

## MINUTES

DSST Public Schools Board Meeting  
January 22, 2015  
DSST: Cole High School, Room 301

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

**Board Members Present:**

Dan Wilkerson  
David Greenberg  
Deborah McGriff (via phone)  
Don Kirkpatrick  
Gloria Zamora  
Heather Lamm  
Jackie Sullivan  
Justin Jaschke  
Keith Evans  
Michele Cooper (via phone)  
Norwood Robb  
Steve Halstedt  
Steve McConahey  
Teresa Berryman

**Parent Present:** Lolly Block (Cole Campus)

**Board Members Absent:** Matthew Schnittman, Sean VanBerschoot, Tanya Kelly-Bowry

**DSST Staff Present:** Bill Kurtz, Becca Bloch, Denise Queen, Katie Glenn (note taker), Scott Walker

**DPS Staff Present:** None

### Welcome

Mr. Halstedt introduces Ms. Block. Ms. Block is the STP Chair for the Cole Campus.

Mr. Halstedt also notes that Becca Bloch is sitting in for Ben Cairns for the School Director Q & A section of the meeting.

Mr. Halstedt then introduces Gloria Zamora and gives a brief background of Ms. Zamora. Ms. Zamora is a new member of the DSST Board.

Mr. Halstedt mentions a couple changes to the agenda. The first change being the addition of an executive session at the end of the meeting and the second change is Jim Griesemer, the guest speaker, will not be arriving until 3:30pm. Mr. Halstedt states that we will continue on with the agenda until Mr. Griesmer arrives.

Mr. Halstedt continues by introducing Becca Bloch, the Dean of Students at DSST: Cole High School. Mr. Kurtz adds on to Mr. Halstedt's introduction by providing a brief background of Ms. Bloch.

**School Director Q&A:** Becca Bloch, Dean of Students at Cole High School. Ms. Bloch begins by thanking the board for being at their school and shares that the room they are currently sitting in is the future college placement office. Ms. Bloch continues by sharing a couple areas that the staff are proud of which included the results of their trimester finals and strong school culture. Ms. Bloch also shared a couple areas that the staff wishes to improve moving forward in the school year which included teachers bringing more joy and academic rigor to the classroom as well as finding a way for

PB1 students to catch up to their peers at a faster rate. Ms. Bloch then opened the discussion up to a Q and A session for her remaining time at the meeting.

## **Consent Agenda**

**Motion:** Approval of previous board meeting minutes, Robb

**Second:** Sullivan

**Vote:** Unanimous approval

**Motion:** Approval of January Budget, Robb

**Second:** Wilkerson

**Vote:** Unanimous approval

## **Discussion**

Mr. Halstedt introduces Jim Griesemer and provides a brief background on Mr. Griesemer. Mr. Griesemer is the Dean Emeritus of the Daniels College of Business at the University of Denver.

Mr. Griesemer presented an overview on "Higher Education in an Era of Change".

## **Reports**

Mr. Kurtz started the discussion by asking if there were any questions regarding the home office report. The board then proceeded to have an open Q and A.

Mr. Kurtz discussed two additional items to the home office report which were mid-year map scores (only measured in middle school) and building a stronger grass roots support system. Mr. Kurtz closed by discussing two initiatives regarding our operating plan. The initiatives discussed were interventions and leadership.

The Executive Committee reported that they are in the process of discussing if the board book should be posted on the intranet after each meeting which would allow staff to have access to it.

The Education Committee and IT Advisory reported that they are currently researching and discussing risk management and risk assessment with data security. They also shared that the Morgridge College of Education at the University of Denver has offered to host the technology deep dive this year. The topic would be the process of how we use Ed Tech for education and how these tools work at DSST. The deep dive is tentatively scheduled for April 9<sup>th</sup> at 9am.

The Finance Committee gave a brief update on the status of their committee goals for the year. They continued by noting the dashboard included in the board book. The dashboard is a helpful tool for people to understand DSST's finances. They also mentioned that these tools, such as the dashboard, are evolving and there will most likely be different versions in the future. The Finance Committee reported that we will be able to close STMC (Science and Tech Management Corporation) with the implementation of the new GPS on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Queen reported out for the Advancement Committee. She shared that the Advancement Committee is currently discussing how to reconfigure the committee with Ms. Kelly-Bowry being unable to continue as the Advancement Committee Co-chair and Mr. Schnittman currently being out of the country. Ms. Queen continued by telling the board to mark their calendars for Slice of Pi on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. She asked that they help get sponsors and to invite their contacts. She reminded the board that we will be honoring Steve and Susan Halstedt this year at the event.

The Nominating and Governance Committee asked the Board to please complete an updated Board contract by the end of the meeting. They continued by clarifying the responsibility of the School Accountability Committee. Mr. McConahey mentioned that we will continue to have guest speakers, similar to Mr. Griesemer, to discuss topics we are interested in learning about. Future topics include understanding DSST's financial model, changes occurring in the Charter School movement, new teaching/learning models, and DSST college placements and persistence. There are also three management topics to be presented which include succession planning for the senior team, risk management including student privacy, and the long range strategic plan: "What's next?". The Nominating and Governance Committee are continuing to look for board candidates. They will be

sending a memo on the gaps on the board (higher education, fundraising, legal, auditor, athlete). They are hoping to build a pipeline in the next several months since there will be openings after this year. Ms. Lamm added that she will have a couple candidates next week that we may need everyone to approve joining the board via email.

**New Business:** None

**Motion to go into Executive Session at 4:50pm, Wilkerson**

**Second:** Robb

**Vote:** Unanimous approval

**Motion for adjournment of Board Meeting at 5:30pm, Robb**

**Second:** Wilkerson

**Vote:** Unanimous approval

Respectfully Submitted,

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Katie Glenn (note-taker) for Sean VanBerschoot, Secretary