



# Lab School for Creative Learning (LSCL)

Presentation to PSD Facilities  
Steering Committee

January 9, 2007




# LSCCL is very successful

- Based on SARS<sup>1</sup>:
  - High ranking 2001-2003, 2005
  - Excellent ranking 2004, 2006
- One of the highest rates of parent involvement in the District
  - 500 volunteer hours/month
- Waiting list for admission



# Risks of relocation

- Deterioration of LSCL program due to:
  - Loss of autonomy
  - Loss of administration
  - Loss of experiential learning opportunities



■ “The major challenge to schools within schools has been obtaining sufficient separateness and autonomy to permit staff members to generate a distinctive environment and to carry out their own vision of schooling.”<sup>3</sup>

--Mary Ann Raywid, PhD.,

Professor Emeritus of Education, Administration and Policy Studies,  
Hofstra University, New York.



# Relocation to The Barton Center minimizes risks

- Non-overlapping programs
- Room for LSCL growth
- Good location
- Administrative autonomy



# BECC and LSCL: Compatible programs

- Easier for both programs to maintain their identity
  - Serve completely different populations
- Minimal facility usage over-lap
  - Gymnasium
  - Library/media center



# Potential for LSCCL growth

- Currently, LSCCL has 135 students = 9 classrooms.
- LSCCL desires growth to K-8
  - 210 students = 15 classrooms.

# Location, location, location

- Proximity to Lesher Junior High School
  - Elective options for LSCL 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders
- Experiential learning
  - CSU Partnership
    - K-16 Continuum
    - Authentic experiences with primary sources
    - Art, Physics, Music, Language
  - Spring Creek and Edora Parks
  - Old Town: Museums, Library



# Autonomous Administration

- Champion to articulate and be a driving force for the vision and unique philosophy at LSCL
- PSD Alternative School Policy provides for independent leadership
  - Accountable for success



# Autonomous Administration - continued

- Non-traditional administrative roles
  - Classroom assistance
  - Support committee members
  - Coordinate school/community connections
    - CSU
- Traditional administrative duties
  - Take time away from teaching



# Summary

- LSCCL is one of PSDs “Excellent” schools.
- Autonomy is critical to maintaining this status.
- Relocation to the Barton Center allows for:
  - Sharing with a non-overlapping program
  - Preservation of autonomous administration
  - Experiential education opportunities
  - Maintaining integrity of LSCCL program
  - Growth of LSCCL to K-8

# References cited:

1. From Colorado Department of Education School Accountability Reports web site:
  - a) <http://reportcard.cde.state.co.us/reportcard/CommandHandler.jsp>
2. From the PSD Non-Traditional Educational Programs web site:
  - a) [www.psdschools.org/psdinfo/boardofeducation/policies.aspx?policyid=322](http://www.psdschools.org/psdinfo/boardofeducation/policies.aspx?policyid=322)
3. From “School Size, School Climate, and Student Performance”, Kathleen Cotton, 1996
  1. [www.nwrel.org/scpd/sirs/10/c020.html](http://www.nwrel.org/scpd/sirs/10/c020.html)



# Summary of LSCL Facilities Needs:

## ■ Must Haves: An Autonomous Space

- 1st Choice: Our Own Facility
- 2nd Choice: A completely autonomous SWS with a complimentary program.
- The amenities we currently enjoy.

## ■ Wants:

- Close proximity to experiential sites (library, parks,...)
- Improved facilities (gym, lunchroom, auditorium)



# LSCCL Consensus Decision Highlights - Growth

- Classroom (no change)
  - 1:15 Teacher Student Ratio.
  - Class size of 15.
- LSCCL Size
  - Maximum size of 210 students
- Grade Configuration: K-8