



Office of Choice Programming

MEMO

TO: DAC
From Tom McMillen, Director, Choice Programming
Date: April 14, 2015
Re: Charter School Update

World Compass (Opening Fall 2015):

World Compass has broken ground on their site between Medved and Plum Creek Church just south of Castle Rock on the east side of I-25, with a school site plan of approximately 6 acres. World Compass is working with Schoolhouse for financing and a lease on the premises. Projected enrollment for 2015-16 is 784, K-6, expanding to 1,008 students as grades 7 and 8 are added over the next two years. World Compass is planning on an early August completion date with a mid-August 2015 opening. The DCSD board heard a construction update from World Compass on February 17 and approved the execution of a charter contract with WCA.

Global Village (Opening Fall 2015):

Global Village has selected a location in Parker, an 8-acre site at Twenty Mile Road and Ponderosa (just northwest of Lincoln and Parker Rd.). Highmark has closed on a contract for 13 acres, of which GVA will use 8 of the acres and have first right of refusal on the other 5 acres. Current plan is for a 36,000 s.f. facility as phase 1 (first 3 years). GVA is working with the City of Parker Planning Dept. to receive approval on a finalized site plan, traffic plan, building plan, drainage, lighting and landscaping plan. The goal is to build the school in two phases on a 6-8 acre site. Projected enrollment for 2015-16 is 350, expanding to a total of 900 at final K-12 build out by year 5. The DCSD board heard a construction update from Global Village on February 17 and approved the execution of a charter contract with GVA.

New Charter Submissions:

The new charter application cycle began with a letter of intent due on March 1, 2015 and a completed application due on March 15, 2015. District staff has 90 days per statute to review the applications and make recommendations to the Board on the applications.

The Charter Application Review Team (CART) is charged with reviewing the application. The team consists of representatives from each department of the District, as well as two outside reviewers in conformity with national best practices. The team also receives input from the DAC.



Three charter applications have been received this Spring 2015 cycle:

1. John Adams High School resubmitted an application for a 9-12 high school to be located centrally in the District, possibly near Highlands Ranch. The projected enrollment for JAHS is 375 9th graders and 125 10th graders, with 1500 9-12 students in attendance at full build out in school year 4 (2020.) The school design focuses on college preparatory classes, emphasizing AP coursework for all students.
2. Parker Performing Arts School also resubmitted an application for a K-8 performing arts school to be located in Parker. The projected enrollment for PPAS is 525 students K-8 in year one, with 675 K-8 students in attendance at full build out in school year 4 (2020.) The school design focuses on blended learning and 1-to-1 iPad technology for all classes. Students in the “lower grades” (1-4) will be exposed to a variety of arts offerings during the day, with students in the “upper grades” (5-8) able to avail themselves of arts electives depending on interest.
3. Milestone Academy is a new charter application submitted by Merlin Holmes, former principal of Aspen View Academy. Milestone Academy would be located in Castle Rock. The projected enrollment is for 450 students in grades K-5 and 125 in grades 9-10, for a total first year enrollment of 575. At full K-12 build out the school anticipates 1200 students in school year 5 (2021). The school design focuses on Core Knowledge and classical education as well as character development for all students.