

What do you believe will be the most significant challenges facing DCSD in the next 5 - 10 years?

What kinds of programs/services/resources are needed to overcome them?

Rotation #1:

- Boundaries (Cresthill)
- Declining enrollment
- 6th grade
- Lack of information
- Funding needs based on bond needs
- Trauma and behaviors
- Increasing diversity of students requires additional trainings and supports
- Need for training for staff members
- Staffing needs
- Teacher fatigue and burnout
- Need to attract and retain
 - Salary increases
 - Job responsibilities continue to grow and creep especially around kids with special needs
- Students need more foundational skills and to stick with it
- Mental health challenges
- Supporting kids social emotional needs
- Supporting kids in their self-leadership skills
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Rotation #2:

- Staffing
- Budget
- Board's perception / dysfunction
- Diversity of students requiring additional needs – for example, autistic students' needs
- Serving students with dyslexia
- Needs of students are increasing
- VALE has attracted many twice exceptional learners
- Increasing number of lawsuits (having proper systems in place is essential to protect the district)
- More migrants with needs, such as languages
- Professional development resources to allow teachers to attend conferences and learn
 - AI

- Growing disconnect between the “haves and have nots” – economic challenges
- Teacher training
- Teacher burnout and fatigue
- Disconnect between teachers, students, and families
- Mental health needs and kids are lacking coping skills
- Grandparent population taking kids
- Parent education
- Chronic absenteeism and the perspective between parents and teachers and whether it is needed

Rotation #3:

- Finances
- Growth & decline issues
- Staffing schools
- Adequate pay
- Capital improvements
- CTE offerings expanded into middle schools
- School has lost the value
- Need to build a common value of attending schools
- Declining enrollment and keeping a sense of community in place
- Sense of unknown for teachers
- Mental health and mental health concepts around social media
- Cell phones being banned at school
- Use of AI and managing how to use it
- Teacher to student ratio allows the personalized learning to happen
- Turnover, especially with admin
- Attracting, retaining, and providing stability in schools
- Alternative admin program
- Statewide legislation (books, curriculum, politicization of topics)
- PD to help teachers

Rotation #4:

- Gap between veteran and new teachers; lacking a middle level of experience
- Swift shift to CTE focus will it shift again?
- More offerings at home high schools
- Challenge with finding the right balance of academics and CTE
- Offering student the life skills
- Mental health supports
 - Social media challenges
 - Pandemic
- Device addiction
- Will the District move away from the uniqueness of each high school
- Political division that happens with school board elections

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Summary Points

- Sense of community
 - Changing boundaries
 - Lack of connection/trust between teachers and families and students
- Sense of stability
 - Lots of unknown with changes coming
 - Teacher burnout and fatigue
 - Turnover of admin and teachers
- Creating a sense of value of education and educators
 - Absenteeism
 - Showing up
 - Parents/families valuing
- Supporting students
 - Mental health
 - AI / social media / devices
 - Students being resilient and self-starter
- Supporting parents
- Changing demographics and more diversity
 - Special needs
 - Languages
 - PD
- Teacher attraction, retention
 - Shortage
 - Gap between veterans and new teachers
- DCSD Vision for
 - Balance between academics and CTE
 - School autonomy
 - Common curriculum
- Mitigate the political divisiveness