



MEETING OF THE DENVER LANGUAGE SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Wednesday, November 19, 2014
Location: DLS Cafeteria
Time: 6pm to 8pm

Mission Statement – Achieve academic excellence and intercultural competence through language immersion education

Agenda:

6:00pm – Call to Order

6:05 to 6:20 – Facilities Update – Kenneth and Ryan

-- Executive Session for the purposes of conducting discussions regarding the school's positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations. C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e)

-- Vote regarding signing LOI

See recorded conversation

6:20 to 6:25 – Principal Update – Kathy
Update and kudos

6:25 to 7:00 – Facilities Update – Kenneth and Ryan
Ken

Discussions with stakeholders (Calvary, transportation, etc.)
Parent community wanting more details and too many decisions already made
Response: macroeconomics required action
Irene and Anne taken on large burden
Ken lives east of everyone – personally impartial
Decisions made strictly made to serve entire community of DLS

Ryan

LOI components
Attorneys reviewing lease details, other attorneys already reviewed to assist w/LOI discussions
Non-binding document technically
Timing: dependent on attorney's availability (bill)
Likely January to vote on actual lease – earliest
Calvary's Pastor Hood granted ability to execute LOI
Calvary providing lease, then we'll redline
Key lease features:

200 s univ blvd

Access 365 days 24/7 once lease begins

Access to most space

They reserve rights to use multipurpose room in addition to DLS

Year 1, DLS shares space with existing charter school

4 rooms with access to multipurpose space

Including 2 common areas

60 month lease

Provision to renew for add'l 60 months

Termination agreement: at end of 1st 24 months

Right to terminate lease but forego 1 month rent payment

Begins July 2015, must notify by November 2016 to terminate lease by July 2017

Again: termination can be made by nov 2016 at earliest

Throughout 120 month term, rent is static

\$9,500 for 3rd floor - monthly

\$3,457 for 1st floor – monthly

Full svc gross rent: utilities, taxes, maintenance, etc. but not insurance

Add in future more flex room options

Related to Janine's question

HOPE charter school already operating in Calvary space

Getting phased out

4 rooms directly surround lower auditorium will remain with HOPE

HOPE

Remains there during 1st year of DLS space

Intention is for HOPE to leave after 1st year

DLS has 1st right of refusal to HOPE space

Updates

New elevator

New soccer field

Bathroom reno

Window updates

Initial rent

16,000 full svc rent annually

Slight increase over initial projection

Access to all calvary parking lots

No religious materials in classrooms or common areas

Proposal intended as preliminary expression

No contractual obligation

Not intended to create obligation or duty to continue negotiations

Either party may change terms, stop, or continue terms

Ryan make motion, Ken 2nds motion

Roll call: Ken, Jacob, Ryan, Bev, Janine, and Dan all in favor

Ryan/DPS conversation re: transportation

Needs been expressed and now negotiations begin

We may need to raise money if needs aren't met by DLS

\$130K in budget for transportation

Dan

Meeting w/Pete Sheehan

Pete worked at Olgivie

Worked on 2 campus solutions in health industry

Dan insistant that after important debate, entire board supports this Calvary move

Thank you to facilities committee

Bev

Approaching choice process
Move on with transportation needs
Orderly transition, need dedicated resource answering to Kathy
Dan: proposing to set aside money then grant Kathy ability to select resource
 Bev's response would like Board insight into selected resource
 Kathy's response: has ideas, wants to work with Facilities Committee
 May be group that tackles this
Dan: needing deadline
 Kathy: December 1

Ryan

Ryan and Ken working to arrange transportation immediately

7:00 to 7:05 – Board Procedural Votes

-- Approval of Minutes

Oct 15: Bev moved, Ken 2nd

Oct 26: Bev moved, Ken 2nd

Nov 12 Phone call: Bev moved, Ken 2nd

7:05 to 7:10 – Review of Budget – Lori and Jacob

Financials based line is through Oct, or 33%

Some fluctuations in budget due to new leadership

Oct payment from district – based on student projection

Jan will be true up since our numbers are over inflated

\$52K from PTA!

