

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on September 1, 2005 the Board of Education of Jefferson County School District No. R-1 received a charter school application from College Prep Charter School (“CPCS”); and

WHEREAS, the charter school application has been reviewed by the District’s Charter School Review Committee, by various District Departments, and by members of the Superintendent’s Cabinet; and

WHEREAS, Charter School Review Committee Notes and Comments, a Budget Department Crucial Questions Report, a Facilities Planning Crucial Questions Report, an Instructional Services Crucial Questions Report, a Special Populations Crucial Questions Report, and a District Wide Crucial Questions Report have been prepared to assist the Board and members of the Superintendent’s Cabinet in reviewing the charter school application (attached hereto as Exhibits A - F, respectively); and

WHEREAS, the District’s Accountability Committee and the Board have reviewed the charter school application in accordance with the requirements of C.R.S. §§ 22-30.5-107(1) & (1.5); and

WHEREAS, the Board held a public meeting with CPCS on October 6, 2005 in accordance with the requirements of C.R.S. § 22-30.5-107(2); and

WHEREAS, the Charter Schools Act requires the Board to rule by resolution on the charter school application within 75 days after its receipt; and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the charter school application; the Charter Schools Act; District policies and regulations; the Comments, Notes, Crucial Questions Reports, and Recommendations prepared by the Charter School Review Committee, District Departments, and members of the Superintendent’s Cabinet.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board that denial of the CPCS charter school application is in the best interests of the District, its students and the community, and the CPCS charter school application is hereby denied, for the following reasons:

1. The educational program proposed by CPCS provides nothing that is not currently available through District high schools and successfully utilized by the District’s high school students. There is no educational benefit and no financial or operational utility in subcontracting the academic instruction of eleventh and twelfth grade students to postsecondary institutions with CPCS doing little more than acting as a middleman.

2. Postsecondary enrollment options for eleventh and twelfth grade students are intended to supplement the educational programs offered at the District's high schools. It is not educationally appropriate to use postsecondary enrollment options as proposed by CPCS to entirely supplant a public high school education in the absence of an agreement or partnership with a community college to assist in delivering an integrated "early college model" curriculum.

3. CPCS has not developed curriculum, pupil performance standards, or assessments for its educational program. In addition, CPCS has not demonstrated that a postsecondary enrollment options program is educationally appropriate for the eleventh and twelfth grade students it has targeted who are at-risk, struggling academically, or have dropped out of school, and has not demonstrated that a postsecondary vocational program rather than a well-rounded education at a District high school is educationally appropriate for such students.

4. CPCS has not proposed workable class schedules or a reasonable method of delivering educational services to students, including but not limited to the fact that in addition to teaching four classes per day CPCS teachers will also serve as advisors, guidance counselors, tutors, and supervisors and facilitators for students beginning to develop career skills, and will additionally design lessons and internships, assist students with college enrollment, conduct college tours, provide direction for students to enroll "in the most advantageous community college courses and help them to succeed in those courses," develop a community support project for ninth and tenth grade students, track the academic and social progress of eleventh and twelfth grade students in college, work with work-study employers and other businesses to find appropriate community service placements for students, and serve as instructional coaches.

5. CPCS has not demonstrated that it is able to present an economically viable budget for its proposed school, including but not limited to realistic student enrollment figures, adequate staff and funding for regular and special education services, adequate funds for textbooks and other instructional materials, and adequate funds for the acquisition of a suitable school site and classroom furniture.

6. The District currently diverts per-pupil funding from students at some of its non-charter schools to pay for programs and services the Board deems necessary or desirable at other schools. In addition, District analyses and a report prepared by Augenblick and Myers, Inc. establish that charter schools have a fiscal impact on the District in excess of the per-pupil funding that follows students to the charter schools. Approving the CPCS charter school application would compromise the District's ability to devote the funds and educational resources it deems necessary to improve academic performance ratings at certain existing schools based on CSAP assessments; to close the achievement gap for at-risk students, students eligible for free and reduced lunch, students with English as a second language, and other under-served student populations at such existing

schools; and to achieve adequate yearly progress on a District-wide basis as required under the No Child Left Behind Act.

7. The cumulative operational and financial impact on the District caused by declining enrollment, reductions in funding, and capital and staffing needs at existing schools requires the Board to be more selective in granting charter applications, and under these circumstances approval of the CPCS charter school application would not be fiscally responsible and would compromise the District's ability to allocate necessary funds (and thus educational resources and support) to existing schools educating at-risk students, students eligible for free and reduced lunch, students with English as a second language, and other under-served student populations.

In accordance with C.R.S. § 22-30.5-107(4), the District administration is hereby directed to provide a copy of this Resolution to the Colorado Department of Education within fifteen days of its adoption date.

Adopted this 20th day of October, 2005.

JEFFERSON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
NO. R-1

By: _____
Jane Barnes
President, Board of Education

Attest:

By: _____
Stephen Dixon
Secretary, Board of Education