

DLS NAVIGATOR

Helping the DLS community navigate the journey from one school to two



DENVER LANGUAGE SCHOOL

COMMITTEE

Updates & Reports

Reminder

The following events are upcoming:
 a) 1/14 – Board of Directors Town Hall, DLS Auditorium, 6pm to 8pm;
 b) 1/15 – PTA sponsored potluck at new campus, 5pm to 7pm; c) 1/20 – Open House at Calvary Temple, 6pm to 7:30pm.

Transportation

We have assembled a transportation subcommittee to help coordinate and develop transportation options for both campuses. This subcommittee is meeting in advance of our meetings with DPS representatives on January 27th, and we will pass along updates about transportation in the next installment of the DLS Navigator.

After School Care

The DLS Board continues to work with DPS on establishing after school care, with our intention to host Kaleidoscope Corner programs at both campuses. We are presently working through the Kaleidoscope licensing process and expect to provide more detailed

Name Change

Planning continues at a rapid pace for the two-campus model next fall. The board, administration, and parent volunteers spent the past six weeks discussing names for each campus. Dozens of names were considered, including pairs that reflected the Chinese and Spanish cultures, Colorado geography, Denver neighborhoods, language immersion and DLS's academic excellence. The board applied several criteria to the naming process to ensure that each campus has equal stature within the DLS community. We wanted to ensure that the names did not reflect religious affiliation, and additional consideration was given to names that reflected the spirit of the school. This includes the fact that DLS is not bound to a single building or to a single neighborhood. After much discussion, and careful consideration, the board has adopted the following names: **DLS East** for the Whiteman campus and **DLS West** for the Cavalry Temple campus.



Updates & Reports (cont. from page 1)

information about after school care by March or April.

Leadership Structure

The search for the needed leadership support is ongoing. We will update parents as committees are formed and folks are considered.

Curriculum

DLS is committed to providing a premier immersion experience for students at both the DLS East (Whiteman) and DLS West (Cavalry Temple) campuses. The board, administration, and faculty have spent a great deal of time developing plans for the 2015/2016 academic year to ensure that students at both campuses are supported equally, and that the teachers have the resources necessary to excel. Five administrators, each an expert instructional coach, will support teachers at both campuses. Faculty members will also take advantage of a Unit Planner and team lesson planning based on Colorado standards. Curriculum planning efforts are focused on maximizing language learning in all modes: speaking, reading, listening, and writing.

With the increased space from the two-campus model, we will be able to offer more differentiated education. Please visit DLS West in the next month to see more.

Contact Information

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Board Q&A

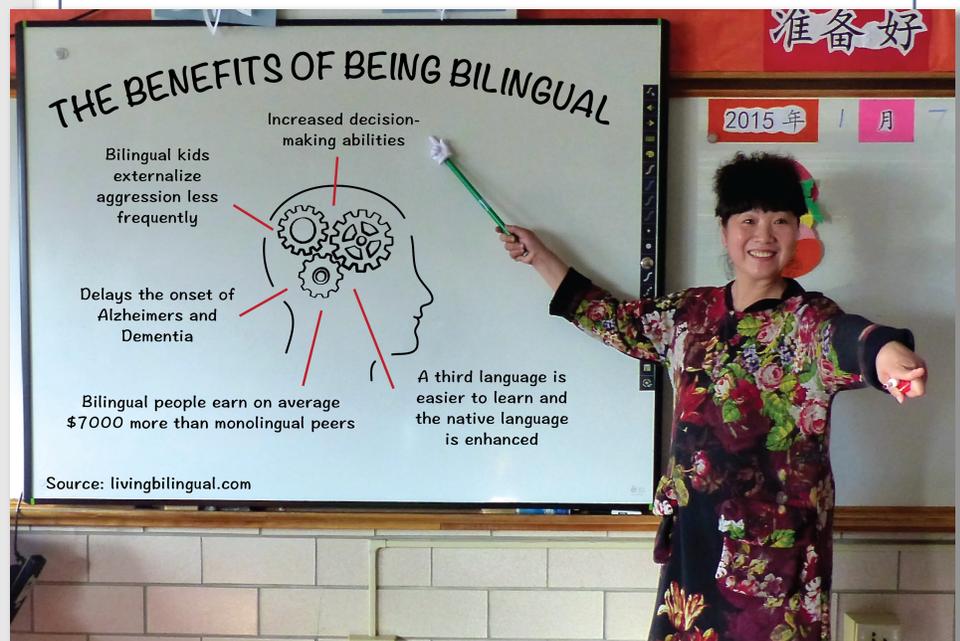
Thanks to parents who sent in emails. Send prospective questions to Dan Baack at dbaack@du.edu.

Question:

Have other grade formats been considered?

Answer:

The Board has considered many different grade formats. It is pretty much guaranteed that any potential permutation has been explored. Some don't work financially, some would require approvals that take too much time to achieve, and others create large pedagogical concerns. The Board has come close to pursuing other options, but we have elected to move forward with the K-2 at DLS West, 3-8 at DLS East model.



Question:

Why do we still not have an answer about transportation?

Answer:

Because it is a difficult question, and we don't want to get the answer wrong. There are folks at DPS who have spent their career helping with these sort of issues. We are leveraging that expertise. Please do note that we will be bussing from Park Hill and Stapleton directly to both schools. We also have the budget for purchasing a bus to shuttle folks between campuses.