

Southwest Thought Partner Group

Meeting #1

Friday, May 22, 9:30 am – 11:30 am



Rosemary Rodriguez

*Board of Education
Denver Public Schools*

Verónica Figoli

*Chief, Family and Community Engagement
Denver Public Schools*

Agenda

- Welcome
- Overview of process
- Charge and deliverables
- Context-setting
- Call for New Quality Schools
- Next Steps and Q&A



What is a Thought Partner Group?

- Will advise the district and the applicants for new schools about the specific characteristics desired by the community
- Will generate pros and cons of applications from school leaders interested in serving these communities
- Can positively influence the future of middle school programs in the Southwest
- Members are committed to process
- Need for two groups: Henry and Lincoln



Charge and Deliverables

Charge:

- Act as community thought partners, in collaboration with district leadership and applicant/current school leadership, by providing specific pros and cons of any school program proposal presented to the community for the 2016-2017 school year and beyond.

Deliverables:

By June 2015, FACE will deliver to DPS staff and make available to applicants the outcomes from high-level visioning in the 2 zones:

- Key qualities 4th grade families would like to see for a high-performing middle school at Henry during the 2016-2017 school year and beyond
- Key qualities families would like to see for a high-performing middle school to be co-located at Lincoln HS during the 2016-2017 school year and beyond

By September 8, 2015, the Thought Partner Groups will have a written recommendation to district staff detailing:

- Specific pros and cons of any school program proposal presented to the community via the amended Call for New Quality Schools for the 2016-2017 school year and beyond



Sandra Reza

Parent

Kepner Thought Partner Group

What Would You Like to See in this Process?



Need for New Middle Schools



- Higher demand for first-choice, high-quality options than are currently available in the area
- Extra space on Lincoln campus
 - Opportunity to house a needed middle school program



Need for New Middle Schools



Low enrollment + low performance



Existing program will phase out while new program will phase in



Current Henry students will get additional supports:

- Increased math support
- Positive school culture and No Nonsense Nurturing
- New family and student support programs specifically targeted for middle school students

	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19
Henry Legacy	6 + 7 + 8	7 + 8	8	-----
Incoming Program	<i>Planning year</i>	6	6 + 7	6 + 7 + 8



Process So Far

April

- Meetings at elementary schools – April and May 2015
- Call supplement is announced (request for new school applications) - May 2015
- Thought Partner Groups begin to meet - May 22
- School tours begin – May 28
- School applicants present to thought partner groups
- Thought partner groups present recommendations on school applications to the Board of Education
- Board of Education votes on new programs – September
- Board of Education votes on placement of programs by November

November

?

Jennifer Holladay

*Director of School
Development and Support
Denver Public Schools*

EDUCATE | Timeline

Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | April | May | Jun

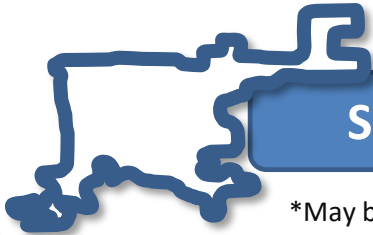


Denver Plan 2020

SPF



Supports for existing schools



SRA*

*May be released in Spring



Call for New Quality Schools

?

The Call for New Quality Schools

- School leaders and community members that are interested in designing a new school for the Henry campus will submit their applications to DPS.
- The applications will be reviewed by DPS staff as well as volunteers from the community, including parents and family members.
- These new school applicants will present to the community and to the Board of Education.
- The Board of Education will review the applicants and take into account recommendations from DPS and the community.
- The Board of Education will vote to approve or deny new school applications.
- DPS has hired Lindsey Meier to design a district-run, IB school. The Board of Education will review this application along with any others that are submitted.



Facility Allocation Policy

- Policy approved by the Board that outlines what programs are placed at which facilities
- Policy outlines four factors:
 - Student Growth and Achievement
 - Alignment with Priority Needs
 - Enrollment Demand
 - Supplemental Criteria
- The Board considers these factors when deciding where a school program should be placed.



Questions?



Tools and Next Steps



- Tools and overview of process
 - School tours
- Scheduling next meeting
 - Timing of meetings
 - Meeting with applicants
- Share information with families, neighbors, school community
 - Discuss how to share information out

