



New School Application Report

January 2021, Opening SY2022-2023



UTAH
STATE CHARTER
SCHOOL BOARD

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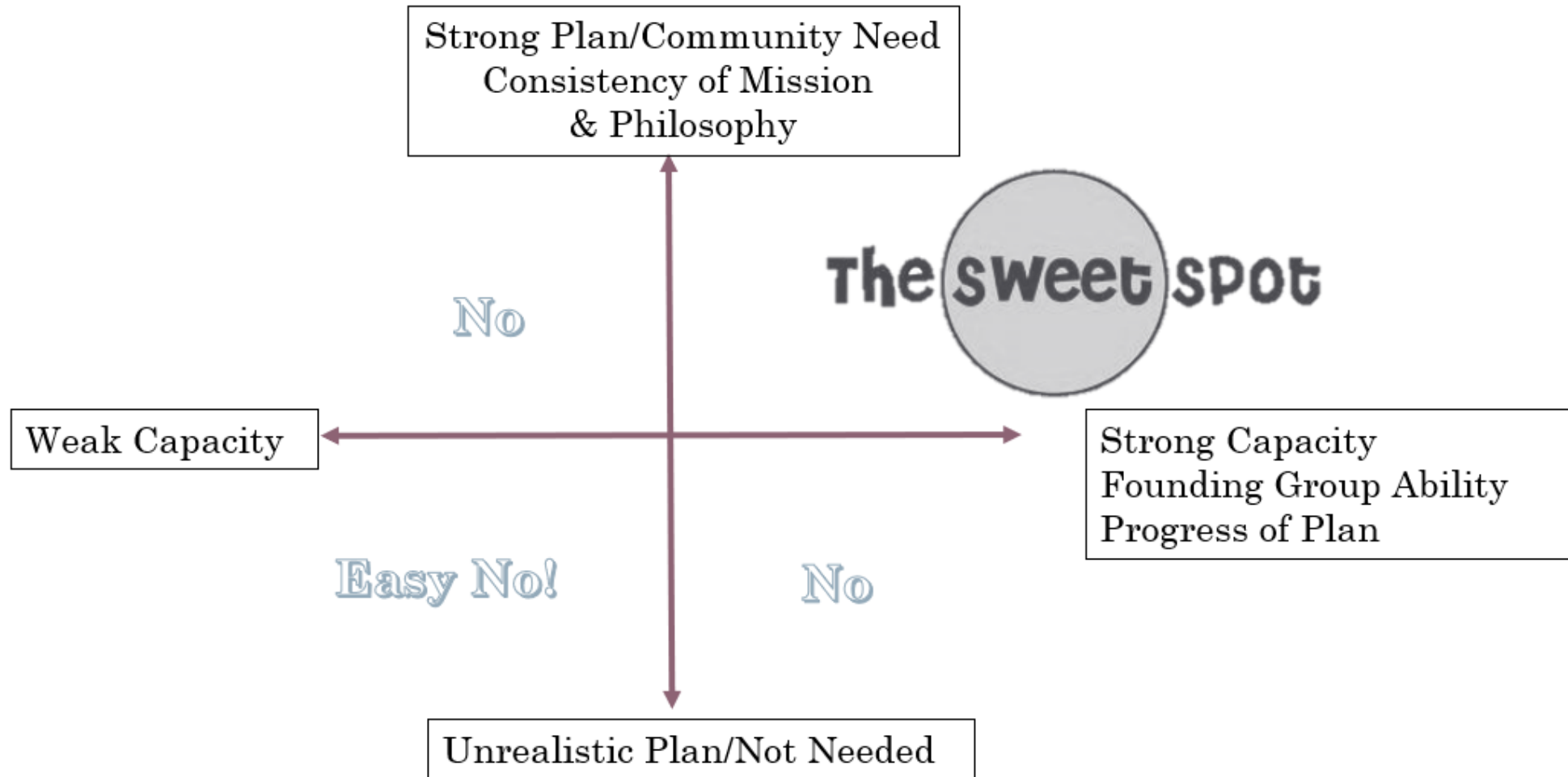


Today's Schedule

- Receive SCSB Reader report regarding school applications.
- Receive SCSB and USBE Staff report regarding school applications.
- Short 3-5 minute “live” presentation by the applicant school.
- Interview and discussion with applicant school.
- A short break or lunch is allotted between applicant schools.
- After hearing from all 3 applicant schools, there will be a final discussion and opportunity to vote.



