

Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

Date: January 18, 2022 (12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.)

Location: Online via Zoom

Members in attendance (via Zoom): Mr. Michael Baker (Chair), Dr. Lydia Prado (Vice-Chair), Mr. Chris Daves (Treasurer), Ms. Amber Münck (Secretary), Ms. Erin Brown, Mr. Zach Hochstadt, Ms. Samantha Jacobson, Ms. Anne Rowe, Councilwoman Amanda Sandoval and Ms. Janice Sinden

Members not in attendance: Ms. Susan Steele

Staff in attendance (via Zoom): Ms. Nayely Avila, Ms. Ellen Braun, Dr. Cristal Cisneros, Ms. Elsa Holguín, Mr. Chris Miller, Ms. Tricia Nelson and Ms. Carley Noerr

Guests (via Zoom): Ms. Anna Jo Haynes (Board Emeritus) and Ms. Valerie Gonzales

| Agenda Topic | Discussion | Action/Follow-Up/Decision |
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| Call to Order and Welcome | <u>Call to Order and Welcome</u> Mr. Baker welcomed everyone to the meeting and initiated a round of introductions. | |
| Consent Agenda <i>(For Approval)</i> | <u>Consent Agenda</u> Mr. Baker presented the following items on the Consent Agenda for approval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 13, 2020, Strategic Planning Committee Minutes • December 14, 2020, Board Minutes • November 2021, Financial Statements • MetrixIQ Bridgecare Expanded Service | Mr. Hochstadt motioned to approve the consent agenda; Ms. Jacobson seconded; All in favor, motion approved. |
| Annual Meeting Document Review <i>(For Approval)</i> | <u>Annual Meeting Document Review</u> Ms. Holguín presented the following documents for annual review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflict of Interest Disclosure This document was reviewed and sent out to all Board members for completion. • Bylaws (For Approval) Changes to the bylaws, including the addition of Section 17 Director Emeritus, were presented in edit tracking view to highlight updates from the previous year. | Ms. Münck motioned to approve the Board Bylaws, Ms. Sinden seconded; All in favor; motion approved. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articles of Incorporation <i>(For Approval)</i> The Articles of Incorporation were presented in edit tracking view form to highlight updates from the previous year. • Board Self-Evaluation To continue to incorporate self-evaluation as a best practice for DPP’s Board of Directors, we would like to learn more about our Director’s DPP Board experience, perspective, and ideas as you reflect on 2021. This effort to collect candid input from valued Board members is being facilitated by a third-party firm, Mission Spark. | <p>Ms. Sinden motioned to approve the Articles of Incorporation, Ms. Brown seconded. All in favor; motion approved.</p> |
| <p>President’s Update</p> | <p>President’s Update Ms. Holguín delivered the President’s Update, highlighting the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPP will begin the process to review the City contract and the fund balance stipulation defined in the contract. Currently DPP is the only component unit of its kind with the required fund balance. DPP and City partners support seeking an ordinance change to strike the language relating to the requirement to hold a fund balance and for DPP to obtain the currently held fund balance of \$600,000. • DPP launched a partnership with Caring for Denver and Prosperity Denver to be proactive if any ballot initiatives arise that could negatively impact DPP’s funding and work. This will also help us lay the groundwork to begin our prep for reauthorization. This group will be funding by a grant from the Colorado Health Foundation. | <p>Ms. Brown requested to review the original language used in DPP’s contract with the city in regard to the fund balance.</p> <p>Ms. Braun provided the following: “Section 5(A) Maximum Obligation of the City: The City will maintain an unappropriated fund balance in the special revenue fund established for Denver Preschool Tax receipts, in the initial amount of \$600,000. The unappropriated fund balance, including interested earned thereon, will be available for distribution to DPP in future years should there be a shortfall in actual Denver Preschool Tax receipts.”</p> |
| <p>Strategic Planning Committee Update <i>(For Approval)</i></p> | <p>Strategic Planning Committee Update Ms. Holguín presented an update on the Strategic Planning Committee of the DPP Board of Directors, highlighting the following:</p> <p>Universal Preschool Lead Consideration <i>(For Approval)</i> In November 2020 a bipartisan majority of voters supported funding for high-quality, 4-year-old universal preschool (UPK) in a mixed delivery system with the passage of Proposition EE. This new voluntary preschool program will build upon</p> | |

