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**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 Doblas – 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 2nd 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 5th graders – PTA did approve that   
Kickball tournament at Cook Park on May 22nd   
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.