



Replication Community Discussion

Agenda for Tonight

- 7:15-7:30:
 - Welcome and presentation of the Replication Grant Opportunity
 - Brief Scenario
- 7:30-8:00: Break out sessions
- 8:00-8:15: Large group share
- 8:15-8:30: Final Comments/Next Steps - Replication Steering Task Force



High Quality Charter School Replication Grant

- The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) received a five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education to increase charter school quality
- MDE will use the money to expand or replicate “high quality” charter schools
- Eagle Ridge Academy has been identified as a “high quality” charter school



What is a High Quality Charter School?

- Charter schools identified in the top 33% of ALL public schools based on Quality Index
 - MCA Proficiency in Math and Reading
 - Graduation Rates
 - Growth Index
- Demographics
 - Percentage of students receiving free or reduced lunch is similar to the district
 - Percentage of “Non-White” students is similar to the district
- Financially and organizationally stable and viable
- Capacity to implement the expansion



High Quality Grant Opportunity

- Receive up to \$225,000 per year for three years to “replicate”
 - One year for planning
 - Two years for implementation
- Replication is defined as increasing enrollment by at least 50% of existing programs
 - 800→1,200



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Decision Making Process

- We will NOT expand just because we are qualified to receive the grant
- Four factors
 - Program:
 - First and foremost, would expansion support our strategic plan, which is aligned to our mission and vision
 - Support the needs of our ERA community
 - Financially viable long term
 - Facility availability within location parameters



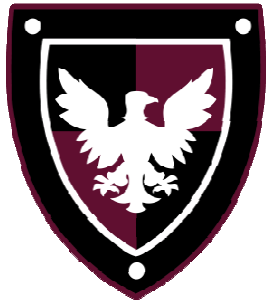
Next Steps

- Expansion task force reviews application
- Community discussion regarding possible expansion on April 8
- Send survey to the community regarding questions that arise from the April 8 meeting
- Attend technical seminar regarding the application
- Share results from survey and discussion at April 22 board meeting, recommendation made to board whether to submit application
- Operations team will work as IF expansion is going to happen
- Grant submission due on May 5, 2014
- Develop four subgroups: Program, Location, Facility, and Finance



Big Picture Scenario

- Replicate from current enrollment of 800→1,200, meets 50% rule
- Wait list is in the K-6; hence, potential growth
- If we grow:
 - Adding sections to K-5, from 3 sections overall to a total of 5 sections. 69 per grade to 115 per grade
 - Let attrition happen naturally which decreases the amount older students added
 - Graduating classes are predicated to stay at about 45 students without replication.
 - Graduating class would increase to about 80



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