

Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

Date: April 19, 2022 (12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.)

Location: In person at the DPP office and online via Zoom

Members in attendance (In Person): Mr. Michael Baker (Chair), Mr. Chris Daues (Treasurer), Ms. Anne Rowe and Ms. Susan Steele

Members in attendance (via Zoom): Ms. Amber Münck (Secretary), Councilwoman Amanda Sandoval and Ms. Janice Sinden

Members not in attendance: Dr. Lydia Prado (Vice-Chair), Ms. Erin Brown, Mr. Zach Hochstadt and Ms. Samantha Jacobson

Staff in attendance (In Person): Ms. Ellen Braun, Dr. Cristal Cisneros, Ms. Elsa Holguín, Mr. Chris Miller and Ms. Carley Noerr

Staff in attendance (via Zoom): n/a

Staff not in attendance: Ms. Nayely Avila

Guests (In Person): Ms. Anna Jo Haynes (Board Emeritus), Dr. Vi-Nhuan Le, Mr. Rob McDaniel, Ms. Kara Penn, Dr. Amy Roberts, Dr. Diana Schaack, Ms. Jen Schroeder and Dr. Ann Wacker

Guests (via Zoom): Ms. Valerie Gonzales, Ms. Andi Ives, Ms. Kat Jarvis and Dr. Lisa Piscopo

Agenda Topic	Discussion	Action/Follow-Up/Decision
Call to Order and Welcome	<u>Call to Order and Welcome</u> Mr. Baker welcomed the Board, staff and guests.	
Consent Agenda (For Approval)	<u>Consent Agenda (For Approval)</u> Mr. Baker presented the Consent Agenda for approval, highlighting the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 14, 2022, Strategic Planning Committee Minutes • March 15, 2022, Board Minutes • April 12, 2022, Strategic Planning Committee Email Minutes • February 2022, Financial Statements • Clayton Early Learning Contract Amendment 	Ms. Rowe motioned to approve the consent agenda; Ms. Sinden seconded. All in favor; motion approved.

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<p>DPP’s Evaluation Presentation</p>	<p><u>DPP’s Evaluation Presentation</u> Dr. Cristal Cisneros led DPP partner organizations in presenting their Evaluation Presentations.</p> <p>Dr. Amy Roberts and Dr. Ann Wacker, of the Butler Institute for Families, presented their report on DPP Support to Families and Preschools During COVID-19, highlighting the following:</p> <p><u>Family Access</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPP tuition credits and scholarships support family access, especially for BIPOC families and those with limited/no access to economic resources. • DPP’s support helps many families access early care and education for siblings, afford basic needs, and participate in the workforce. <p><u>Supporting the Preschool Workforce</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPP’s financial support helps preschools stay in business. • Virtual coaching allows educators to continue building their professional knowledge and skills. • Teacher-coach relationships support teacher well-being and use of developmentally appropriate practices. <p><u>Recommendations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Access: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Explore collaborations with other organizations that serve children and families to facilitate access to basic needs and social-emotional supports families need to thrive in preschool. ○ DPP’s mixed-delivery system and innovative scholarship program that support equitable preschool access should be used as a model to inform statewide UPK in Colorado. • Provider and Workforce support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continue to identify creative and responsive ways to support preschools and the workforce. ○ Optimize virtual or hybrid coaching by removing potential barriers (e.g., provide substitutes, supply technical equipment) and allow sufficient time for relationship building. <p>Dr. Vi-Nhuan Le and Dr. Diana Schaack of NORC presented their report on Effects of the Denver Preschool Program on Historically Disadvantaged Student Groups, highlighting the following:</p> <p>This study is the first-known research to examine the effects of a preschool</p>	

