

Attachment 2: Choice Options Information for Principal/School Newsletters

During the last week of January and in conjunction with National School Choice Week, Fulton County Schools (FCS) will host forums to gather input on what families' value most in educational options for their children.

Currently, FCS offers limited educational choice options to families through magnet programs, charter schools, open enrollment, and family and employee hardship considerations. Additionally, over the past two years, elected parents, teachers and community members on School Governance Councils (SGC) have been customizing certain aspects of individual school programming to meet students' needs.

FCS recently launched the Choice Options initiative to thoughtfully expand educational choices for parents as part of the Building Our Future 2017 Strategic Plan. This work is the natural evolution of the charter system and is focused on improving student achievement by providing an educational experience customized to the unique needs of our students and communities. The initiative will also provide equitable access to educational options across FCS while efficiently using the district's facilities and resources. The first phase of this initiative is focused on identifying and understanding our communities' needs for expanded education options.

FCS will gather input regarding education choice options during the following forums:

January 26, 2015, 7:00pm at Westlake HS

January 27, 2015, 7:00pm at Lake Forest ES

January 28, 2015, 7:00pm at Centennial HS

January 29, 2015, 7:00pm at Tri-Cities HS

February 2, 2015, 7:00pm at Milton Center

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In compliance with federal law, Fulton County Schools administers all educational programs, employment activities and admissions without discrimination against any person on the basis of gender, race, color, religion, national origin, age or disability.

The information gathered during these forums will be used to help create the building blocks for expanded choice options which will be implemented over the coming years. We will ensure any new options will not replace the good work of the SGCs, but will supplement it.

For those parents unable to attend, there will be opportunities to provide input via the [Choice Options Website](#).

Curious to learn more about choice options? Check out these resources:

[FCS Choice Options Webpage](#) -

<http://www.fultonschools.org/en/divisions/strategy/Pages/School-Choice.aspx>

[National School Choice Week Page](https://schoolchoiceweek.com/) - <https://schoolchoiceweek.com/>

Other systems with active choice programs:

[Denver Public Schools](http://soco.dpsk12.org/) - <http://soco.dpsk12.org/>

[Charlotte Mecklenburg Public Schools](http://www.cms.k12.nc.us/Pages/default.aspx) - <http://www.cms.k12.nc.us/Pages/default.aspx>