



The 2015 Call for New Quality Schools

Training for Application Review Team (ART) Members



Objectives

1. Develop a shared understanding of the Call for New Quality Schools.
2. Understand the role of the ART (Application Review Team).
3. Gain clarity on your job as an ART member.
4. Practice your job as an ART member.
5. Along the way, answer any questions you have!



Objective #1:

Develop a shared understanding of the Call for New Quality Schools.

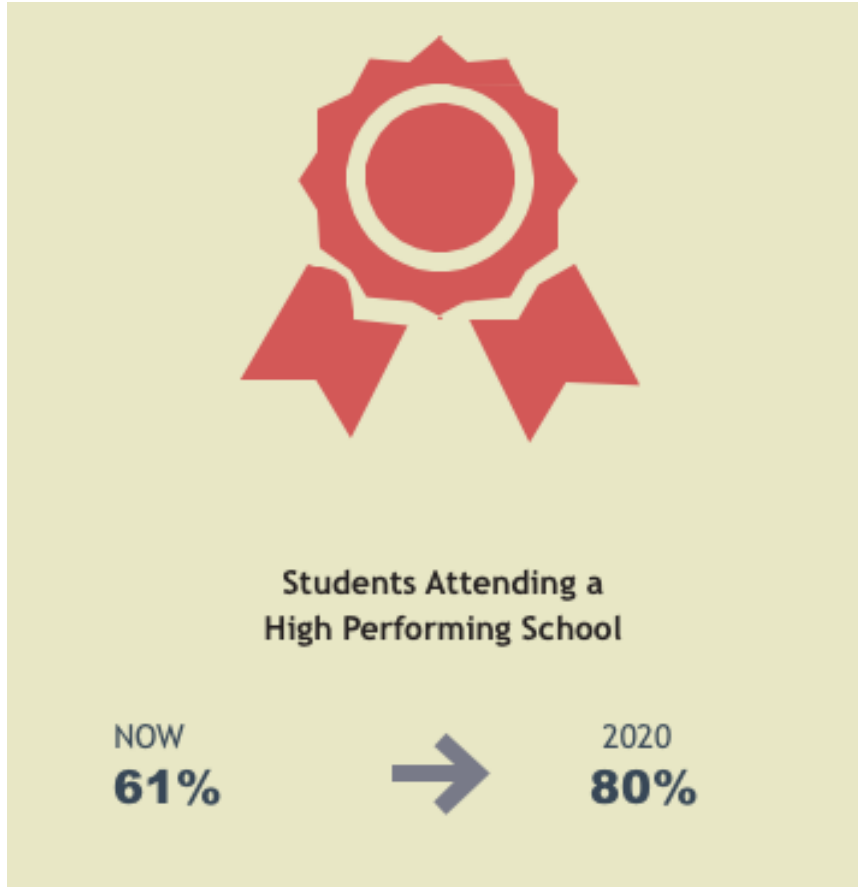


What is the Call for New Quality Schools?

- A **public document** that transparently articulates forecasted needs for new schools or additional capacity in the district.
- A **process** that invites proposals to meet these needs, facilitates quality reviews of these proposals, engages community and supports Board decision-making.

Why a Call for New Quality Schools?

Denver Plan 2020: Great Schools in Every Neighborhood



One way we get there:

“Expand high-quality school choices in all communities through differentiated supports for existing schools, new school strategies, turnaround efforts and strong accountability systems.”

-- Denver Plan 2020, describing the priority strategy of flexibility

We don't do this in isolation. There is context.

Board Policy AF: Charter Quality Authorizing

This policy establishes principles and standards for DPS's authorizing work, including "creating Equitable Opportunity, Equitable Responsibility and Access, and Equitable Accountability" among all DPS schools. In this spirit, the Call is open to district-run and charter applicants.

Colorado Charter Schools Act

State law requires districts to accept applications for new charter schools annually and identifies specific content requirements and process elements for the review of charter school applications.

State and National Best Practices

DPS embraces best practices established by the Colorado State Board of Education and the National Association of Charter School Authorizers. Quality standards include the issuance of a document clearly identifying district needs and priorities.

