

Frequently Asked Questions

Consolidation of STRIVE Prep - EXCEL

11/19/19

General FAQs

<p>Why is STRIVE Prep - EXCEL consolidating with STRIVE Prep - SMART?</p>	<p>Over the past couple years, STRIVE Prep - EXCEL has been hit hard by low enrollment numbers across the district and particularly in Northwest Denver. Our efforts to provide students with the high-quality academics they deserve and that we strive for has become less successful over time. A robust high school experience of high academic quality requires a large number of course offerings, extracurricular programs, and staffing structures. With only 259 students enrolled this year, the STRIVE Prep - EXCEL has seen these important student experiences and academic performance suffer.</p> <p>In the long term, Denver's students will be best served by vibrant, fully enrolled schools that can meet their diverse needs with exceptional program offerings. This can't happen until we make courageous decisions across the city to align the size and scope of our schools' programs to the changing enrollment conditions in Denver.</p>
<p>What do you mean by consolidation?</p>	<p>STRIVE Prep - SMART will increase the number of seats by more than 100 to support a total of 600 students. STRIVE Prep - EXCEL students will receive priority to STRIVE Prep - SMART during the enrollment process. We will also increase the number of staff and program offerings at SMART to provide a more robust high school experience.</p>
<p>What is going to happen with current students?</p>	<p>Students who are entering 10th, 11th, or 12th grade next year will have priority enrollment at STRIVE Prep - SMART, and we expect the district to approve increasing enrollment at SMART from its current 478 students to 600 students.</p>

<p>What is going to happen with current staff?</p>	<p>Current positions at STRIVE Prep - EXCEL will be in place through the end of the school year. If STRIVE Prep - EXCEL employees wish to continue employment with STRIVE Prep, they will need to follow the internal transfer process which requires an application. All employees are welcome to apply for any open position at STRIVE Prep.</p>
<p>Are other STRIVE Prep schools considering major changes too?</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>How will you fit 600 students at STRIVE Prep - SMART?</p>	<p>We expect the district to approve increasing enrollment at SMART from its current 478 students to 600 students, and with that increase our building footprint, whether by modules, or a more permanent solution on the bond. We are still working out the details for what consolidation will look like. This also means that our staff will increase by #, and that we will likely be welcoming teachers and program offerings, like Hackschool, from STRIVE Prep - EXCEL into our community.</p>

STRIVE Prep - EXCEL Students and Families

<p>Will the seniors' credits carry to graduation?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>
<p>Where can my student attend high school next year?</p>	<p>Students who are entering 10th, 11th, or 12th grade next year will have priority enrollment at STRIVE Prep - SMART, and we expect the district to approve increasing enrollment at SMART from its current 478 students to 600 students.</p> <p>We are committed to finishing the year strong and to helping all of our students find a high-quality public school option for the 2020-21 school year. We will be working in partnership with DPS to ensure that you are informed about the SchoolChoice process, which begins January 15. Over the coming months, our team will provide</p>

	personalized support for the school enrollment process.
What is the process for finding a new school for my student?	<p>STRIVE Prep - EXCEL students will receive priority to STRIVE Prep - SMART during the enrollment process.</p> <p>We will be working in partnership with DPS to ensure families are informed about the SchoolChoice process, which begins January 15. Over the coming months, our team will provide personalized support for families during the school enrollment process, including application nights, in which we will support your family in making the right choice for your student, whether or not they continue with STRIVE Prep.</p>
Can my student still graduate from STRIVE Prep - EXCEL if they are a senior there this year?	Yes. We are committed to finishing the year strong for our seniors who will graduate in May 2020 and to helping all of our students find a high-quality public school option for the 2020-21 school year.
What are my options if I want to stay in the STRIVE Prep network?	<p>There are two STRIVE Prep high schools as possible options for families.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STRIVE Prep - SMART is probably the most convenient as it is located less than 5 miles south of EXCEL near Federal Blvd. and Arizona Ave. • STRIVE Prep - RISE is located in the Green Valley Ranch neighborhood in the far northeast side of Denver.
What happens to programs like Hackschool or our Theater program?	As part of the consolidation, we are aiming to continue the more popular programs in STRIVE Prep - SMART.
Who should I contact if I have questions?	Please contact Dani Morello, dmorello@striveprep.org if you have additional questions.