The Goal





For Your Reference

- Final School Report/Application Analysis
- Summary Sheet of Readers' Feedback
- List of Interview Questions
- Copy of School Application



Reader Skill Set



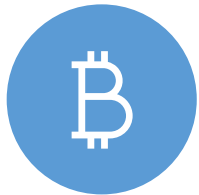
Educational
Leadership



Curriculum and
Instruction



Governance and
School Start Up



Business, Finance,
and Marketing



Charter School
Authorizing



Classroom
Instruction



Camino Nuevo Technical Academy



SCSB READER REPORT



Camino Nuevo Technical Academy

Strengths

- Goals seem overall reasonable.
- Applicant seeks to look at performance by subgroups to identify gaps.
- The inclusion of goals with measures for “high school readiness” and “on track to graduate” is commendable.

Concerns

- Student enrollment drops from 100 to 25 in grade 12. The reason for the drop is not articulated in the application.
- No special education knowledge was present.
- The governing board is comprised of 3 individuals with no relevant experience. Applicant did not talk about how to build a better board, or what expertise is needed on the board.



Reader Assessment

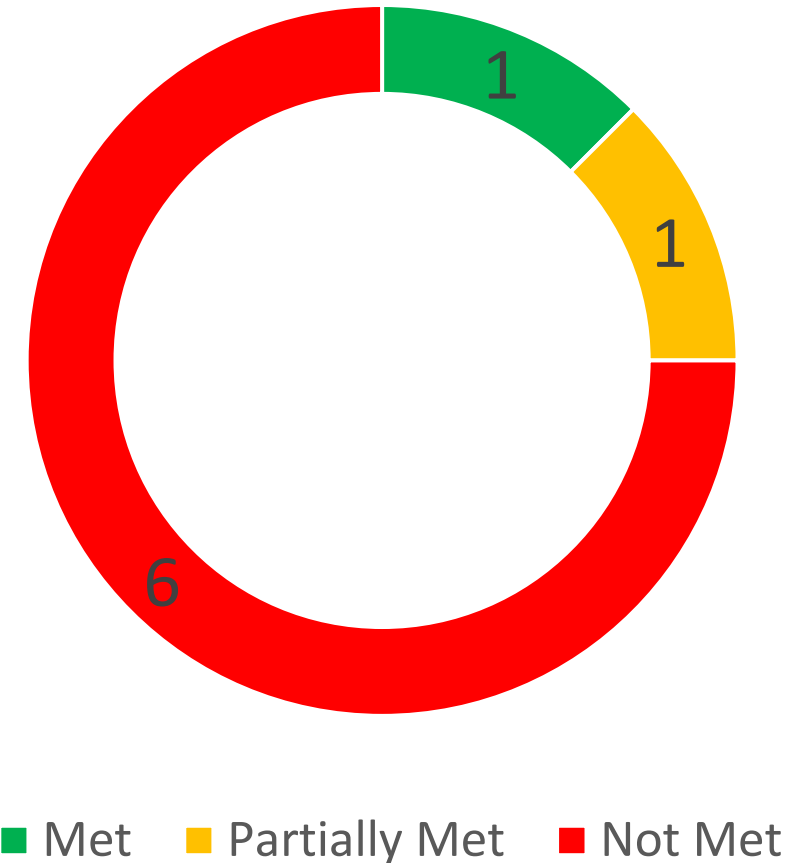
Camino Nuevo Technical Academy failed to meet most of the criteria in the reader rubric.

