

# DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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McGLONE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
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To: Denver Public Schools Board of Education  
From: McGlone Design Team Members  
Date: May 18, 2011  
Re: McGlone Design Team support for McGlone Elementary Innovation Plan

The McGlone Design Team is made up of current parents and newly hired returning McGlone 2011-12 teaching staff. We have been able to meet several times and have had significant input on the compilation of the McGlone Innovation plan, particularly in the area of school uniforms, governance structure, parent engagement, and achievable outcomes. We support the Innovation Plan and the recommended changes therein for McGlone Elementary.

We support McGlone's new vision to prepare students intellectually, linguistically, technologically, and socially, to succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We believe that McGlone must ensure that all 5<sup>th</sup> grade students' transition to middle school with the academic skills, language skills, technology skills, and social skills, they will need for success in secondary school, college, and careers.

We are asking the DPS Board of Education to support the McGlone Innovation plan. Innovation status will allow McGlone to fulfill their mission and vision through:

- A longer school day and year to provide more time for student learning
- Organizing time for intensive professional development and opportunities for staff to work together, with a focus on best practices for working with second language learners as well as collecting and analyzing data to progress monitor and plan for differentiated daily instruction
- High dosage tutoring to accelerate learning and close the achievement gap
- Autonomy for creating a human capital strategy that aligns human resources with student achievement and professional development needs
- Flexible budgeting to align personnel allocations, professional development, and material resources with student achievement goals

We also thoroughly believe that innovation status can be used to leverage parental involvement.

Parents will see a new energy and dedication to high expectations for student achievement. Mandatory uniforms, signing parent and student agreements, parent/teacher classroom trainings, establishing the Parent Learning Team, the visibility of new technologies for teacher and student use, displaying student achievement data and goals, and McGlone's new Core Values will immediately set the stage to help parents realize that things have changed at McGlone. The student, parent and community engagement plan detailed in the plan will establish a shared responsibility for success. The longer school calendar, increased time and opportunity for students to learn and highly motivated and engaged staff demonstrates how innovation status can lead to increased student achievement for every child.

Lastly, we stand behind the key attributes of McGlone's education plan. We know that core subjects as well as 21<sup>st</sup> century learning skills, such as critical thinking, collaboration, and creativity will help our students to succeed in school and in life. We are additionally excited that our students will have access to technology as a tool for research and learning.

We ask that the Board to approve the McGlone Innovation Plan.

Sincerely,

LIZ ELENA IBÁÑEZ  
Name

MAMA  
parent or teacher

Trina J. McManus  
Name

teacher  
parent or teacher

Martha S. Villalva Hernandez  
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Mama  
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Celia Cabral Santana  
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DORA ESTEVEZ V.  
Name

MAMA.  
parent or teacher

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mama  
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Ashley Cline  
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parent  
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Maria Muñoz  
Name

Mamá  
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Leticia Lorano  
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Emily Davis  
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Teacher  
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Joy L. Vacca  
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teacher  
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Ann C. Howell  
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teacher  
parent or teacher

John Hays  
Name

Teacher  
parent or teacher

[Signature]  
Name

Teacher

Name

parent or teacher

Blanca de la Torre  
Name

MAMA  
parent or teacher

Patricia Manriquez  
Name

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parent or teacher

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