

From: "DC Public Schools" <email@blackboard.com>
Subject: DCPS Launches DC+XQ Partnership
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Dear DCPS Families,

During my time as Chancellor, I have had the privilege to hear from many of you about your hopes and dreams for DC Public Schools—what you love about your school communities, where you see opportunities to grow and adapt, and what you envision for the future. We know that while COVID-19 is a defining crisis, it will not be the last one we face. We are at a moment of incredible opportunity for thoughtful and lasting change for our schools.

It is in this spirit of reflection and forward-thinking that I am pleased to announce [DC+XQ: a partnership between DCPS and the XQ Institute](#)—the nation's leading organization committed to rethinking the high school experience so every student graduates ready to succeed in college, career, and life. This **new five-year initiative will allow our students, teachers, families, and communities to rethink the high school experience.**

Today, I want to share how reimagining high school will benefit our entire community and how you can learn more and get involved in this exciting project.



Reimagining the High School Experience for All Students

DCPS' recent high school transformation efforts, [starting with Anacostia and Ballou](#) High Schools, have been grounded from the beginning in the expertise and perspectives of DCPS students, teachers, families, and surrounding communities. The **DC+XQ initiative will continue to place communities at the center as we ensure our high school experiences continue to be centered around the needs of our students and responsive to our rapidly changing world.** Our high schools will design and implement new models to ensure that all students—including those furthest from opportunity—are prepared to succeed in college, career, and in life.

We have the opportunity to rethink every aspect of the high school experience from programming and school culture to thematic focus areas. This could lead to new courses of study, innovative professional development for staff, more flexible scheduling, expanded career pathways, more rigorous and exciting learning opportunities aligned to student interests, powerful partnerships, and much more.

Join DCPS & XQ at a Community Information Session

We [invite](#) all our families and community members to learn more about the DC+XQ initiative and share your hopes for the high school experience for all students. [Please register for an information session here](#), or see the attached PDF for more information.

- · Friday, February 25 at THEARC (1901 Mississippi Avenue SE) from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- · Monday, February 28 at the Auto Shop at Union Market (416 Morse Street NE) from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- · Wednesday, March 2 at the MLK Library (901 G Street NW) from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- · Monday, March 7 virtually from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

A supervised children's zone will be available as well as translation services as needed.

Groundbreaking initiatives like this advance our vision that every student feels loved, challenged, and prepared to positively influence society and thrive in life. I am excited that XQ recognizes that our district is and will be a national model of equity and excellence, and I am proud to partner with XQ and all of you to rethink high school for every student. This work aligns with DCPS' commitment to become a whole child focused school district and continue to close the opportunity gap. I look forward to supporting our school communities' visions to take flight in the months and years to come.

Sincerely,

Lewis D. Ferebee, Ed.D.
Chancellor

File attachments:

[DC+XQ_InfoSession_Flyer.pdf](#)