

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

**Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, August 13th, 2019**

**Location: DLS Whiteman Campus**

**Time: 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM**

**Conference Call (303) 557-5869 Pin 1234**

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

**In Attendance:**

Board Members Lisa Peloso, Corelle Spettigue, Josh Lin, Bryan Snow, Parker Schenken

Absent Board Member Dave St John-Larkin, Faye Caronan, Carter Davidson, Shawna Mounsey, Susan Hennessy

Non-Board Members Kathy Benzel, Robert Newman, Doug Seligman, Maria Casaverde

**Meeting Called to Order:** 6:13 pm

**Public Comment** None

**PTO Update - *Maria Casaverde***

PTO held their first executive meeting of SY 2019-20. It is the first time that teachers (who are also parents) are a part of PTO. They worked on an action plan for the upcoming school year with a primary focus on building community support. They officially removed fundraising from the PTO mission statement and will be letting go of restaurant nights due to poor attendance last year. The PTO will focus on community events, and as a result, have created a new community events leader position on the executive board. They plan to try connecting DLS families that live in the same neighborhoods across four Denver quadrants. They plan to use technology to help coordinate community events rather than on site promotions.

The PTO executive board has two unfilled positions at this time - school support for Gilpin and President Elect. They are working on a succession plan for PTO leadership.

### **No approval of minutes due to lack of quorum**

#### **Executive Report - Kathy**

- Executive director group comprised of DLS, Highline Academy and Gals has been meeting monthly for the past three years. Great resource and alliance.
- Educators for Equity Conference held at DLS Whiteman on August 8th  
DLS parent Joe Park, owner of the Dae Gee restaurants, donated food for 300 for the conference.
- New staff training on 8.5.19 at Whiteman for 11 new staff members
- Two new network staff members
  - Annie Trujillo working on student action projects, teacher support training
  - Jenny Pritchett - network coordinator
- Kagan Training - Tuesday, 8/13/19. Kendra Lofland, Eva Doblaz and Yushin applied and were accepted to attend the Kagan training program and are now certified to conduct the trainings themselves. This training focuses on student engagement opportunities through movement and learning.
- Summer Camp - highlighted students who participated in the camp leadership opportunities.
- Registration went very well and the PTO did a great job with the used uniform sale.
- DPS Student Satisfaction Survey Overview:
  - Generally good results
  - SAC to take a deeper dive
  - School to come up with improvement plan for any areas needing attention
  - Survey highlight - 94% would recommend the school to others, overall satisfaction - 86.4%
- Enrollment currently sitting at 879

#### **Board Retreat Recap - Corelle**

##### **Culture refocus on DL4**

Refocus for DLS community as a whole

Responsible, Respectful, Ready to learn and Safe

How do we express these values in our work?

Update and revise policy, know them, communicate them

Josh - commitment to continuing ed

-Bryan leading first continuing education presentation - how to review/reading financials - 30 minutes

-Governance committee is responsible for organizing continuing ed

-Equity

Parker - Grievance/Parent Comment - continue self evaluation and monitoring, continue to evaluate and refine our grievance policy

-Cocktails and Questions with the board, coffee with the board, combine with other school events/meetings, e.g., with principals/ED/PTO

-Possibly plan for townhall/webinar - ED presentation followed by board presentation.

-1st event during the school year - more informational - how does board/school work?

-2nd event during the school year - how/when to communicate with the board? Connect with parents/families to hear what they have to say.

-Instead of townhall/webinar, possibly host an info session with a variety of tables staffed by board members addressing different areas of interest.

### **Equity and Inclusion**

Lens of student experience

Table conversation until Faye is able to attend the meeting

### **CELIE**

Alumni Network and Concurrent Enrollment

Uncertain if there are any action tasks until we can see what evolves

Kathy reports that they have people coming to them asking for help and wanting to know what we are doing. Considering the possibility of fee for service some day.

Kathy and Camilla continuing with start up efforts and will give updates to the board and request support she feels the time is right.

### **Facilities**

New field - Gilpin

Heat mitigation - Gilpin

Signage - Whiteman

Card Access - Whiteman

Water Stations - Gilpin

Parker found four companies to help us to determine the scope of our project

Of the four, Jess Clark with Stream LA was the most helpful. He gave a lot of information upfront:

-Field is approximately 200 x 200 and a total dig up with resodding would 40-50K. If irrigation is not in tact, then another 10-15K.

-Learning landscapes redid field early 2000's

-Artificial surface would cost approximately \$350 and comes with a 9 or 10 year warranty.

-DPS First Call Center - Robert continuing to try to organize a meeting with First Call Center Interim Director to address field concerns.

-Facilities Committee to continue to work with school leaders to refine potential solutions and then make recommendations to the board.

## **Development Discussion**

Agreed to table Development discussion until the next meeting when development committee members are present.

## **Policies Draft Review**

First Read through of Policies Draft

### *Policy #19.04 - Public Comment*

Parker/Josh - Discussion around redirecting community to appropriate communication channels

Parker - Consider making some exceptions to "no statements by proxy"

### *Policy #19.06 - Grievance Policy*

-School to separate grievance policy into two categories - general and personnel and then further divide general grievance into informal and formal categories. Question splitting them into two to reflect different levels of discussion/resolution.

-Board grievance policy would be limited to complaints regarding the Executive Director or whatever grievances the Executive Director chooses to bump up to the board

-Josh - Grievance policy and staff handbook need to be aligned.

-Corelle - Make sure that School Grievance for personnel issues and Board Grievance policies are clear and separate

-Creating and Amending Board Policies, Oversight and Review

-Lisa to follow up with the League to determine best practice for review and approval of board policies.

## **New Business      Skip for tonight**

Carter called into the meeting so the board could reach quorum and move into executive session.

**Meeting Called to Order:**    8:54pm

**Executive Session:**            Lisa moves to enter executive session to discuss personnel matters § 24-6-402(4)(f)C.R.S.. Josh seconds. All in favor. Board enters executive session at 8:54pm.

Bryan moves to end executive session.  
Parker seconds. All in favor. The executive session is adjourned at 9:15pm.

Bryan moves to end the meeting. Lisa seconds. All in favor.

**Meeting Adjourned: 9:15 pm**

