



ALL IN:

Community Conversation Kit

The Story Continues With You . . .

Thank you for your interest in hosting a screening and conversation for “ALL IN,” a film about the Birmingham Education Foundation’s commitment to community engagement.

We want to take this opportunity to continue the work that was captured in the story with the help from you and your community.

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Who is Ed and Why Do We Care About Community Engagement?

The Birmingham Education Foundation (Ed) is dedicated to increasing the number of students in Birmingham City Schools that are on the path to college, career, and life readiness. We believe that this is only possible by cultivating a diverse network of people who demand excellence for our students and inspire others to do the same. **We believe that the voices of our students and families should lead the discussion, and that we can leverage our social capital to empower them to demand change.**

In 2020-2021, we’ve focused on utilizing our established Network, expanding across the city to reach more people, and gathering information that enables us to make data-informed decisions. After three years of information sourcing, it is time to start sharing and organizing.



Process

How Can I Host a Screening?

- Think of 5-10 individuals - epecifically students, alumni, educators, and family and caretakers of students - in your community that you would be willing to invite to watch the film and facilitate a brief conversation.
- Invite these individuals to attend your screening, hosted in person or on Zoom. If meeting virtually, we recommended each person watch the film on their separate devices.
- Before watching, reflect on the challenges presented for you by the pandemic and also your understanding of how it may have affected schools and the education system across Birmingham.
- Watch “ALL IN” as a group. The film is 25 minutes, and we’d recommend following that with a 20-30 minute discussion. **The film can be viewed [here](#)** or by scanning the QR code.
- Discuss the questions on the following page and ask someone take notes for the group.
- Submit your **discussion responses [here](#)**.
- If your group is willing to take a photo, please share and tag us on Instagram or Facebook @iamedbirmingham.

How Will This Info be Used?

- Ed wants to hear your experiences and ideas about ways to improve education in our city, which is the goal of our ongoing community engagement initiative, the uChoose Campaign.
- The information collected anonymously through these conversations will be added to our data, which **will help create nine District Profiles** to represent the priorities, family needs, and educational desires of community members in each BCS school district.
- The District Profiles will be a mechanism that Ed will use to bridge the communication gap between elected Board of Education members and their constituents.
- Input gathered from these community discussions will help Ed **determine what programs and opportunities to bring to students in Birmingham.**



Discussion

Question 1

What is something you wish you had known while as a student?

Question 2

The film talks about the importance of doing work *with* the community. What does mutually beneficial community engagement look like to you?

Question 3

What kind of opportunities or programs would you like to see for students in the area?

Question 4

In the film, Thomas Rains says, **“We still have tremendous achievement gaps and opportunity gaps across the state. To get change to take root, you’re going to have to see a policy change.”**

What do you want your future board of education representative to know about your community, and what issues do you hope they address while in office in a post-COVID world?

Question 5

What other questions do you think Ed’s Community Engagement team should ask the community in the coming school year?

Discuss questions 6-7 if time permits:

Question 6

Do you feel that you are heard when you share feedback with the school system? If not, what would make you feel heard?

Question 7

Student and parent voices are critical in the process of Community Engagement. What specific leaders are trusted by these groups in your community?

“ These young people are the future of the city of Birmingham, of Alabama, of our nation. Let's do it with them. And what 'with' means is bringing them in apart of the conversation. And I think giving people that space to understand how important it is for them to take control, I think that's empowerment. ”

-T. Marie King, from “ALL IN”



We cannot do this work without you. Thank you for joining us and being all in for students. To learn more about the Birmingham Education Foundation and this initiative, please visit edbirmingham.org.