Summary of CPAC Full Committee Meeting #3 – April 14th, 2016

Florence Crittenton HS

See attached list of CPAC members in attendance at this third full-CPAC meeting. In addition to the CPAC, there were a few committee members present in addition to DPS staff. Board member Lisa Flores was also in attendance.

OPENING:

CPAC Co-chair Ruben Valdez kicked off the meeting by providing an overview of the meeting agenda. Speaker Valdez then introduced Dr. Shirley Algiene who welcomed the CPAC to Florence Crittenton and thanked the community for the 2012 Bond investment which, along with fundraising from Florence Crittenton Services, has significantly improved the learning environment for the high school students and their children.

PROCESS UPDATE:

CPAC co-chair Bruce Hoyt reconnected the CPAC with their mission, to make recommendations to the Board of Education regarding prioritized investments for the bond and mill levy. Bruce also shared information about potential voter support for a 2016 bond and mill levy which he said was meaningful and reason to be optimistic but was also not as high as was seen in 2012.

DPS Chief Operating Officer David Suppes then reviewed the remaining CPAC timeline, concluding in recommendations to the Board of Education on June 2nd with a June 16th vote. David shared how each sub-committee will bring forth prioritized investment lists to the May 9th CPAC meeting and that groups will share out and discuss investments that are on the border.

David shared the evening’s objectives, for committee members to understand the prioritization approach and potential investments of other sub-committees and have an opportunity to comment on them.

A committee member asked a question in regards to the level of the negative factor and if that would impact committee direction. The response was that while a previously anticipated increase in the negative factor (a factor at the Colorado state budgeting level that reduces education spending) for next year does not appear to be happening, that change at the state level does nothing to address the existing negative factor or the disparity in funding between CO and other states and as such there is still significant need for a mill levy.

SUB-COMMITTEE ROTATIONS:

Capacity and Quality Learning Environments – committee members had discussions such as the prioritization of new capacity investments and the balance between Capacity investments and Quality Learning Environment investments
Maintenance – committee members discussed how to prioritize different potential projects based on impact to life-safety and school operations. Committee members also discussed different approaches to funding cooling solutions.

Technology – committee members discussed how to support 1:1 technology devices in the district and the larger eco-system of supports such as PD and curricula. Committee members also discussed potential prioritizations of different district systems including student safety.

Mill Levy – committee members discussed prioritization of investments and how they align with Denver Plan goals and existing data. Committee members also discussed the alignment of mill levy investments with bond investments such as maintenance and technology.

SHARE-OUT:

CPAC co-chair Christine Benero facilitated a wrap-up discussion to gather thoughts and reactions from the station activity. One committee member commented on the importance of having good communication and a story as the bond and mill levy go to the ballot. She suggested particularly the importance of messaging Quality Learning Environments. Another committee member reacted positively to the coordination between the mill levy sub-committee and bond sub-committees (maintenance and technology).

One committee member asked about how the decisions were made around the sizing of bond categories. COO David Suppes shared that the preliminary sizings were developed based on experience, having worked with DPS through multiple bonds, as well as a good understanding of needs and costs. He also reiterated that the committee is free to recommend something outside of those ranges.

A committee member flagged the Denver Post article on Teacher Leadership and Collaboration and the importance of linking the funding of that program to a potential mill levy.

Christine concluded the meeting by laying out the upcoming meetings for the group.
April 14th CPAC #3 Attendees

Anna Jo Haynes
Austin Kane
Bruce Hoyt
Christine Benero
Eddie Koen
Eliot Lewis
Gisselle Ortiz
Janet Lopez
James Moore
Jessica Allen
Karen Taylor
Kathryn Swan
Luchia Brown
Mary O’neil
Michon Schmidt
Mike Cerbo
Oscar Gomez
Pamela Harris
Patricia Frederico
Rowena Alegria
Ruben Valdez
Sandra Resa Quintana
Sarah Kurz
Stalker Henderson
Sue Allon
Terry Casey
Will Chan