Applicant Types

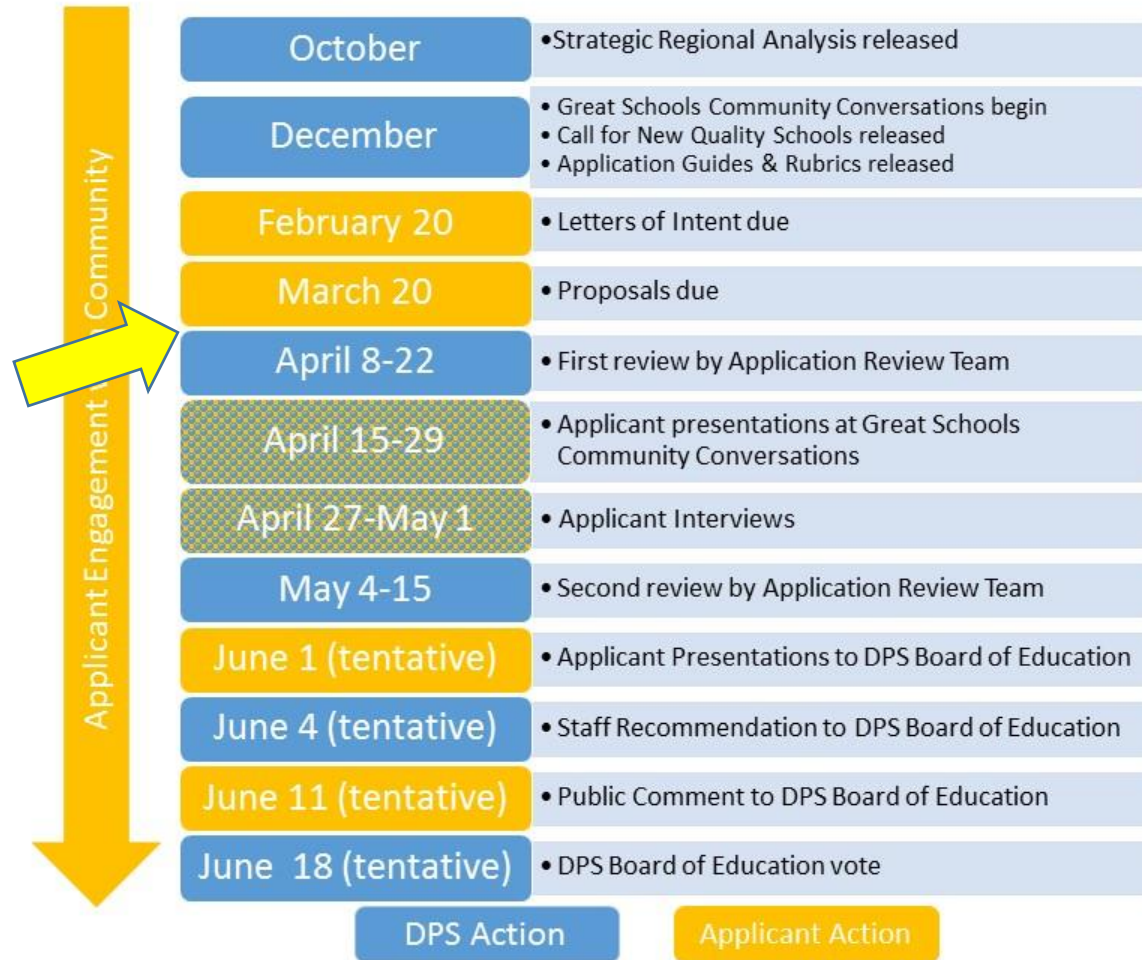
District-Run Applicants

District-Run Replications

Charter Applicants

Charter Replications

What is the Timeline for the 2015 Call?



Context

DPS will host regional meetings April 15-29 to secure feedback from community members about proposed new schools. These meetings do not serve as a proxy for the community engagement and demand that applicants must demonstrate as part of their applications.

Applicants should note that DPS offers workshops August-February to support development of quality applications.

Visit <http://osri.dpsk12.org/school-development/> for more information.

