

MINUTES

DSST Public Schools Board Meeting

March 21, 2019

DSST Middle School @ Noel Campus, Room 229

Meeting Called to Order: 2:35 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Alyssa Whitehead-Bust

David Greenberg

Deborah McGriff*

George Sparks*

Glenn Russo

Gloria Zamora

Greg Sissel*

Justin Jaschke

Patrick O'Rourke*

Peter Fritzing

Scott Arthur*

Teresa Berryman

*Attended via conference call

Parent Present: None

Board Members Absent: Dwight Jones, Gina Rodriguez

DSST Staff Present: Mimi Stevinson, Heather Lamm, Christine Nelson, Bill Kurtz, Nicole Fulbright, Hillary Hoffman, Ericca Henderson, Aaron Griffen, Brad White

DPS Staff Present: None

Welcome:

Ms. Zamora welcomed everyone to the meeting and then a group of students came in for the Public Comment.

Public Comment:

Group of 12 students, 10 minutes, Began at 2:38

11 students from DSST: Byers and one from DSST: GVR spoke out about lack of mental health support for themselves as well as their peers within school, and have asked for more in-school mental health professionals to support them.

School Director Q&A: Brandi Chin, DSST Middle School @ Noel Campus. Ms. Chin shared highlights of Noel, including details on the Noel school year and why she has seen great success. This has included thoughtful planning that went into year zero, high expectations for students, taking an individualized approach to student needs, and a mutual respect between parents and educators.

Approval Items:

Motion to approve previous board meeting minutes (1/17/19) Fritzing

Second: Russo

Vote: Unanimous approval

**Motion to approve the Family Handbook and Policies for Aurora Science and Tech
Zamora**

Second: Russo

Vote: Unanimous approval

Discussion:

Ms. Berryman shared details on the success of DSST's Night to Celebrate Exemplary Teaching, where great teachers were honored and students spoke about how these educators have changed their lives.

Ms. Zamora encouraged everyone to mark their calendars for Senior Signing Day for May 1 and Slice of Pi for April 26.

Mr. Kurtz introduced Theory of Action that addresses the scaling of the organization as well as the performance of the organization. Mr. Kurtz gave background on why we embarked on this and how we are navigating role clarity in order to bring this forth.

Mr. Walker expanded on the Theory of Action and emphasized that when leadership and the Home Office knows what they have to do, and when schools know what they have to do, that is when the best results happen. The main points of Theory of Action includes developing top talent, data-driven leadership, and a need to monitor school culture to ensure it is successful and up to DSST standards. Mr. Walker also answered questions about how schools were involved in this process.

Reports:

For the CEO report, Ms. Lamm presented a Recruitment and Enrollment Update, highlighting the three main metrics that matter-- market demand (aka how many families are selecting us as first choice), conversion, and retention of students. Ms. Lamm also gave updates on recruitment for the new Aurora Science & Tech school.

The Executive Committee did not have a report/update at this meeting.

The Education & Information Technology Committee did not have a report/update at this meeting.

The Finance & Operations Committee did not have a report/update at this meeting.

The Audit Committee did not have a report/update at this meeting.

For the Advancement Committee report, Mr. Sparks gave an update on the Slice of Pi Advancement Committee and fundraising. Ms. Stevinson gave updates on program development, experience of the day and experience of honorees, as well as the post-party.

New Business: None

Executive Session

Ms. Zamora stated, "I would entertain a motion to go into Executive Session as permitted by the Colorado Open Meetings Act for the purpose of considering the following matters:

- (1) Pursuant to Colorado Revised Statute 24-6-402
 - (4) (e) determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations

Motion to have Peter Fritzingler serve as a second vice chair position, Jashke

Second: Whitehead-Bust

Vote: Unanimous approval without Mr. Fritzingler Present

Motion to have Teresa Berryman continue as vice chair and serve concurrently with Peter Fritzingler, Jashke

Second: Zamora

Vote: Unanimous approval without Ms. Berryman present

Motion to extend Gloria Zamora as board chair through 2021, Jashke

Second: Berryman

Vote: Unanimous approval without Ms. Zamora present

Respectfully Submitted,

Stefanie Gilary(note-taker), Secretary