To: Denver Public School Board

From: West Leadership Academy (WLA) Steering Committee

Dear Board Members:

We, the steering committee, want to express our support of the West High community and Principal Klava in their efforts to design and implement a school that meets the needs of this urban community. This community saw a need to create a school that includes a rigorous and authentic learning environment for multi-language students. And that is what the Principal Klava, the community, and the WLA Steering Committee are prepared to implement.

The WLA community continued to collaborate to develop an academic plan for students, grade 6 through 12. A plan that provides each student with college bound curriculum, individual learning plans, advisor guidance throughout their academic career, internships to give students real life work and service experiences, and instructional skill support. Together the community researched different instructional programs; an activity that culminated in the selection of the College Board program. The College Board has the academic rigor, teacher professional support, instructional flexibility, and appropriate materials to meet the needs of this specific student population.

Also we want to point out the significance of the two academies, College Board and Generations, working together to insure that students have common access to routines, schedules, and facilities. A common school culture between these two unique academies allows students the best management of facility and faculty resources. As members of the steering committee, we see this collaboration between the two academies as one more reason why WLA will be a successful implementation of a new innovative college bound program.

Instead of a single academic entity trying to meet the needs of a diverse student population, WLA stakeholders are taking the steps necessary to bring into existence an innovative and challenging secondary school environment for the West community. It is a solid plan, designed to meet the needs of the West Community providing a rigorous college bound program. As members of the Steering Committee, it is our privilege to put forth our experience and expertise in support of the development of the WLA program. Also we ask that the Denver School Board members continue their support of the WLA academic plan.

Sincerely,

Steering Committee Members