

MEETING OF THE DENVER LANGUAGE SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday May 28, 2024 from 6:00PM – 9:00PM

Gilpin Campus 2949 California St, Denver, CO 80205 (with virtual option - [Zoom](#))

Mission Statement: To achieve academic excellence and intercultural competence through language immersion education

In Attendance

Board Members: Susan Cheng Usman, Lindsey Foss, Ken Zerkel, Adam Espinosa, Margo Goldman, Rachel Levine, Joanne Liu, Edwine Michel, Jennifer Wild, Anna Wykowski

Non-Board Members: Lori Deacon, Michelle Lammers, Yu Hsin

Meeting Called to Order

Susan Cheng Usman

6:06 PM

Financial Report

Lori Deacon

Lori Deacon provided a detailed overview of the status of current Fiscal Year 2024 (July 2023 – June 2024), as well as forecasted Fiscal Year 2025 (July 2024 – June 2025). School is in good financial health overall in all aspects. We have excellent financial sustainability.

Some Highlights: We will be losing federal COVID relief funding, and we are well prepared for that anticipated loss. The legislative session just closed and the PPR rate increased to 7%. Mill Levy 2020 has brought in a good amount of money. We will continue to have federal and state funding for food (approved by voters two years ago); we incur a small cost for food services and that expense will also continue. Field project cost is not included in the reports provided to the board; it will be captured in the fall.

Approval of FY24 Budget

Motion to Approve: Ken Zerkel

Second: Jennifer Wild

Motion passes unanimously.

Approval of FY25 Budget

Motion to Approve: Ken Zerkel

Second: Jennifer Wild

Motion passes unanimously.

PTO Update

Michelle Lammers

School will be providing PTO a budget starting with Fiscal Year 2025. A Nominating Committee has been added to PTO based on best practices. Michelle will not be serving a second year as PTO President.

Avant Data Presentation

Yu Hsin

Presentation on 23 – 24 DLS Language Proficiency Results.

Some Highlights:

Mandarin: Oral skills tend to develop faster than reading/writing.

Grade 2 reading scores surpassed level 3 for the first time this year.

Spanish: DLS student exhibit steady growth in language proficiency in their elementary years. All grades tested above national averages.

Avant Testing Changes: Future testing frequency will be changing to every other year, and testing window will be in December (it is currently in May).

Approval of 4.30.24 Minutes

Jennifer Wild

Motion to Approve: Rachel Levine

Second: Lindsey Foss

Motion passes with no opposition, and with one abstention.

ED Update & Vision 2030

Richard Royal

Report on Faculty & Staff Survey: 57 responses thus far.

Update provided on Vision 2030. There are five domains of focus.

Richard will email the detailed Vision 2030 plans to the Board for review.

Board Chair Update

Susan Cheng

Board meeting for June 25, 2024, is cancelled.

DLS Retreat scheduled for July 30, 2024.

DEIJB and Current Events

Margo Goldman

Reminder of the importance of DEIJB support to students, faculty/staff, and families with respect to current political climate and foreign affairs. Margo will email to the Board a link to Anti-Defamation League information about best practices.

Meeting Adjourned

Motion to Adjourn Meeting: Jennifer Wild

Second: Adam Espinosa

All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM