

Future Ready. Community Strong.

Agenda V.A.6. November 18 2021

To: Board of Education

**From:** Dr. Theresa Battle, superintendent

Date: November 11, 2021

**Re:** Receive a Report about the Listening Session

**Recommendation:** Receive a report about the Listening Session on November 10, 2021.

November 10, 2021 Listening Session

Several people spoke at the listening session.

- A district employee spoke about allowing Eid to be a holiday option in district contracts.
  Also, to allow it to be a non-school day for students due to large student absences in school.
  Make it equitable and she is willing to have more conversations.
- 2. A student from BHS requested that we make Eid a holiday to take off school. Students should have a break to observe their religious and cultural activities.
- 3. A district employee and parent expressed that students deserve to have off for Eid. She read quotes from students and parents.
- 4. A teacher requested that the board have an observance of Eid in our district for 2022. She read absenteeism statistics for schools.
- A student expressed that it is not fair that last year we had to choose between a cultural holiday and school learning time. Muslim school faculty have to use their personal days. Eid should be a built-in break in the school calendar.
- 6. A student shared that students celebrating the Eid holiday should get off for school. Not having it off is like choosing Christmas or school.