- A substantive market analysis was not present.
- Applicant is already out of compliance with the required number of officers per the bylaws.
- Staffing plan has no substance. Did not provide enough details of the program.
- Applicant does not address how they will fund the possible large upfront cost of a quality CTE Program.
- Applicant does not demonstrate a knowledge of e-occupancy standards nor generally expected educational costs.
- Confusion about the grading—applicant states they are not doing letter grades. How will students transfer into another school?



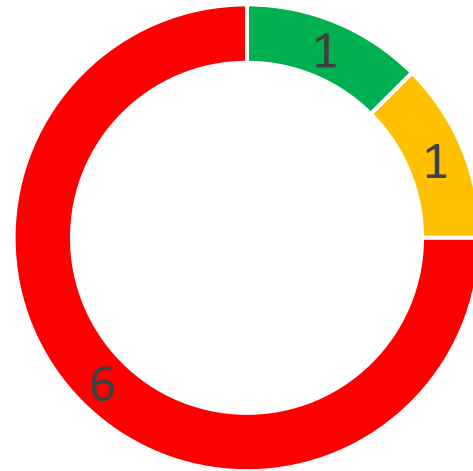
Camino Nuevo Technical Academy

The applicant does not present any sort of substantial plan throughout the application. There were multiple statements of “if approved, we will do ____.” It felt like the application was thrown together, and unable to clearly articulate the school that was being presented.





Camino Nuevo Technical Academy



■ Met ■ Partially Met ■ Not Met

Questions for Readers?



SCSB/USBE STAFF REPORT



Camino Nuevo Technical Academy

Strengths

- Applicant is seeking to serve an underserved population.
- The concept of a school where everyone graduates with a trade is a great idea.
- The applicant is looking to rent a facility/retail space, which may be more financially viable, if they can get the space to meet e-occupancy requirements.



Camino Nuevo Technical Academy

Concerns

- Applicant is not planning to have a CTE pathway for first 3 years. They also did not articulate which CTE pathway will be offered first.
- The grade level capacity seems odd in subsequent years. For example, in year 3, the applicant expects to drop from 100 to 75 students in 7th grade, and from 100 to 25 students in 12th grade.
- If the applicant is only able to run 1-2 pathways, staff is concerned how the school would compete with the robust CTE programs already offered by Salt Lake and Granite School Districts.
- Applicant does not talk about their grading alignment of competency-based education, or how they will help struggling students achieve competency.



Camino Nuevo Technical Academy

Additionally:

SCSB Staff received a complaint regarding this applicant from a community member stating that:

- A location has already been secured for CNTA, which would bypass procurement law.
- There is a familial relationship between the landlord and CNTA.
- There is a familial relationship between a CMO and CNTA.
- The community data provided by CNTA is not accurate and the community meetings resulted in feedback that this school was not wanted or needed in the community. However, the applicant continued with the proposed school based on the possible financial gain from the above-mentioned familial relationships.



CAPACITY INTERVIEW:
Camino Nuevo Technical Academy



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Summit Place School



SCSB READER REPORT



Summit Place School

Strengths

- Governing board had a balance of roles.
- Staffing was well thought through and seemed like it would appeal to educators.
- The applicant was conservative in budgeting, and was able to assume reserves and surpluses, starting in year one.
- Building is more reasonably sized.
- Letters of support from the community were impressive.

Concerns

- Special Education section has processes that are not allowable as outlined.
- Stated they would follow state standards but did not show HOW they were following the state standards.
- Applicant was unable to describe need or demand for this school.