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| | <p>the successes of Colorado’s existing early childhood programs to offer every child in Colorado access to funded early care and education services the year before they enter kindergarten.</p> <p>The Denver Preschool Program has been supporting UPK since it became a ballot measure through advisory groups and planning meetings.</p> <p>The Transition Advisory Group (TAG) released a report for the legislature outlining the UPK implementation recommendation. Within the report there is a recommendation to partner with local leadership to implement and support UPK models throughout Colorado.</p> <p>The Denver Preschool Program feels uniquely prepared to lead our community and ensure statewide UPK is seamlessly integrated with DPP’s current model in Denver, in large part thanks to the partnerships we have fostered with Denver families, providers, consultants and community organizations.</p> <p>DPP Staff is requesting approval from the Board of Directors to explore the possibility for DPP to apply as a local lead for Colorado’s Universal Preschool Implementation. No funding will be expended until authorization from the City; if DPP is not authorized to use administrative reserves to prepare for UPK, alternative funding will be obtained. The Strategic Planning Committee and the Finance and Governance Committee gave their approval on the above request.</p> <p>Dr. Prado requested that DPP champion and ensure equity is a focus of the UPK implementation and Denver’s role in the program.</p> <p>2022-2023 Tuition Credit System Ms. Braun presented the following information:</p> <p>Tuition Credit System – Questions for Consideration DPP must approve several projects within the Tuition Credit System (TCS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4-year-old Tuition Credit Scale ○ 3-year-old Tuition Credit Scale ○ Parameters of the Preschool for 3s second pilot year ○ DPP Scholarship <p>The TCS represents the primary mechanism by which we support a child in their ability to attend quality, licensed preschool. With shifts in supply of and demand for licensed slots, we must consider how we can continue to innovate within our charge to reach Denver’s youngest learners.</p> | <p>Ms. Rowe motioned to approve DPP pursuing the anticipated Local Lead RFP that pertains to Universal Preschool, Dr. Prado seconded. All in favor; motion approved.</p> <p>Ms. Sinden motioned to approve committing to maintain the</p> |

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| | <p>Ms. Braun outlined the initial questions for consideration, requesting input and discussion relating to the concept of DPP announcing that the 2022-2023 scale would at least maintain the 2021-2022 tuition credit amounts.</p> <p>DPP Staff is requesting to maintain the 2021-2022 TCS as minimum, to provide a consistent baseline of support to families.</p> | <p>minimum amounts that match the 2021-2022 TCS carried forward into the 2022-2023 program year, Ms. Brown seconded. All in favor; motion approved.</p> |
| <p>Equity Statement <i>(For Approval)</i></p> | <p><u>Equity Statement</u> <i>(For Approval)</i> Dr. Cisneros presented the DPP’s updated Equity Statement, highlighting the following:</p> <p>Every child deserves equitable access to quality early childhood education and the opportunity to benefit from its promise: a strong foundation for a successful future. Through our role in early childhood education, DenverPreschool Program commits to bold action to help dismantle generational poverty, systemic racism and discrimination.</p> <p>In support of our equity statement, and in service of the creation of a more equitable early childhood landscape and a more just world, we commit to awareness, access, advocacy and action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Grow our knowledge and awareness of inequities and their root cause 2) Drive access, choice and quality in early childhood education 3) Advocate for systems-level policy changes that address harm. 4) Take bold action. <p>Ms. Sinden requested clarification how the DPP Equity statement will move from aspiration to action.</p> <p>Dr. Cisneros responded, stating she would be answering this in greater detail in her Research Agenda which she will be submitting to the Evaluation Committee.</p> <p>Ms. Sinden requested more specificity going forward so that the board is able to communicate these actions with partner organizations.</p> <p>Ms. Brown requested that advocacy be incorporated into DPP’s equity work, stating the importance of lifting up parent voices outside of the organization.</p> | <p>Dr. Prado motioned to approve the Equity Statement, Ms. Jacobson seconded. All in favor; motion approved.</p> |
| <p>Community Updates</p> | <p><u>Community Updates</u> Mr. Baker opened the room to allow for Community Updates.</p> <p>Ms. Gonzales of the Office of Children’s Affairs (OCA) delivered the following update:</p> | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OCA's current Deputy Director, Amber Giauque Callender, will be exiting soon. Melissa Janiszewski and Kat Jarvis are working closely together during Amber's departure. <p>Ms. Braun highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 2,000 Workforce Stipends are being distributed this week to employees of DPP centers and family child care homes. <p>Ms. Holguín highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 continues to create workforce issues for providers, specifically for DPS. | |
| Adjourn | <u>Adjourn</u> | Ms. Jacobson motioned to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Brown seconded; All in favor, motion approved. |

I certify that the above minutes are correct and approved by the Board of Directors.

Münck, Amber, Secretary