



### Board of Directors Commitment

I, [ ], understand that as a member of the Board of Directors of DSST Public Schools, I have a fiduciary obligation to act in the best interests of DSST and to advance its mission to transform urban public education by eliminating educational inequity and preparing all students for success in college and the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

1. I accept primary responsibility for collective action to perpetuate DSST, see that its future is well planned and ensure those plans are effectively executed in support of its mission.
2. I will be prepared in advance for all meetings; actively participate by voting my own convictions and cooperatively working with fellow Directors; and, once a vote has been taken, supporting the majority decision, thereby assuring that the board speaks with one voice.
3. I will give DSST high priority, even when faced with time constraints, and realistically acknowledge that I must make a significant time commitment to DSST in order to fulfill my obligations.
4. I recognize that the CEO is the primary spokesperson for DSST, the Chair is the primary spokesperson for the board, and authority resides only with the board as a whole and not in its individual members.

I have read and understand the specific roles expected of Directors:

#### **Bucket 1: Board participation for the following is expected:**

- 6 Board meetings plus one Board retreat
- Participation in at least one committee
- Participation at Slice of Pi every year.
  - This event is the central annual event of our fundraising efforts. It is hoped that Board members will both be present, and will bring at least 2-3 guests to the event. It is a chance to show off DSST at its best. The event takes place at a school and honors a notable Denver contributor. There is typically a very fun after party.
  - The role of Board members at this event is to be ambassadors of the overall network. Guests of Board members should be invited to after party.
  - The event is known well in advance and is on the Board calendar. We hope this can be a priority when scheduling other commitments.
- **School or Home Office visit every other year**
  - These are all day school "evaluations" of our schools and involve leaders from the Home Office, other schools and the Board. These visits give Board members a terrific insight into an actual school. Equally important, we need feedback from professionals outside the education space to make sure we continue to grow.
  - These events are not known as much in advance as the above events, but it is our hope that a Board member can participate in one of these in depth sessions every two years.
- **Serve as SAC contact**

- This is a legal issue - we need to have 2 board members serve on every SAC to remain in compliance. Board members do not need to attend - just be point of accountability.

**Bucket 2: Board participation requested at other important DSST events (Requested means we hope each Board member attends at least one.)**

- Board members attend our Senior Signing Day ***and/or*** our Teacher Celebration Dinner every year
  - With 16 Board members, we hope at least 8 board members attend each of these events.
  - These are cornerstone events - one celebrating our best teachers and one celebrating our ultimate mission - college ready graduates. The are scheduled well in advance and the dates are on the Board calendar. Board participation is an important affirmation for these teachers and students.
  - The role of the Board member in these events is to be present and to be visible - to staff and to families.

**Bucket 3: Board participation is welcomed, meaning this is completely discretionary**

- Board members attend high school graduation and middle school continuations
- Board members are engaged in elected official or grasstops advocacy as applicable

Additionally, I agree to actively assist with and attend fundraising events of DSST including making DSST a priority in my charitable giving and making a personally meaningful annual financial contribution to DSST.

In exchange, DSST commits to help me fulfill my responsibilities by:

1. Sending me, without request, financial reports and updates of organizational activities as well as information about national issues impacting education that allow me to meet the “prudent person” fiduciary standards imposed by law.
2. Providing opportunities to discuss with the CEO and Board Chair the DSST’s programs, goals, activities and status; additionally, I can request such opportunities.
3. Responding in a straightforward fashion to questions that I feel are necessary to carry out my fiscal, legal and moral responsibilities to DSST. Board members and staff will work in good faith with me to achieve DSST’s goals.
4. It is both my responsibility and that of the Board Chair to periodically discuss whether these mutual commitments are being met.

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Board Member

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Date

*Gloria Zamora*

Board Chair