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	<p>tuition credit on the kindergarten outcomes of historically disadvantaged children.</p> <p>How do the kindergarten outcomes of DPP participants compare to non-participants? Specific areas of interest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading performance (direct assessments) • Social-emotional and physical skills (teacher reports) • Chronic absence (district records) • Retention (district records) <p>Among children who were eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, DPP children were significantly more likely to be English Language-Learners (ELL) or Hispanic.</p> <p><u>Next Steps</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a cost-effectiveness analysis to understand the return on investment • Explore longer-term outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ National Student Clearinghouse: on-track for graduation, graduation rates, college enrollment, college persistence, transfers to 4-year colleges ○ Collaboration with the Colorado Department of Education to obtain data from the Departments of Corrections, Labor and Employment, and Human Services 	
<p>Strategic Planning Committee</p>	<p><u>Strategic Planning Committee</u></p> <p>Ms. Rowe presented updates on the Strategic Planning Committee, highlighting the following:</p> <p><u>Strategic Planning Retreat</u></p> <p>The Strategic Planning Retreat of the Board of Directors has been scheduled for Tuesday, July 12, 2022.</p> <p>Mission Spark Contract Amendment (For Approval)</p> <p>Ms. Braun presented the Mission Spark Contract Amendment for approval, at which time Ms. Penn of Mission Spark removed herself from the meeting. Ms. Braun highlighted the following:</p> <p><u>Contract Type:</u> Continuing Contract <u>Original Term:</u> January 1, 2022 – August 31, 2022 (8 months) <u>Proposed Term:</u> January 1, 2022 – March 30, 2023 (15 months) <u>Original Budget:</u> \$24,875</p>	

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	<p><u>Proposed Budget:</u> \$114,375</p> <p><u>Contract Overview</u> Beginning in 2016, Mission Spark has been the lead contractor to develop, track and implement DPP’s strategic plan. The work has expanded to include board development, facilitation, project management and staff development.</p> <p>Mission Spark, in partnership with equity and strategy consultancy Accountability for Greatness, will help design and facilitate a thorough and inclusive planning process that will result in a strategic plan centered in equity for DPP. This plan will guide DPP for the next three years and include considerations and shifts associated with Universal Preschool at the state, and potentially national levels, as well as supporting DPP’s potential re-authorization by voters.</p> <p><u>Request for Approval</u> Following recommendation from the Strategic Planning Committee, the Denver Preschool Program staff is presenting the 2022-2023 Mission Spark contract amendment for approval to the Board of Directors, as outlined above.</p>	<p>Mr. Baker motioned to approve the amendment to Mission Spark’s contract through March 30, 2023 for the total of \$114,375; Mr. Daues seconded. All in favor; motion approved.</p>
<p>Board Evaluation</p>	<p><u>Board Evaluation</u> Ms. Penn rejoined the meeting and presented an overview of the annual Board Evaluation survey, highlighting the following:</p> <p>DPP is a high-functioning and well-organized Board with many strengths, yet opportunities still exist to strengthen its:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity and inclusion • Onboarding process and skill development • Engagement in the mission through experiential opportunities • Strengthening of relationships that benefit DPP’s mission <p>Skill sets, perspectives and attributes that should be prioritized in new Board members to strengthen the DPP Board of Directors’ impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provider Representation, both classroom/teacher and administrator • Family Support/Human Services specialization to increase understanding and connection between DPP and wraparound services for families • Community Representation, specifically those from areas that DPP serves <p>Recommendations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a Board Action Plan that connects into DPP’s strategic planning process and is supported by Board leadership and DPP staff. 2. Action Plan priorities: 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Development of effective onboarding and support to new Board members b) Effective recruitment of new Board members that addresses missing perspectives, skill sets and increases diversity c) Experiential learning opportunities for Board members to connect to DPP’s mission d) Engage Board members in increased relationship building and ambassadorship e) Continue to work on Board culture to increase inclusiveness of Board and value of all voices 	
<p>2022-2023 Tuition Credit System</p>	<p>2022-2023 Tuition Credit System Ms. Braun presented the 2022-2023 Tuition Credit System, highlighting the following:</p> <p>The 2022/2023 Tuition Credit System is inclusive of the 4-Year-Old Scale, DPP Scholarships and Preschool for 3s. The budgets for DPP Scholarships and Preschool for 3s are being presented for the Board’s approval.</p> <p>Preschool for 3s DPP staff is proposing the following Preschool for 3s parameters and budget for the 2022-2023 program year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022-2023 Preschool for 3s Capacity – 600 students • Total funding request: \$5,631,581 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$5,500,000 in tuition credits ○ \$131,581 in administration costs • Pilot Eligibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Attending a DPP community site, the Preschool for 3s Year 2 pilot will launch eligibility at non-Head Start preschool providers in order to prioritize families attending community sites who do not have access to Denver Great Kids Head Start funding with the hope this will also help Denver fully utilize available Head Start slots. (If any 2022-2023 Preschool for 3s slots remain available closer to the start of the 2022-2023 school year, DPP’s Head Start community sites would be eligible for their Preschool for 3s-eligible families to apply/be approved at that time.) ○ Living at or below 185 percent of the federal poverty line ○ Maintain pilot eligibility focused on tier 1 and tier 2 students only • Preschool for 3s tuition credits will align with the approved 4-year-old scale • The pilot will exceed enrollment capacity by 10% to manage attrition throughout the program year (approximately 60 kids beyond the capacity) 	

