

**APS Conversation #4: Operating Models for School System Flexibility Options
Douglass High School: Stakeholder Questions**

September 2, 2014

General Comments

- We need to have our Strategic Plan in place before we can have an intelligent conversation or make a smart decision.
- It is not realistic to move forward without data and our Strategic Plan.
- No matter what model we chose, we must build a different culture among our teachers.
- APS has a lot of work to do around communication.
- If APS chooses the Charter System, specifics will need to be defined and shared BEFORE asking the public to make a decision.

Plenary Questions

- What is the difference between the Charter System and the System of Charter Schools?
- With the IE² model, will the State set performance targets higher or lower than what we have now, like with No Child Left Behind?
- Would going to a model that had more difficult performance measures be a good thing, given our current performance?
- Would there be yearly milestones to meet under the Charter System operating model?
- How long does APS have to reach the performance measures under the IE² and Charter System operating models?
- How is local school governance actually achieved? Do parents make the decisions, or is it principals and teachers?
- How are we trying to make sure that any of these models will help affect or achieve student achievement?
- How are we connecting the Strategic Planning process to this decision?
- Where is the data?
- How do we move forward without the data and the Strategic Plan? Is it possible or realistic to move forward?
- Is there a system that is currently using the cluster-based model (System of Charter Clusters)?

- How does the accountability change if APS moves to the cluster-level model?
- How does APS use the financial savings that result from current waivers?
- Am I right that APS could chose the Status Quo model, further analyze the choices and make a decision a year down the line?
- When would the change to a new operating model be implemented?
- How will the State forcing us into a decision de-rail the direction that the district is heading in terms of strategic planning?
- What happens to the central office under IE²?
- Does the five year plan support selecting a particular model?

Small Group Questions

IE² System

- What are the criteria for meeting or not meeting expectations/targets/milestones?
- How will you plan to aggressively seek representation from the business community?
- How many functional LSCs exist currently?
- How will this operating model impact special education, talented & gifted, etc.?
- How can we make sure APS does a better job of explaining, educating and empowering the parents and community to make a viable choice?
- How will every model lay out parent involvement, engagement or governance?

Charter System

- How will you plan to aggressively seek representation from the business community?
- What are the criteria for meeting or not meeting expectations/targets/milestones?
- How many functional LSCs exist currently?
- How will this operating model impact special education, talented & gifted, etc.?
- How can we make sure APS does a better job of explaining, educating and empowering the parents and community to make a viable choice?
- How will every model lay out parent involvement, engagement or governance?

Status Quo System

- How will you plan to aggressively seek representation from the business community?

- What are the criteria for meeting or not meeting expectations/targets/milestones?
- How many functional LSCs exist currently?
- How will this operating model impact special education, talented & gifted, etc.?
- How can we make sure APS does a better job of explaining, educating and empowering the parents and community to make a viable choice?
- Why is it called Status Quo?
- How will parents be made aware of the current issues?
- How will every model lay out parent involvement, engagement or governance?
- Has the administration read Title XX to examine potential waivers available to Status Quo systems?