SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER
STATE OF COLORADO
RESOLUTION No. _______

WHEREAS Both the DPS Board and superintendent and Compass Academy agree that the priority is to support Compass Academy’s existing 6-8 grades and students.

WHEREAS DPS and Compass are hopeful that based on the school’s academic improvements last year the school is on the right trajectory and provides an important option for students and is a valued member of the DPS family of schools;

WHEREAS DPS is invested in the Compass Academy model which provides, in addition to high academic expectations for students, an integrated set of social and emotional competencies and bilingual programming designed specifically to meet the needs of students in SW Denver;

WHEREAS DPS will renew the Compass middle school without including grades 9-12 in the BOE resolution with the effect of changing the Compass charter to a 6-8;

WHEREAS Compass Academy voted that it will not appeal that decision to the state board of education thus giving up its right to the 9-12 under the following conditions which are legally non-binding but based on the belief that agreements can be based on the good intentions of the people making them;

WHEREAS this decision is done in cooperation and partnership between the DPS BOE, the superintendent and her staff, and the Compass Academy Board and Staff. This decision comes from all parties caring about the students and staff of Compass Academy. It is an incredibly hard time for Denver’s students, teachers, and school leaders and to add any more uncertainty is untenable to all of us. That compassion and appreciation extends to district and charter schools’ families and staff during this very hard time.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Knowing that Compass Academy showed improvement in its academic outcomes for the 2018-2019 school year, being yellow overall on one-year SPF measures and green on one-year SPF growth measures and that Compass, along with all DPS schools, will not able to demonstrate continued academic growth on the state assessments for the 2019-2020 school year, DPS will support a robust body of evidence to more accurately report their academic performance, including growth data from the 2018-19 SPF, as it will need to do for all charter schools to meet statutory requirements related to annual reports and other authorizing functions.
2. The district will work with the Lincoln and Compass staff to ensure the two school communities work in a collaborative way with one another, behavior which will be modeled by the school leaders and administrative staff.

3. If Compass wishes to expand to serve a new grade segment, such as a high school, the School’s board shall submit an application for approval through the District’s Call for New Quality Schools process, in form and substance acceptable to the District for review and consideration as a new contract to serve the new grade levels. This application shall include, but not be limited to, an educational program plan, which previously was deemed to have met the DPS quality criteria for approval in the Call for New Quality Schools; and staffing; financial forecasts; evidence demonstrating the need for the new grade segment, alignment with regional feeder patterns, and demonstrations of community engagement and demand. The Compass Academy process also will consider the high school charter’s approval on the academic outcomes of Compass Middle School to determine whether or not the high school should be authorized. This modified process is available to Compass through its contract term.

Carrie A. Olson, PhD, President

Tay Anderson, Secretary