensure all student needs are met
- Tiered support system

Most Attention: What areas of our middle schools (academics, behavior, culture, etc.) need the most attention? Briefly why?

- Accountability and consistency
 - Attendance, performance, behavior...retention and remediation
- Academic, meeting instructional needs, high expectations for all
- SEL, resources and staffing
- Challenging top performers
- Transitions, purpose and meaning, address developmental needs of students, SEL
- Capitalize on transition to new setting, opens up opportunities to move to the next level, intentional planning for necessary skills needed for moving up
- Two-Way family engagement /communication
 - Parent Square

- Family centers at the middle school level, similar to the Conte model

Growth & Innovation: Where do you see opportunities for growth and innovation?

- More electives, based on student interests**
- Access for all students to electives, ex 21st century opportunities, how do we grow our own programming
- More vocational, CTE experiences
- Considering diverse cultures and family experiences
- PD for teachers, targeted to the needs of the grade/cohort being taught (curriculum, interventions, enrichment resources to ensure that the needs of all learners are met in the class)