Questions?

Objective #2:

Understand the role of the ART (Application Review Team).



The Job of an ART

Arrive at a **consensus opinion** about the **quality** of a new school proposal to share with the **Superintendent**.

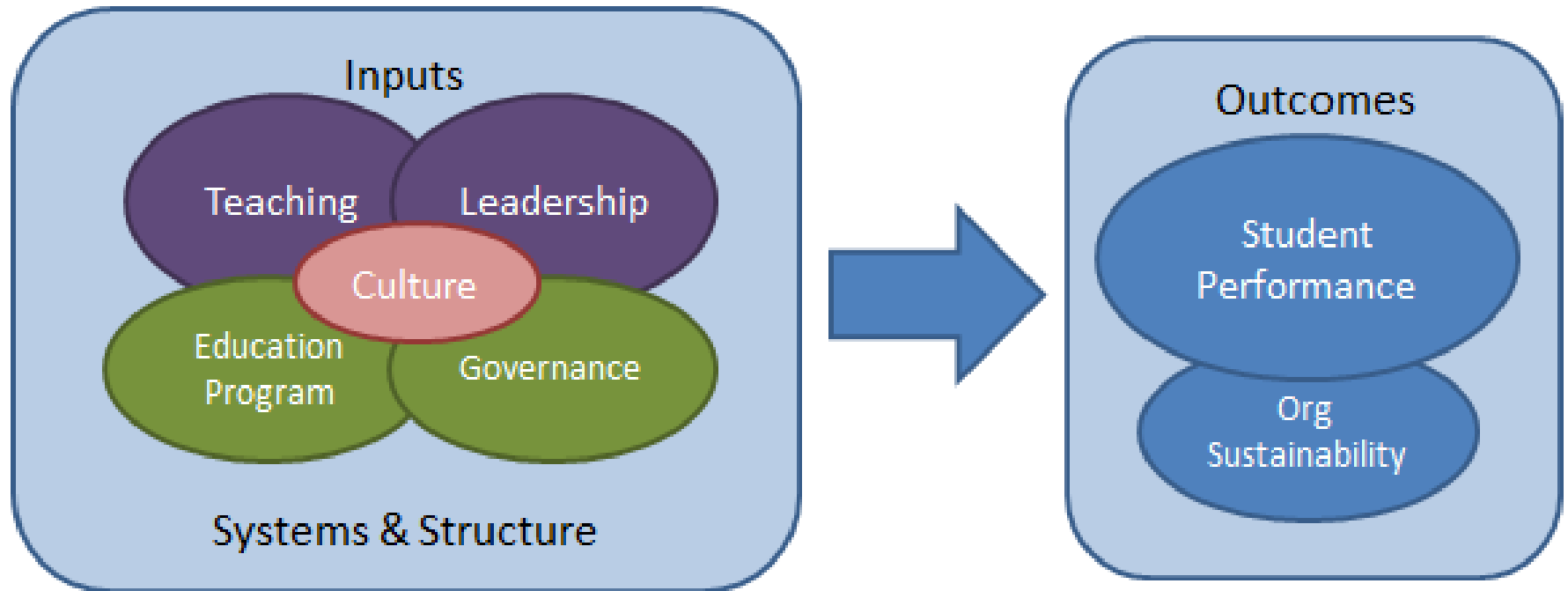
Consensus Opinion

When you serve on an ART, you'll be working alongside people with very diverse expertise, including:

- Teaching and Learning
- English Language Acquisition
- Student Services
- Instructional Superintendents
- School Finance
- School Governance
- Community Engagement
- External Consultants
- Parents/guardians

Quality

Quality is defined through the School Quality Framework rubric. DPS uses this Framework to evaluate all schools designs (and to evaluate charters, after they are open.)



Superintendent

The ART establishes a **consensus opinion** to share with the Superintendent.

The Superintendent and his team consider that opinion in making a **recommendation** to the Board.

The DPS Board of Education **decides** which new school proposals should be approved or denied.

