

DAC, LRPC and FOC Questions
DCSD Board Meeting 5/8/18

Ponderosa Montessori Academy

1. You set forth a vision of a Montessori curriculum with a working farm model. After review of your application last year and this year there were questions and suggestions surrounding integrating the two models. It appears that the questions and suggestions were not clarified or used, respectively. For example, did you take the feedback of visiting a similar, successful Charter in Jeffco to obtain more information, best practices and procedures for your own Charter?
2. In your application your fixed costs are underdeveloped surrounding facility expenses. If these are under estimated, it would result in a severe negative cash flow. This would severely strain cash available for operational expenses. What evidence and rationale do you have to support your estimated facility costs?
3. What is a realistic timeframe for securing the location and determining construction costs and obtaining funding as well as leasing a permanent or modular facility?
4. Is your entire team here today? What confidence can you give the Board about the founding committee's ability to start and run a viable school? Please describe the level of expertise your Founding Committee has in planning, building and managing a school facility and working farm. Can you walk us through your plan to further develop your team in order to mitigate risk?
5. What will happen to your animals during weekends, snow events and extended breaks?
6. If you build, what construction standards will you use and who will own the building(s) upon completion?

Alexandria School of Innovation

1. Have you reviewed the District's Master Capital Plan? How will the forecasted enrollment trends, particularly the decline in Elementary and Middle School aged children in the North Planning Area, affect ASI's enrollment?
2. Your proposed location is within 1.5 miles of two other charter schools. What evidence can you provide to demonstrate the demand from Douglas County students that are not already currently served by these surrounding schools.
3. Would you please demonstrate the differences between ASI and STEM, as your programming appears to be similar, which may take from surrounding schools thus leaving underutilized facilities?
4. According to your application the proposed Land Lease represents 80% of your facility expense in the forecast budget. There is only \$150,000 available for the facility itself. Would you please explain how you would afford the brick and mortar building?
5. We understand you are open to shifting the location of the school to Sterling Ranch. Can you walk us through what conversations you've had and any agreements you've reached with the developers there? How would changing the proposed location impact the timing of opening the school?
6. You have alleged throughout the application that the district has shown bias against members of the founding committee, and this has had a negative impact on your intent to enroll. What evidence is there of the district's alleged bias and its impact on your intent to enroll numbers? What steps have you taken to overcome this alleged bias and increase your intent to enroll numbers?