



October 22, 2026

Dear Superintendent Walters and Members of the PPS Board,

We are writing to reiterate the One Northside Education Committee's strong interest in partnering with Pittsburgh Public Schools (PPS). As shared in our communication on February 27, 2025, and September 15, 2025, the One Northside Education Committee is ready and available to support the planning and implementation of the Future Ready Plan approved on May 27, 2026. To date, our committee has engaged a diverse group of Northside residents, students, educators and non-profit and community partners. Across all groups, the ask is clear.

How can we use our communities' collective skills, passion, connection and commitment to build strong Northside schools for ALL Northside children in collaboration with PPS?

To start, we see an extraordinary opportunity to work with the PPS team **to create a world-class middle school where every Northside student experiences excellence, equity, enrichment, and a meaningful connection to their future.** The Northside community has an exceptional network of organizations and institutions that can help make this vision possible. For example, our committee has the collective capacity to support the development of the new school in several ways. These include:

- Building a student and family-centered, positive school culture
- Strengthening partnerships that leverage the incredible cultural, civic and business resources on the Northside to ensure strong learning pathways and connections to Perry High School and beyond in the areas of the arts, health, STEAM, social justice, career exploration and enrichment.
- Coordinating outreach efforts to share success school stories and PPS news
- Mobilizing volunteers to support school staff
- Partnering with Northside school PPS Parent Ambassadors
- Assisting with transition activities to ensure all middle school students and families feel informed, welcomed, and excited about the opportunities they will have at the new school

PPS data reflects that too many Northside families choose to leave Northside for their child's education. Families have chosen magnets, charters, private schools, or have left PPS and the Northside for suburban options.

We believe a new world-class middle school is an opportunity to help change that trajectory.

Realizing these opportunities will require more than movement to a new building. We are ready to help shape the school's vision, culture, programs, partnerships and transitions from the beginning. Early engagement can build confidence, strengthen relationships, and ensure that the school reflects the aspirations and needs of the young people and families it will serve.



Please let us know which project lead(s) at PPS will serve as our partner in this important work. We are ready to work collaboratively with PPS to help design a school—and a school community—that Northside students and families choose because they see themselves, their interests, and their futures reflected in it.

We respectfully ask PPS to engage the One Northside Education Committee. Our Northside students, families, educators, organizations, businesses, and institutions are ready to be partners in this process to ensure all Northside children thrive. We believe our approach to partnership could be modeled across the city. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

One Northside Education Committee