

December 14, 2020

Dear VPAC Community Members,

Community is the heart and soul of Visions Performing Arts College Prep. Thank you for your commitment to VPAC's mission to provide our children with culturally-affirming education that preserves the tradition of African and Latinx performing arts. Our Board of Directors has been proud to serve you by working to bring VPAC to life, and we are sad today to notify you of our decision to relinquish our charter.

In the Fall of 2019, VPAC received authorization to open our doors to our community as a 6-12 performing arts charter school. The VPAC Board and staff worked tirelessly to make this dream real, celebrating successes and overcoming obstacles along the way. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit—bringing unanticipated financial, educational, and operational challenges—we made the decision to delay our opening by one year to ensure that we could welcome students to a strong and thriving school. Unfortunately, these last nine months have revealed even further challenges. While we want deeply to serve the VPAC community by opening a school that honors and celebrates our children, we believe that recent obstacles make it impossible for VPAC to find a successful path forward. Our conclusion to relinquish VPAC's charter was reached after careful consideration of our financial and operational realities, and with our commitment to ensuring quality and sustainable educational opportunities for children at the forefront.

We continue to be committed to ensuring our community has access to high-quality public school choices, and we will support families to identify the best available school options for their children.

- Parents who are interested in open enrollment options through their home districts can do so at the following websites.
  - o Aurora: admissions.aurorak12.org/open-enrollment
  - o Denver: https://schoolchoice.dpsk12.org/
  - o Cherry Creek: <a href="https://www.cherrycreekschools.org/Page/1769">https://www.cherrycreekschools.org/Page/1769</a>
  - o Douglas: <a href="https://www.dcsdk12.org/about/our\_district/departments/choice\_programming/open\_en">https://www.dcsdk12.org/about/our\_district/departments/choice\_programming/open\_en</a> rollment
- Additionally, the Charter School Institute authorizes several charter public schools in and around Aurora. A listing of these public school options can be accessed at <a href="www.csi.state.co.us/schools/">www.csi.state.co.us/schools/</a>.
  Reach out to CSI schools directly for more information on their enrollment timeline for the upcoming school year.



Included with this letter is a document of Frequently Asked Questions. Any additional questions can be directed to <a href="mailto:info@vpacboradsafe.org">info@vpacboradsafe.org</a>.

Respectfully,

**VPAC Board of Directors** 

Dr. Carolyn Jones, President DeEtta Boganey, Vice President Dr. Katherine Casey, Secretary Chris Ferris, Treasurer Elerie Archer, Member

# **School Closure Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**

## Q: Why is VPAC closing?

**A:** Financial challenges faced in its planning year have impacted the school's ability to successfully open and serve the community for the Fall of 2021.

### Q: Is this decision final?

**A:** Yes, this decision was made by the VPAC Board of Directors following a comprehensive review of the school's finances and thoughtful deliberation about the best possible path forward.

#### Q: When will VPAC officially close?

**A:** The VPAC Board passed a resolution to relinquish the charter, effective November 9, 2020. Given that the school was planning to open in the Fall of 2021, this means that the school has ceased operations and will not be opening in the Fall of 2021.

## Q: Where can my child(ren) attend school next year?

**A:** Parents who are interested in open enrollment options through their home districts can do so at the following websites.

- O Aurora: <u>admissions.aurorak12.org/open-enrollment</u>
- O Denver: https://schoolchoice.dpsk12.org/
- O Cherry Creek: <a href="https://www.cherrycreekschools.org/Page/1769">https://www.cherrycreekschools.org/Page/1769</a>
- o Douglas: <a href="https://www.dcsdk12.org/about/our\_district/departments/choice\_programming/open\_enrollment">https://www.dcsdk12.org/about/our\_district/departments/choice\_programming/open\_enrollment</a> Additionally, the Charter School Institute authorizes several charter public schools in and around Aurora. A

listing of these charter public school options can be accessed at <a href="https://www.csi.state.co.us/schools/">www.csi.state.co.us/schools/</a>. Reach out to CSI schools directly for more information on their enrollment timeline for the upcoming school year.

#### Q: Who should I contact with any additional questions?

**A:** You may contact VPAC at <a href="mailto:info@vpacboardsafe.org">info@vpacboardsafe.org</a>, or you may contact the Charter School Institute at <a href="mailto:csi-info@csi.state.co.us">csi-info@csi.state.co.us</a>.