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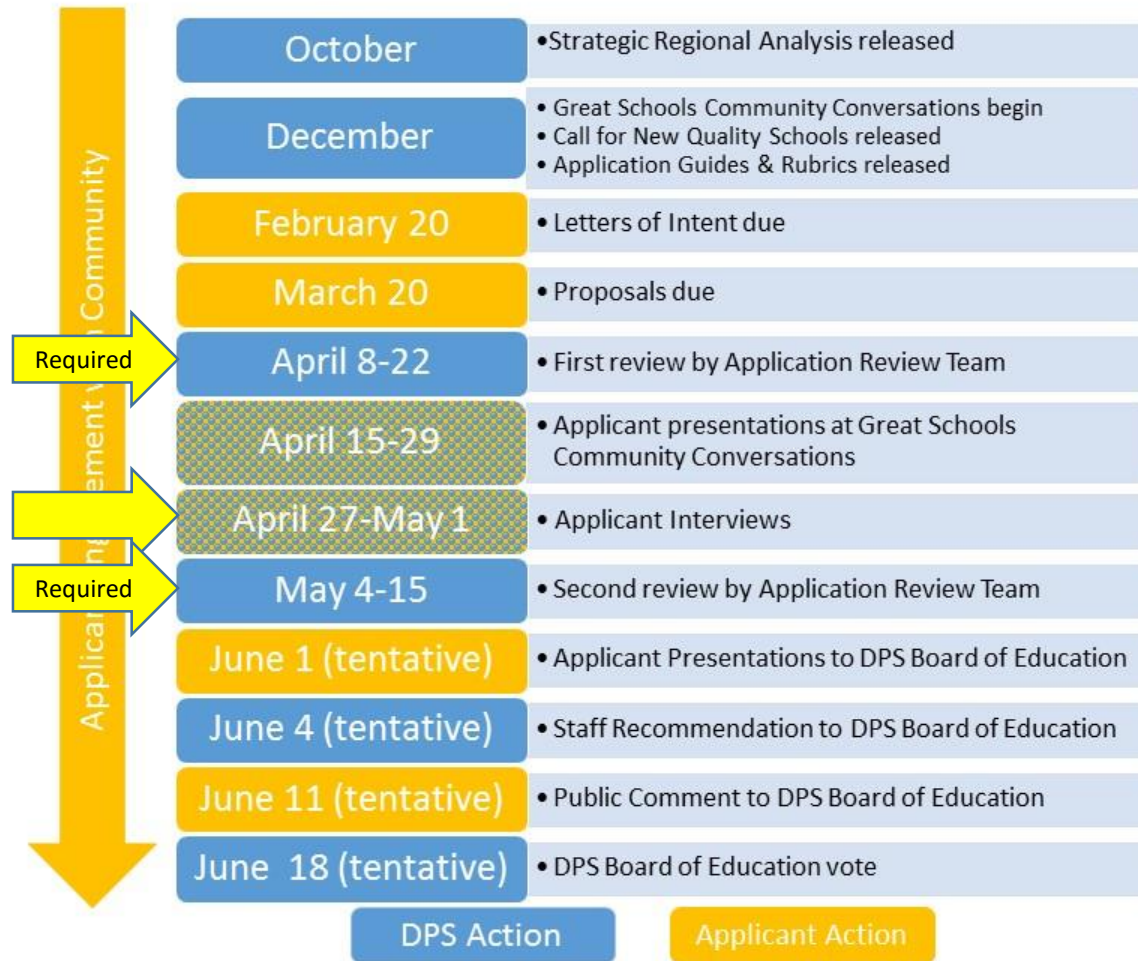
Questions?

Objective #3:

Gain clarity on your job as an ART member.



Periods of an ART Member's Work



Context

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The Rules of an ART

1. We evaluate using the provided rubric only.
2. We evaluate against the application only.
3. We complete rubric scoring – 48 hours before the first review.
4. We stay engaged in ART dialogue and work toward consensus, even when it's hard.
5. We do not talk about what happens in the ART, outside of the ART.
6. We disclose any conflicts of interest – before the first review!

