



DENVER LANGUAGE SCHOOL

MINUTES OF THE DENVER LANGUAGE SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Saturday, August 29, 2015

Location: DLS West Classroom

Time: 10:00 am to 12:00pm

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

Board Members In Attendance:

Beverly Haddon
Kristy Fantz
Janine Erickson
Kenneth Ho
Jacob Welp
Dan Baack
Camilla Modesitt
Kate Blanas
Carter Davidson

Kathy Benzel, Principal
Amy McDermott, Operations Director

Call to Order

Board Action Items:

Bev moved to invite the following board members Kate Blanas, Carter Davidson to their 1st term on the board. Kenneth seconded. All board members present favored.

Kristy moved to approve the July 22nd minutes. Bev seconded. All board members present favored.

Kenneth moved to renew Camilla's, Kristy and Beverly's board term. Jacob seconded. All present favored, except Camilla, Kristy, and Beverly who only abstained from their individual vote.

Financial Update: presented by Jacob Welp

- Mill levies are updated.
- Revenues positive vs. expenses
- 675 current student enrollment
- 550 per pupil funding as of July.
- FY 15 budget grew by 37% 4.3 million to 5.9 million dollar budget.
- Ask Lori to call out the capital construction side and when we need to use it fiscally.

We welcomed Carter and Kate as new board members and thanked them for their willingness to serve. Camilla will work on setting up board training.

Carter's bio-

Carter's interest in international education was sparked during a summer in Spain in high school. That experience led her to obtain a BA in Spanish and Foreign Affairs from the University of Virginia. After graduating, she worked in the International Education Office at Virginia Commonwealth University where she was able to travel through Latin America as an international student recruiter.

Carter and her husband then moved to Denver for her to pursue an International MBA and Master's in International and Intercultural Communication at the University of Denver. Since graduating from DU, she has spent the last 10 years working in the language services industry as a business development executive helping corporations manage their global expansion efforts.

She is very excited to join the Denver Language School community both as a board member and parent now that her son is a 1st grade student in the Spanish program.

Kate's bio-

Kate Blanas is a veteran world language teacher having taught French, German Spanish and ESL at the middle school and high school levels in the Adams 12 Five Star School district from 1975-2005. After leaving the classroom she served as the Foreign Language District Coordinator from 1995-2004, hiring and mentoring new teachers, leading staff development, training and support as well as curriculum development, implementation and revision. During that period, Kate introduced the district's Foreign Language in the Elementary School (FLES) program.

Kate served on the Board of Directors of the Colorado Congress of Foreign Language Teachers (CCFLT) and was the 2003-2004 President of that organization. In addition to leading teachers in our state, Kate represented Colorado at the regional and national levels. She was awarded the highest recognition from CCFLT, the Genevieve Overman Memorial Award.

Later in her career Kate worked in Human Resources as the Coordinator of Alternative Licensure Programs and Educator Licensing in Adams 12. Upon leaving the district Kate spent the next three years working as World Language Coordinator of Douglas County Schools and another year as World Language Coordinator at the Global Village Academy language immersion school in Aurora Public Schools. Her most recent work

was a position as Special Programs Coordinator and ESL instructor at Language Consultants International giving private English lessons with international executives.

Kate's brings a wealth of experience at all levels of world language education to the Denver Language School board and she is ready to go to work.

Facilities Update: presented Kenneth Ho

Calvary Temple Update

3 major issues: transportation, facility, & operations

Transportation

- Going well; handful of mix-ups; utilization is high for the bus.
- Going to see if a parent will volunteer as a crossing guard at Stapleton bus stop.
- Coordinating after school schedule of students has been challenging.
- Chelsea has been overseeing, and staff members have been on the bus.
- Issues are settling down.
- *Zonar* is the software to track the students.
- DPS did not enter the data for *Zonar* until Thursday.
- Working on a process for communicating changes to the school.
- There needs to be boundaries around the changes, and a cut off for changes in student riders.
- Transportation changes go to transportation@denverlanguageschool.org
- There will be a parent coffee Sept 4th with Chelsea.

Facility

- Weekly meetings. New windows are complete.
- Window shades are needed.
- HVAC is done- project scope requires coming into the classrooms. There will be too much heat for about 3-4 more weeks.
- Proposal for winter break and weekends over the spring. Calvary is paying for all the remaining work.
- There needs to be liquidated damages moving forward with the new agreement.
- Anne will be back next week. Increase Anne's contract. Acting as our liaison.
- Making sure site is cleaned up properly.
- Elevator did not get done. Registered student with ADA needs. No design or drawings have started.
- Basement did get re-carpeted.
- All construction materials are zero VOC materials.

Operations

- Anne on contract

- Normal operation concerns with building that requires us to share the space.
- Playground is not up and running.
- There has been lots of administration time to deal with daily issues.
- Board support: focus on having regular meetings with Rod.

Long Term Facilities Update- presented by Kristy Fantz

Kristy moved to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal, or other property interest; §24-6-402 (4)(a), C.R.S. Dan seconded. All present favored.

Recorded by Dan Baack

Kristy moved to come out of executive session. Bev seconded. All present favored.

Development Update: presented by Beverly Haddon

Update on Board of Trustees Committee:

- Meeting in a week with Amanda Shaw
- Meeting Luke Whitmeyer and John Klein
- The committees goal is 1 million by January
- Will start meeting in October
- Elizabeth Martin is the new PTA president

Camilla made the motion at 12:20 adjourn the meeting. Dan seconded. All present favored.