Lincoln Academy Charter School
Board of Directors
External Fundraising & Foundation Update

Goal

Create a realistic, sustainable **external** development plan for the school, eliminating potential redundancies and maximizing current and future resources, based on the schools greater fundraising goal.

LA BOD Development Committee

- Works to find additional income for the school via grants, corporate and individual donations, marketing sponsorships or fundraising
- Helps to identify projects and determine the annual fundraising goal for the school in consultation with the board of directors, principal and finance committee.
- Identifies grant opportunities and writes proposals. Assists others with writing grants if requested.
- Cultivates business sponsors for the school.
- Develops presentation materials (written proposals, PowerPoint presentations, school brochure, video, etc.).
- Develops sponsorship or marketing partner proposals including levels of sponsorship, costs and benefits.
- Markets Lincoln Academy to the community. Works with the principal to advertise Lincoln Academy wherever and whenever possible, i.e. Arvada Harvest Festival, local newspapers, Jeffco publications, school website, formal presentations, word-of-mouth, etc.

The Lincoln Academy Foundation

- Avoids 3% Tabor tax on all revenues.
- For all Federal and State grants the district becomes the fiscal agent. District asks to be notified of all grants for coordination of efforts. (autonomy)
- A school foundation can be a positive PR tool for the school, and the district.
- Engages our community on behalf of school choice and in the process of improving local schools.
- Gives citizens another avenue to make their voices heard.
- Builds a new audience of ambassadors and monetary supporters (donors) to Lincoln. Could provide a means for external organizations to show their support for and gratitude to schools.
- Builds bridges to new **non-parent** audiences, including: singles, empty nesters, senior citizens, retired employees of the school district, local colleges, non-resident community leaders, alumni, businesses, community groups, and other foundations/charities.
- Could attract additional funds from these same audiences and other resources from **outside your community**.
- Provides a legal, professional mechanism to collect and administer funds.
- **Will make available some grant opportunities for which your school is not, by itself, eligible.**
- Free money – corporate matching, etc.

Previous Efforts

- Activities Upon Assumption (bylaws, new officers, mission/vision)
- Corporate Matching
- Grants (Anadarco)
- Tech Trek – I (October 2016) – 2 3D Printers; 2 Projectors
- Tech Trek – II (October 2018) – 18 Chromebooks

Current State

- April 2018
- Non-Profit/501c3 Status
- Associated Costs
- Current 1/5 Year Strategic Plan

Next Steps

- Board votes and gives direction for external development plan
- Matches current and long-term goals and offers adequate resources to accomplish.
- Agrees upon a collaborative vision.

Thoughts to Consider

- Significant grants made outside of a Title 1 school or a schools without a "high impact group" (FRL) are hard to get.
- Focusing on things that are idealistic, but don't make sense. Make sure your efforts are truly supporting your desired outcome.

(Example: 5 year plan for 30m building)

- Corporations/Individuals **can** make donations directly to the school.
- Foundation OR a Development Committee – not both. Consider the operating costs in both scenarios.