48% revenue

Kindy is low, Lori working with Taylor

Fun club increasing, though lower than 1st approved budget

Amity expense high: Visas for foreign teachers

Kathy: books/periodicals very high, though related to upfront purchases that last throughout year

Kathy: subs favorably adjusted vs budgeted amount, though we'll likely spend the new projection

Dan: health insurance question...exploring other health insurance options

 Taylor/Kathy meeting w/provider this month re: going to market

 Enrollment is in spring, march possibly

 Few options in prior year, hoping for pro-active approach to garner more options this year

 Bev: encouraging pursuit of add'l options

Dan: funds for professional grants, related to teacher satisfaction

 Naming grants after school founders

 These grants mentioned before school year

 Grants for add'l training/certification

 Any progress?

 Kathy: researching 1st

 Dan: board willing to provide seed money

 Lori: \$25K been set aside

 Kathy: money been spent on training and conferences

7:10 to 7:20 – SAC Update – Dan

-- Strategic Plan Deadline Setting

Don Newdell stepped away from SAC

SAC looking for Spanish parent

 Spanish parent is also parent to middle school children – gap in SAC representation

SOPA report are "remarkable"

 Expensive testing but high quality that proves acquisition of target language

 Kathy: validating strength of testing

DLS students are exceeding comparables, even adult comparables
Unified Improvement Plan
Typical SAC role
Parent Satisfaction Survey
Rollout in Jan/Feb
Admin response to previous survey
SPF Results
Low areas: parents satisfaction and kids satisfaction surveys
2 SAC members set aside to aid in administering these surveys
Monitoring Progress against strategic plan
Dan emailing each chairs of plan components
Overwhelmed by facilities, but must maintain progress in strategic plan
Mandarin parent added to SAC to replace outgoing SAC
Colo law requires 3 parents
DLS has 2 span and 2 mand

7:20 to 7:25 – Marketing and Development Updates – Dan
Kristy, Megan, Beth, Kathy did excellent work on website
Aiding teachers in using website
Camilla’s development update
Jacob: does our LOI vote earlier affect our approach with development resource
Ken: requesting business case for development resource, no case produced
Bev: validates ken’s request
Dan: offers to formally working with Camilla and Kathy to define dev resource

7:25 to 7:30 – PTA Update – Lisa’s fill-in
Clothing and gift drive for Christmas
Parent community can offer items or adopt a family
Bingo night was fun
Wrapping gift get-together
Bo estimating repairs to PA system
Clickers purchased this week
Book fair Dec 9
New risers for auditorium
Staff happy hour Friday
\$7K allocated to DLS
\$5K for due diligence for facilities research
\$2K for other related activities
Can PTA recoup this since it hasn’t been sent? Dan: yes

7:30 to 7:35 – Dan’s Misc Items
Addressing parent response that facilities’ pursuits were not vocalized correctly
Dan asking for parent help – adding resources to define a “hybrid” model
Hybrid model supports K-5 at both campuses while Whiteman also hosts 6-8 grades
Ken: adding all the site selections and facilities research activities already performed

7:35 to 7:55 – Public Comments (contact Daniel Baack at dbaack@du.edu. You will have 3 minutes to comment.)
Sarah Wilcox comments
Grateful for all of boards efforts
3rd year at DLS
Lived in China – DLS model important
5th kids will joining other 4 already at school
Concern: 2 co-founders of school not ascending to Calvary move

Question: why survey issued after LOI vote?

Supports Calvary hybrid model

Phil Blackburn

Impressed with professionalism and transparency

Acknowledged missing opportunity earlier today to voice his comments

Loves DLS, impressed with kid's progression

Concern: family impact of Calvary, add'l stop, 2 kids won't be in same school, kids on bus

Question: model attrition? Geographic assignments of Calvary vs Whiteman?

Pedagogy or economics the true driver? Can lease be adjusted to fix model instead of variable?

Wants to know carpooling options?

Dan & Ken response:

Inviting Sarah and Phil to Facilities sub-committee

Biggest driver is space; space affecting pedagogy and economics

Facilities survey issued to assess community

Chicken vs egg: garner community feedback or pursue facilities 1st

Ken: explained some assumptions to model

Need to address minimized kindergarten classes

Requesting data behind other alternatives

7:55pm -- Adjourn