



Dear McAuliffe Families,

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that McAuliffe is pursuing a new governance model for the 2018-19 school year. In our current structure, McAuliffe is an innovation school within Denver Public Schools. Our leadership team reports to a DPS instructional superintendent who then reports to district leadership on our school's performance. In lieu of this structure, we are applying to create an Innovation Zone for International Baccalaureate schools in Northeast Denver. In this new governance model, the leaders of the schools in the zone would report to an independent board (part of a 501c3) that oversees our schools and reports to the district on our progress. We believe that the benefits of forming an Innovation Zone would include increased flexibilities for school leaders in decision-making and more control over our budgets. This would allow for increased funding for our schools as we would no longer have to pay for district services that we do not use and instead we would be able to reallocate this funding directly to our schools. The projected additional funds that would be available to McAuliffe next year would be in excess of \$350,000. In addition to the benefits of budgetary savings, we hope to improve educational outcomes for our students through improved collaboration between IB schools by: sharing knowledge, resources and professional development costs and aligning curricula and best instructional practices between our schools. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about our proposal or Innovation Zones in general, please email me at [kurt\\_dennis@dpsk12.org](mailto:kurt_dennis@dpsk12.org).

Thank you,

Kurt Dennis  
Principal, McAuliffe International School