Reader Assessment

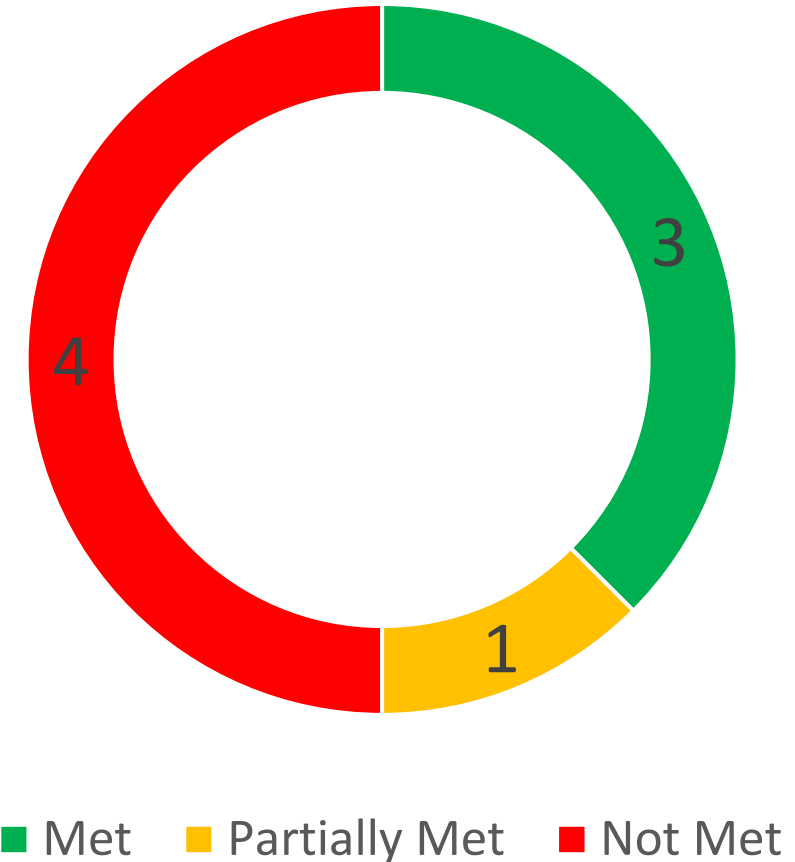
Summit Place School failed to meet most of the criteria in the reader rubric.

- Goals were not reasonable for the area.
- Special Education and English Language Learner descriptions were insufficient. Did not identify a well thought out identification or service model.
- Not all curriculum programs have strong evidence base. Unsure if the implementation will lead to success.
- The enrollment seems high for the first year (675) in the given location.
- Applicant stated there were no contracts in place. However, some of the language throughout the application seems similar to what a CMO template would have.



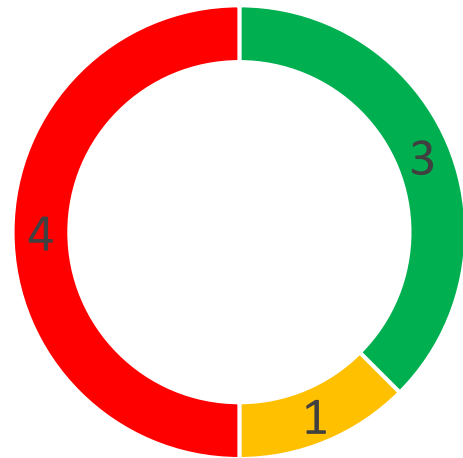
Summit Place School

There is very limited evidence provided regarding need or demand for this school. The applicant did not articulate how the model was chosen, or why it is needed. Applicant did address a problem with bussing to the high school, though this school would be a K-8, thus not solving that community need.

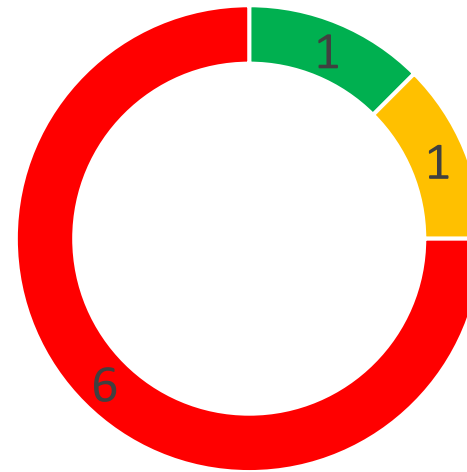




Summit Place School



Camino Nuevo Technical Academy



■ Met ■ Partially Met ■ Not Met

Questions for Readers?



