DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 21, 2020
6:00 – 7:00 PM
Hybrid Meeting held via Zoom and in person due to COVID-19

Minutes

I. 6:00 Welcome and Introductions

The following individuals were present: Lori Stack, Bridget Allison, DJ Loerzel, Ilen Agustin, Mardi Boin, Michelle Torgrimson, Omar Montgomery, Audrey Monaco, Tim Hill, Amy Hill, Valerie Richmond, Sarah McGuire, Breahna Miller, Paige Jovanovic

Visitors and Presenters: Paige Jovanovic, Audrey Monaco

II. 6:05 Charter School Renewal Application Training, Paige Jovanovic, Charter School Manager

Renewal Application

Paige: Annual training with reviewers - charter renewal application process - will assign sections to review to different people. Office of Autonomous Schools manages 11 Authorized Charters

This year 1 school is in renewal, Vanguard Classical School (East and West Campuses) academic performance is one of the most important factors in renewal. Other factors include: SPF, Interim assessments, performance criteria (above performance), does this performance warrant future operation or should it be closed? If it goes into turnaround status for an amount of time, the school could be closed.

Other factors: Financial performance, governance effectiveness (Question for Vanguard Classical School to be reviewed this year), Leadership and instructional quality, compliance with charter contract, mission fulfillment.

Also consider, parent and community support, significant positive, negative trends in performance, operations, and/or governance.

Applicable Law, Policy, Best Practice
Colorado Law - renewal process - charter schools aware of processes
DAAC Involvement
NACSA guidelines followed by APS - no political influence when making decisions around renewal
Timeline: Presentation and timeline will follow this presentation.
10/2 Applications are live then DAAC can read applications
10/9 Initial reviewer comments are due in Charter.Tools
10/21 Renewal Application Interviews
11/4 Reviewer Final Comments are Ratings DUE in Charter.Tools
12/1 APS Board MEeting: Renewal Recommendation
12/15 APS Board work session and final ruling

School Context
1 contract w/two campuses for Vanguard - both East and West campuses
East: K-12 78 Employees, 672 students  Opened in 2013, Classical Education
Tableau Data shared
West: 52 Employees,

2 years ago, they were given a 2-year renewal instead of a 5-year renewal

-Asked that Vanguard go through Governance Training to resolve conflict of interest issues that were happening
-Asked them to rewrite some financial policies
-Service Agreements had no deadlines
-Asked them to submit a budget
-Asked them to have a different person in charge of the board (ACCO)

Some of these have been corrected.

Renewal Application Review
Application Sections
School Overview
Looking Back
Looking Ahead
Charter Modifications
Minor modifications (ex: uniform policy)
Major modifications (Classical to language immersion, Enrollment Increase for cap)
State Waivers
District Policy Waivers

Renewal Application Overview document will be shared with committee

Section Assignments:
- Education
- Financial
- Organizational

Paige will send out an email and ask people to sign up for one section

Important Reminders:
- Use the application standards (schools don’t have to go above and beyond that)
- Use facts not feelings (they have autonomy)
- Speak for your community
- Review from a fair and equitable lens
- Your review makes a difference
- Focus on the current charter term (2 years for Vanguard)
- Ask what you don’t know (Paige and Audrey)

Demonstration of Charter Tools:
- Should be able to access tomorrow - using East Campus Account
- Schedule 1:1 training with Paige if needed
- Mostly will be in bubbles - notes and comments that we make - DO NOT PRESS the box that allows the applicant to see comments!

Confidentiality and conflict of interest form - agree not to share any info until after board meeting
DAAC Questions:

How will S performance be measured w/o CMAS?
Interim assessments, 18-19 SPF, perhaps, don’t make a closure decision based on performance solely. Vanguard hasn’t had a performance issue.

What happens if one campus is renewed and the other is not?
It is one charter contract, so one contract covers both campuses.

If one campus fails, do both campuses fail?
Technically, yes. The APS board has final call on those things. The improvement plan would apply to just the one campus. Even though they are under the same contract, they operate very differently.

Can they be put on separate contracts?
Paige isn’t sure but she can look into it.

Charters:  Can renew, Can replicate, Can expand - Vanguard replicated and expanded

Omar Montgomery: Council member talking about a project trying to get some schools to be safe zones throughout the pandemic and school year. Omar will get the name of the project. Heard that the school district may be hesitant to do this.
DJ - Lori - reach out to Christy Emholtz? to find out. Explains how this process occurs within the district.

III. 6:55 Meeting Adjourned