Preparing for the First ART Review

1. You read your assigned sections for an application.
2. You apply your expertise, evaluate the application against the rubric and enter your scores on the Google doc rubric.
3. You provide evidence for any strengths or weaknesses you saw on the Google doc rubric.
4. You document questions you have for the ART- or for the applicant on the Google doc rubric.
5. Review this video to refresh your memory:
<https://explee.com/video/art-refresher-copy-copy>

You do all of this 48 hours in advance.

About Rubric Scoring

Application sections that:

Meet All Expectations = 4-5 points

Meet at Least Half of Expectations = 2-3 points

Meet Less Than Half of Expectations = 0-1 points

Half scores, i.e. 3.5, are not allowed, so please use your professional judgment in selecting.

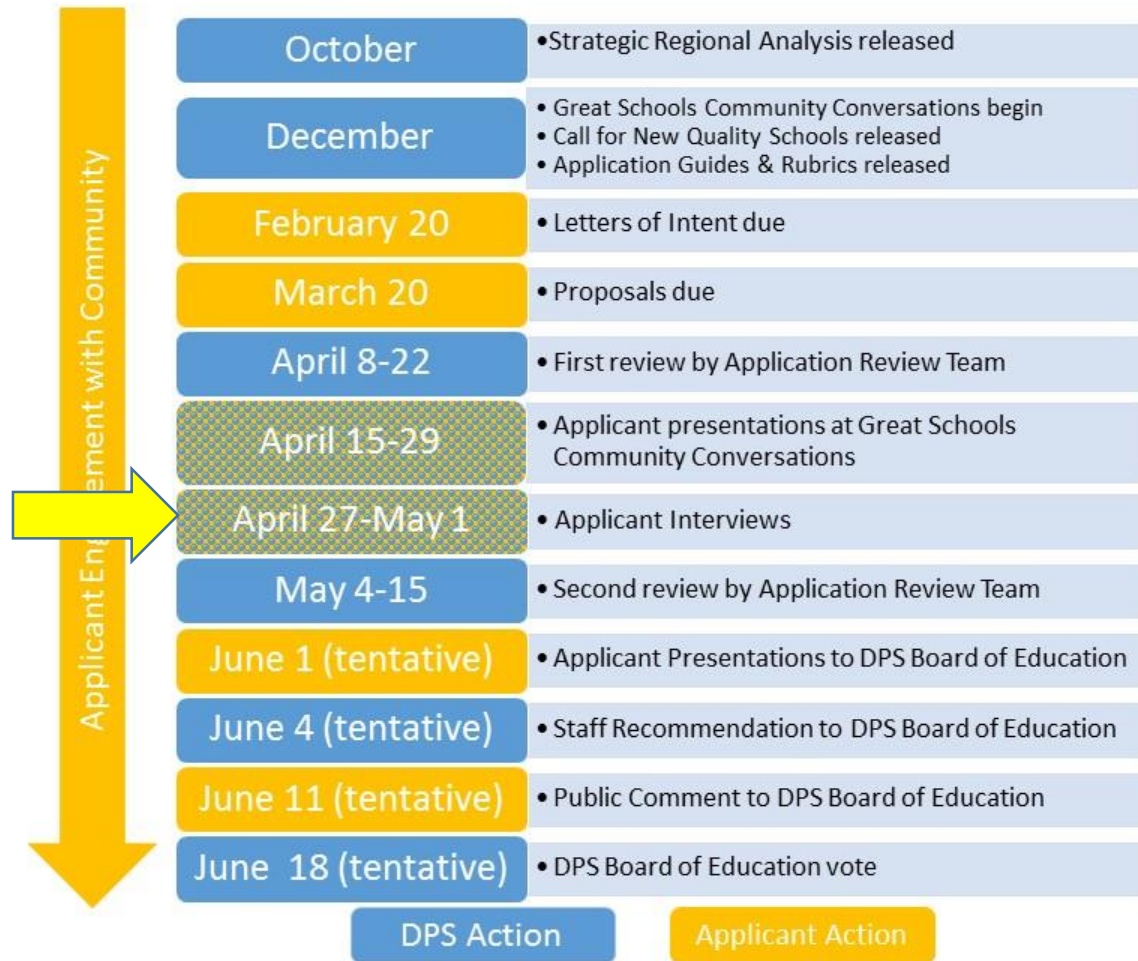
In the First ART Review

We will:

1. Focus on places where scores were low across reviewers.
2. Examine areas where there is a wide range of scores.
3. Listen to each other and discuss issues.
4. Agree on 2-3 questions that we believe are critical to ask the applicant in the interview.