SCSB/USBE STAFF REPORT



Summit Place School

Strengths

- There are a good number of board members in this application.
- The board took feedback about name from August 2020 meeting and changed to Summit Place School.
- Board members have various expertise areas and are tied to different areas of Santaquin.
- Land appears to be fairly affordable in this location.



Summit Place School

Concerns

- The vision statement does not provide strong guidance for what the school is seeking to be or do.
- The market analysis shows demand for a high school, yet the application is for a K-8 school.
- The Special Education Program outlined does not appear to meet the needs of all learners.
- According to Ed Reports, the school's chosen curriculums are outdated and only partially meet the criteria for alignment to standards and research-based practices for foundational skills instruction.



Summit Place School

Additionally:

SCSB Board and Staff received a letter regarding this applicant from Nebo District stating that:

- There are statements that there is overcrowding in the Nebo District elementary schools in this area. In fact, we completed a new, 900-student, elementary just over one year ago and have elementary capacity in that area for over 2,500 students in K-5. At present, we have approximately 1,500 students attending K-5 in the Santaquin area.
- There are statements that traveling to Payson City for secondary schools is a concern among applicants and a reason for opening this school. This application does not resolve that concern, as all students in grades 9-12 would still be travelling to Payson area schools.
- The market analysis on demand seems to be inaccurate, in that it would presume that nearly 500 of the current 1,500 K-5 Nebo students in the area would attend this school. This seems unlikely given that this is not the typical trend for charter schools in the area, specifically C.S. Lewis Academy.



CAPACITY INTERVIEW:
Summit Place School



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Aurora Preparatory School



SCSB READER REPORT



Aurora Preparatory School

Strengths

- Idea is intriguing.
- Having 2 DLI Programs is innovative.
- The choice of languages is global in perspective.
- The board members seem strong and have impressive resumes.

Concerns

- Special Education section has processes that are not allowable as outlined.
- The use of “home learning” instead of homework is concerning. This assumes all students have a supportive home environment, which is not realistic.
- Unable to be financially viable in year 1.
- Financial priorities do not link to the educational plan in an explicit way.
- Budget does not address unique needs of students in Special Education (speech, OT, etc....)



Reader Assessment

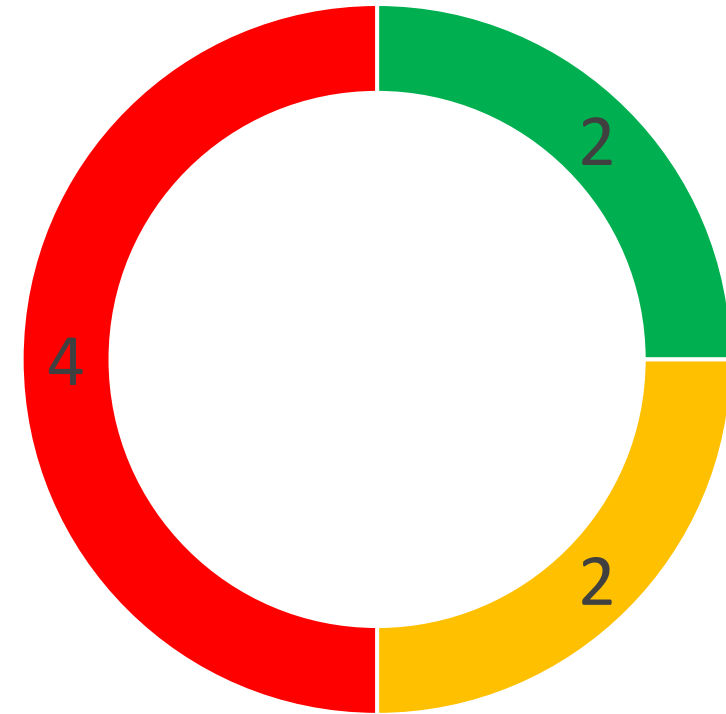
Aurora Preparatory School failed to meet most of the criteria in the reader rubric.

