



## DENVER LANGUAGE SCHOOL

### MEETING OF THE DENVER LANGUAGE SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Date: 3/22/2016

Location: DLS East

Time: 6:00pm to 8:20pm

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

#### Minutes of the Meeting

##### Board In Attendance:

Dan Baack  
Kate Blanas  
Carter Davidson  
Janine Erickson  
Beverly Haddon  
Kenneth Ho  
Lisa Peloso  
Matt Wagner  
Josh Lin

##### On the Phone:

Kristy Fantz

##### Also in Attendance:

Kathy Benzel, Principal  
Doug Seliman – Asst Principal  
Camilla Modesitt – Director, Development  
Elizabeth Martin – PTA President  
Chelsea Monahan – Transportation  
Eva Doblaz – Assessment

Meeting called to order at 6:06

Procedural approval of minutes of Feb 16, spelling correction of ELLOPA made

Bev made the motion to approve,

Lisa seconded, approved

Kate moved to approve, Carter seconded March 9 minutes, all in favor

Board Hiring Process Update: Kate Blanas

Create a list of skills we currently have and what we are looking for

We now have a formal process for interviewing

60% parent / 40% community – is the proposed change to the by-laws

Have a packet created for on-boarding a new board member

Dan will send an email about the League of Charter Schools and their requirements

New board member training – Janine is looking into the possible options

Minute Approval Process Update: Lisa Peloso

We would like to be able to get minutes out to the community faster

We will send out the meeting minutes by Wed and a standing Monday conference call the

Monday after a board meeting the board will dial in to approve the minutes at 5PM

The following week a “Spotlight” will go out to the parent community – the first “Spotlight” will be an update on where we are so far and then there will be updates happening every month

All committee leaders will send Matt a 150 word synopsis on their respective areas by this Thursday 3/24

Longer Meeting Times: Lisa Peloso

Kate makes a motion to add an additional 30 min to our board meetings and move public comment to the beginning of our meeting – 3 min per speaker and no answers

Dan seconds the motion

All voted in favor

Motion passes

The 2 current board candidates will have their references checked through our new process

Board Self-Evaluation Checklist Update: Janine Erickson

Dan will find out what we did before as far as self-evaluation – send to Janine and then Janine will send out to the board member

Review the parent and teacher survey questions about the board to compare them against the self-evaluation

Response Plan re: Ryan Hunter Update

DPS is delayed on providing their response – it is expected to arrive on Friday 3/25

We will send out a response to the PTA to let them know the reason for our delayed response

Special Board meeting and Executive Session on 4/5 to discuss response to DPS letter

Financial Update: Kenneth Ho

No major changes to financial

Kathy said Lori met last week to work on budget for 2016/2017

Bond Update: Kenneth Ho

Kenneth is sitting on the bond committee, 5 meetings since Feb

Final recommendation will come out middle of June

Most of the investments are going to be in Far Northeast, Near Northeast and Montbello area Tiers 1, 2 and 3

Billion worth of proposals and \$500 M in bond capacity

DLS is recognized as a school with a capacity issue – we are currently listed as a Tier 3

Having a letter from the neighborhood in 3 weeks would be “good”

Parking is a concern for DLS

DPS suggested we use the auditorium space vs the 2<sup>nd</sup> story addition

Transportation Update: Chelsea Monahan

We have a great plan and Chelsea provided a report outlining our current usage

PARCC Results Update: Eva

Change from CSAP & TCAP to PARCC - now online which has been a challenge for all schools

The bar was raised by 30% from last year

DLS' numbers are higher than other Charter and District schools

Principal Report: Kathy Benzel

Eva and Chelsea gave their updates

Facilities Update: Carter Davidson and Kristy Fantz

Carter is exploring options via private companies and will report back as needed

Camilla and Bev went to a ULC meeting

Development Update: Camilla Modesitt

Daniels Fund is touring the school April 20th

SAC Update: Dan Baack

Parent survey is back and he will have results out in the next month

DPS parent satisfaction survey – getting our response rate up – will go out on Friday

SOPA/ELLOPA is almost finished as well

Kathy will draw up an action plan on the survey results

PTA Report: Elizabeth Martin

Lisa is meeting with the President Elect – Anne Konieczny

PTA believes that they can work with the board on fundraising

Issues around transparency on how we bring on new board members PTA thanks us on that new process to help solve that

PTA remains neutral on board issues

Fundraising is focused on Kindles in the classroom – 6 in each classroom

Enough Kindles for all 5<sup>th</sup> graders – PTA did approve that

Kickball tournament at Cook Park on May 22<sup>nd</sup>

PTA will be attending more board meetings and vice versa

Kenneth made the motion at 8:20pm to adjourn the meeting. Matt seconded. All present favored.