



Currently, there are 18 Denver Public Schools in the Montbello, Parkfield, and Green Valley Ranch area of the city, collectively referred to as Far Northeast Denver (FNE).

Together with local residents, A+ Denver has partnered with Denver Public Schools to convene a **Far Northeast Community Committee**. A+ Denver is a nonprofit community leadership organization working to engage civic leadership in advocating for policy changes leading to dramatic improvement in student achievement in Denver's public schools.

This committee is charged with defining the community's values and expectations for performance of its schools. This will include examining a variety of challenges facing FNE Denver and making recommendations to: 1) improve academic performance; 2) establish clear ECE-12 feeder patterns; 3) relieve school overcrowding; 4) rethink program offerings at existing schools including high school configuration; 5) consider options for new schools; and, 6) review strategies to meet the needs of English Language Learners. These recommendations will inform the decisions made by the Board of Education on schools in Far Northeast Denver in November 2010.

The FNECC was appointed jointly by the Denver Public Schools and by A+ Denver. The committee's 48 members include parents representing each of the region's schools, teachers, principals, and community leaders including members of the Board of Education. Seven members of the committee are Spanish-speaking. In the spring of 2010, the FNECC met five times over three months to examine data trends relating to area demographics and school performance and develop a group statement of values and principles related to education.

Over the summer, committee members were provided with updated information on the recent performance of local schools and the needs of FNE students. Starting September 1, 2010, the committee will meet five times to consider this information and provide feedback for DPS regarding possible options for specific schools and regional scenarios affected the schools as a system. Their work will examine the potential benefits and challenges of different turnaround strategies for lower performing schools, as well as potential facilities for new schools scheduled to open in FNE in 2011-12: Denver Center for International Studies, KIPP, and SOAR II.

Based on the 2009 School Performance Framework, the seven lowest performing schools in FNE are **Northeast Academy, Green Valley, Ford, Oakland, McGlone, Noel, and**

**Montbello.** 2010 School Performance Framework data will be available mid-September and will be reviewed by this committee as well.

. **Noel and Montbello** are undergoing transformation during the 10-11 school year, and are the beneficiary of significant federal funding support; the committee will examine what other strategies these schools may pursue for 11-12 and beyond. Co-locating one of the three new schools will be among the strategies considered for these schools.

. **Green Valley, Ford, Oakland, and McGlone** elementary schools are potential candidates for turnaround or replacement. Co-locating one of the three new schools will be among the strategies considered for these schools.

. **Northeast Academy** is already undergoing a turnaround, so its program is not under consideration by the committee.

Committee members will provide feedback to district staff and the Denver Public Schools Board of Education on the benefits and challenges of each approach. Committee members will also represent the process to their communities and encourage broad access to the meetings.

The **Far Northeast Community Committee** will provide a comprehensive community dialogue to align the community's desire for change to be represented in the district's broader plan and priorities for FNE Denver.

For more information, please visit [fneccschools.org](http://fneccschools.org).