Attendees:
- 8 parents of K-12th grade students across DPS

**Essential Skills:** Parents read through the rubrics for each of the four Essential Skills categories and noted what they liked, questions, concerns and observations for each.
- Overall, parents expressed concerns about how these skills will actually be implemented in schools and whether teachers will get the proper tools and resources to teach them.
- Parents were confused about how these skills are for all grade levels.
- After observing the four Essential Skills categories, two parents noted the absence of overlap between Essential Skills categories. One suggested considering a few universal skills, applicable to more than one category (like self-advocacy which is under professional, but important for all four).

**Lingering questions:**
- How are districts/schools being equipped to teach/encourage these skills?
- How will these skills be infused with the new standards?
- How will these skills be measured?
- How do they address culturally responsive teaching?

**Professional Skills:**
- Sub-skills “Information Literacy” and “Use of Information & Communications Technologies” seem duplicative and could be consolidated into one
- Parents liked Task / Time Management and Self-Advocacy, but self-advocacy isn’t just an important skill for the workplace -- it’s also an important Personal Skill

**Civic / Interpersonal Skills:**
- Under “Civic Engagement,” the rubric descriptors for Strategic Learner and Emerging Expert are the same. Consider scaffolding them to make a clear distinction between the two.
- Consider a “universal obligation” idea -- no man is an island
- Consider adding “Conflict Resolution” category

**Entrepreneurial Skills**
- Behavior is considered disruptive in many schools that are underperforming

**CDE’s Roadmap to CAS Guide:** Parents looked at CDE’s *Colorado Academic Standards: A Roadmap to Success* brochure and individually used stickers to indicate what information was helpful and what was confusing. We then shared out and captured the following feedback.

**Parents found the following information helpful:**
- Overall design of brochures with graphics- great way to keep reader engaged
- Information on the tests students are taking
- Data on the need to update the standards- gives parents an idea of the reality. However, since we are now six years in with the new standards, some of the stats might not be helpful communicating the “why.”

**Parents found the following confusing and suggest removing/revising the following:**
- Language on Common Core
- Teacher quotes- what’s the purpose?
- Remove or simplify technical phrases/terms, such as “Linear equations”, “Disciplinary literacy”

**Parents suggested adding the following:**
- Use examples of standards that are easy to understand
- Generally, communicate that standards are for students in grades K-12 in the 13 subject areas
- Make the Essential Skills component pronounced
- Need a component for students with special needs/learning differences
- Add amount of testing time to section on the tests students will take