Let's practice!

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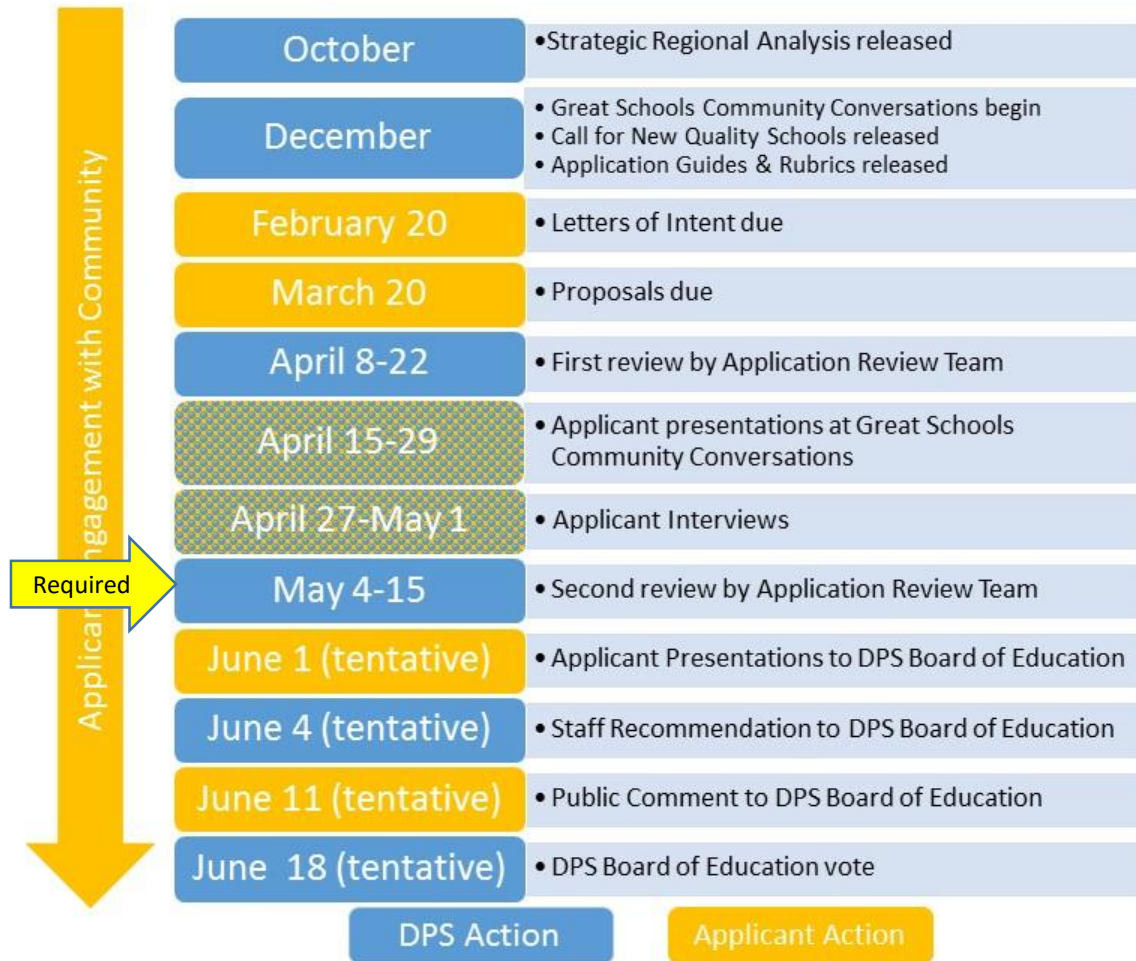
What happens in the interview?

