



DENVER LANGUAGE SCHOOL
ESCUELA DE IDIOMAS DE DENVER
丹佛语言学校

Meeting Minutes of the Board of Directors

Denver Language School

September 15, 2013

9:00 am

Location: Stapleton Foundation

Voting board members in attendance:

Ryan Hunter
Kristy Fantz
Beverly Haddon
Dan Baack
Camilla Modesitt
Kenneth Ho

Non voting:

Dr. Sara Amodio, DLS Principal

Board Business:

Facility Update:

Kenneth, Anne, Dr. Sara, and Ryan met with the LRA on the 2 acre Lowry Site.

Lowry Site

- The site is currently multi-family mixed use. There is 3.5 acres of open space behind it.
- They are now interested in a lower height density development
- They will contemplate a school, but need to modify the traffic analysis to understand feasibility.
- Initial pricing is very high.
- The LRA also discussed a net zero and a LEED platinum requirement. OED needs to meet with the LRA to determine the requirements.
- A LEED requirement would be a deal breaker since it is not financially viable,

unless there is another source of funding available for LEED outside of our project budget.

1st and Monaco land (church. Sold for 500K in 2008)

- Contract currently pending at 1.3 million
- Could be a possible tenant lease property

Stanley Aviation

- Property is now available at 2.8 million
- ULC opportunity

Stapleton

- a church in Stapleton bought land and they have been unable to gain the financing to build.
- Bev will make contact them to see if they may be interested in a potential partnership.

Facility committee needs stop gap scenarios..

We need to make a decision by December to present to the DPS board of directors

Audit Report:

Audit performed by John Culter and Associates.

- Deadline to submit audit is Monday
- Clean audit no adjustment required
- No issues regard to our fiduciary practices

Board Motion:

Kenneth moved to approve the audit report. Bev seconded. All board members present favored.

Strategic Planning Session:

Notes from previous strategic plan which need to be incorporated into new plan.

Previous Strategic Plan:

Equity and Inclusions:

- Explore language immersion practices nationwide.
- Research high performing middle schools....driven development of curriculum. Benchmarking
- Ongoing best practices...

Diversity goals and strategies:

- Free and Reduced- marketing to FARM families. Tap into community
- Researching identity of population
- Student ethnic diversity goals

Update board by-laws and operations.

- Plan for new board members
- Descriptions of committee

CSSP report incorporation:

CSSP Short term and long term recommendation....incorporate into the strategic plan
clear expectation to develop new board members.

Parent satisfaction survey incorporation:

Communication was a big theme.

- Education- improve and expand curriculum
- Facilities- ECE-2
- Showed possible less retention for older students
- 3rd and 4th grade parents are less satisfied
- FRL parents felt less included

SWOT analysis (see SWOT spreadsheet)

Strengths

Weakness

Opportunities

Threats

Goals and Objectives:

1. Education

- Significant academic achievement
Be one of the best performing elementary and middle school program in the state
According to the state..blue status
- Increase TCAP scores
- Research Mandarin writing best practices. Increase Mandarin and Spanish writing proficiency
- Continued improvement in SOPA and ELOPA
- Goals and vision around music program
- Assess high level thinking skills
- Achieving social language as well as academic language

2. Communications

- Develop effective communication channels
- Create a framework to effectively communicate to all stakeholders
- Reduce burden on teachers
- Communication Plan

- Manage expectations around communication
- Higher positive rating all around
- Increase knowledge of board actions and decisions
- Increase understanding of administration role
- Develop resources around communication committee

3. Facilities and Development

- Sufficient facilities to education ECE-8.
- Build an ECE-2 by August 2015.
- Interim solution for 2014
- Improve Whiteman
- Raise sufficient funds. 4.5 million to get project off the ground
- Raise capital funds- 9 million
- Achieve significant support from DPS.

4. Student Retention

- Maintain student retention at current level through 8th grade.
- Greater insight into factor driving intention to leave. exit surveys.
- Increase teacher satisfaction and retention
- Comparable salaries and composition
- Meaningful professional development

5. Inclusion

- More consistent satisfaction level across all members of DLS community
- Appropriate set expectations around
- Greater understanding among various ethnic and cultural groups
- Increase diversity of school population
- Increase FARM students

6. Board quality operations

- Updating by laws
- Recruiting board members
- Define process for recruiting
- Improve board visibility... board dashboard
- Board education program
- Board calendar