- Goals do not have enough specificity to know if they have been met.
- This idea is quite ambitious, offering Chinese, Spanish, English, Accelerated, and STEAM.
- Research is provided, but it is not based on fact, and is outdated.
- Not all curriculum offerings are available in each language. Assessment in various languages is not addressed.
- Did not provide a plan to address the needs of English Language Learners or Special Education Students.
- Applicant does not demonstrate financial understanding.
- Applicant has not referenced Utah Purchasing Code and has instead created their own purchasing code.



Aurora Preparatory Academy

There is serious concern regarding the financial viability of the applicant school due to lack of evidence that the applicant can fully enroll the school, the presence of deficits in initial years (especially coupled with aggressively low compensation assumptions) and the assumption that the applicant can attract a vendor to provide services at rates that appear well below market.



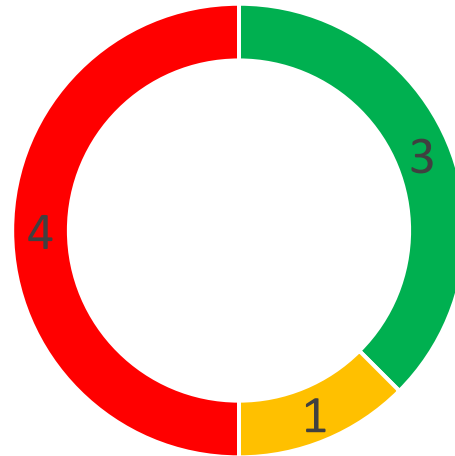
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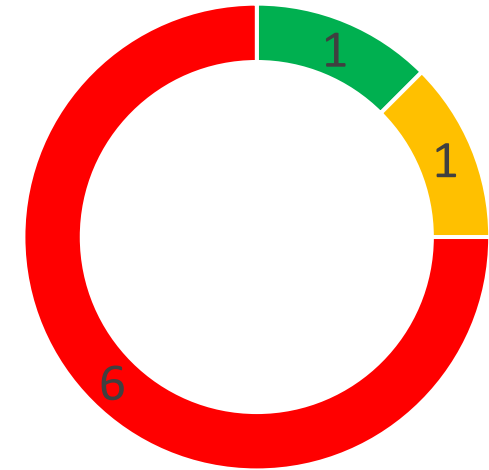
Aurora Preparatory School



Summit Place School



Camino Nuevo Technical Academy



■ Met ■ Partially Met ■ Not Met

Questions for Readers?



SCSB/USBE STAFF REPORT



Aurora Preparatory Academy

Strengths

- The applicant school seeks to offer many options to students.
- The applicant school seeks to address the needs of gifted and talented learners.
- The board members seem to have passion for this idea, and the board is made up of talented individuals, as referenced by their strong resumes.



Aurora Preparatory Academy

Concerns

- Of the 5-member current board, only three members reside in Utah.
- The breakeven for the first fiscal year is 516 students, with a max enrollment of 500. These means that even operating at max enrollment capacity for year one, APS will end the year with a -3% operating margin.
- The curriculum Singapore Math has been given the lowest possible rating for effectiveness by Ed Reports.
- The application did not show an understanding of attrition over time and that DLI does not allow additional students to be added after grade 2.
- While mentioning that APS will have a Spanish and Chinese DLI Program, the Spanish program was not addressed in any details of the application.
- Application states “For students with severe learning disabilities, we will host a one-to-one information session for the parents and student before formally enrolling them in. We will present what services we can reasonably offer.” This could be construed as counseling a student out.



CAPACITY INTERVIEW:
Aurora Preparatory Academy



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