Applicants respond to:

1. A standard set of questions
2. 2-3 questions developed in the ART, specific to their application

An audio recording of the interview is shared with all ART members before the second review.

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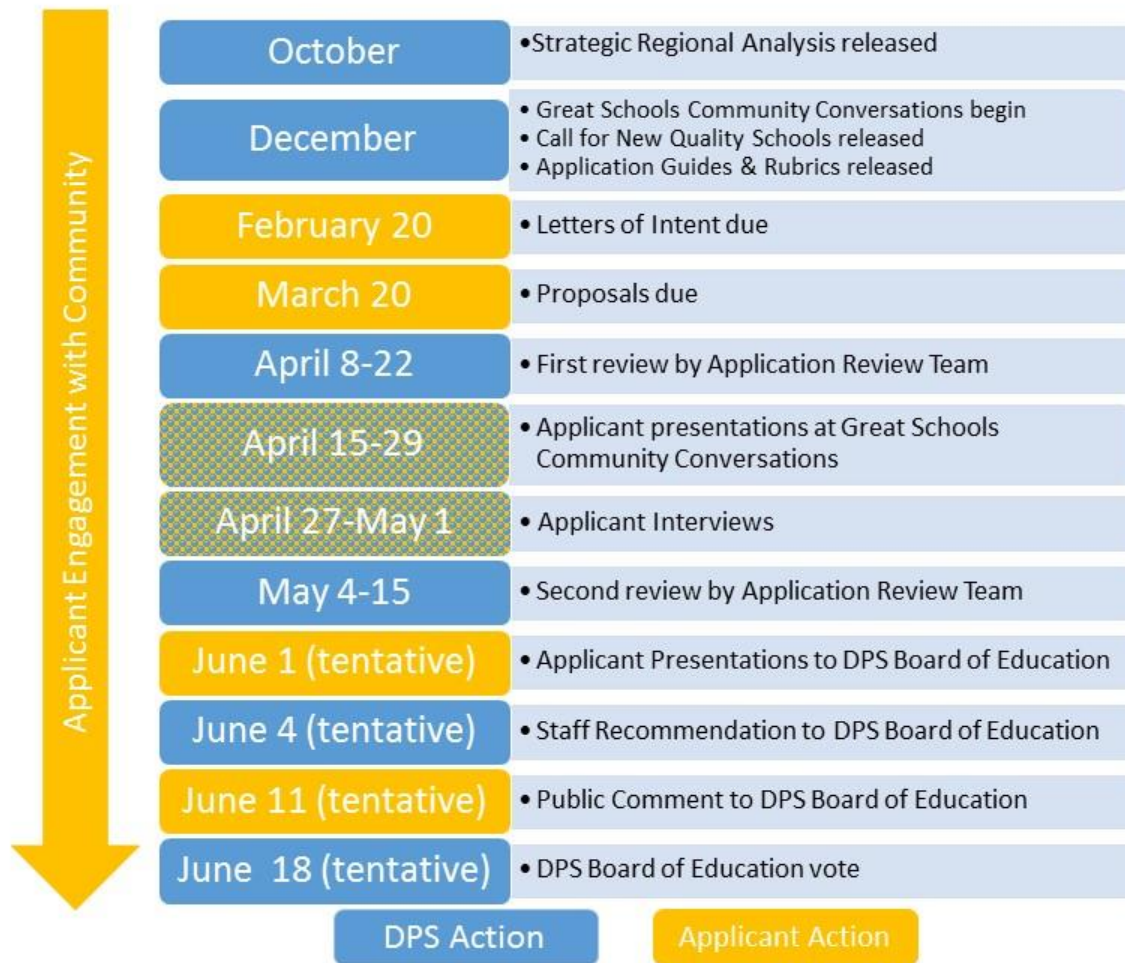
In the Second ART Review

We will:

1. Consider the outcomes of the interview and revisit our impressions of the application itself.
2. Work toward a consensus opinion about whether a proposed school meets the overall quality bar, or not.
3. Identify any conditions that we believe would be necessary for an approved school to open well for students.

Let's practice!

Questions??



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Thank You!

We appreciate your commitment to this important process.

Your expertise and input is invaluable!