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	<p>DPP acknowledges that this Pilot Program, capped at 600 tier 1 and tier 2 students, will not cover all students in need, but that this is a realistic next step in building upon the framework of serving younger learners.</p> <p>Ms. Steele requested a breakdown of what DPP is paying per child in the Preschool for 3s program.</p> <p>Ms. Braun and Mr. McDaniel agreed to prepare this information ahead of the next Board of Directors meeting, adding that they estimate that information to reflect a maximum amount of about \$1,660.</p> <p>Dr. Cisneros stated she is working with the City on analysis of what DPP is investing in children and if these same children are also receiving CCAP or Head Start.</p> <p><u>Request for Approval</u> DPP staff requests Board approval to continue the Preschool for 3s two-year pilot and launch the second year with the parameters identified above and increase the 2022-2023 program year budget to \$5,631,581. The additional funding of \$1,955,900 will be funded by reserves and the unappropriated fund balance of \$600,000 currently held at the City. The total two-year pilot funding would increase to \$8,555,900.</p> <p>DPP Scholarship Overall, the DPP Scholarship pilot was a success in that it deeply impacted a small population of Denver families. The Scholarship pilot also allowed DPP to begin the pilot process and use this opportunity to implement policies and practice in new and innovative ways. As the Denver Preschool Program looks to the future we believe the Scholarship model, in some form or another, should remain a part of our regular programming.</p> <p>DPP staff is proposing the following DPP Scholarship parameters and budget for the 2022-2023 program year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scholarship Program Capacity – 345 students • Total funding request: \$2,802,749 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Scholarship Amounts: \$2,587,606 ○ Administration Costs: \$140,484 ○ Communications: \$50,000 ○ Evaluation: \$25,000 • Primary Eligibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Attending a DPP community site ○ Living at or below 185 percent of the federal poverty line (DPP income tiers 1 and 2) 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Attending 25 or more hours a week at preschool (DPP full-day or extended-day participation levels) ○ Not receiving other public funding sources (Head Start, CPP, ECARE, or Mill Levy), but continue to seek a partnership to allow funding to be layered with CCCAP ○ Fully cover tuition for all approved scholarship recipients <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To enhance DPP’s equity work, DPP would like to pilot a nomination process to serve children who may not fit the defined eligibility but who could greatly benefit from receiving a scholarship. This nomination process will not exceed 10% of the total capacity of the Scholarship program. The nomination process will be released at a later date. ● Priority will be given to any 2021-2022 Preschool for 3’s children to continue in the scholarship for their 2022-2023 4-year-old year as long as they remain eligible. ● The DPP Scholarship will discontinue the use of incentives to schools as the Scholarship Program exits its pilot phase in order to maximize the funding available for scholarships. <p><u>Request for Approval</u> DPP staff requests approval from the Board of Directors for the DPP Scholarship Program, beyond the pilot stages, for the 2022-2023 program year as outlined above. The budget for the program year is \$2,802,749 and to be funded by reserves.</p>	<p>Ms. Rowe motioned to approve (1) The Preschool for 3s pilot project for an additional allocation of \$1.35 million from reserves and \$600,000 of unappropriated fund balance for an additional funding increase of \$1.955m and a two-year project total of \$8.55m, (2) the DPP Scholarship to launch the 2022-2023 program year without pilot status and with \$2.8 million allocation from reserves to fully fund the program year, and (3) the total reserves designation for the 2022-2023 program year to fund the two projects at a total of \$8.43 million; Mr. Daues seconded. All in favor; motion approved.</p>
<p>President’s Update</p>	<p><u>President’s Update</u> Ms. Holguín presented the President’s Update, highlighting the following:</p> <p>City Update and Meeting with the Mayor Ms. Holguín met with the City’s Policy Review Committee on Friday, March 25, 2022 to request:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The \$600,000 currently held as unappropriated funds be transferred to DPP to cover the shortfall in tax receipts caused by the pandemic. ● An ordinance change to eliminate the language used in DPP’s contract with the City that states the requirement for an unappropriated fund balance going forward, and also for a contract change to add language stating, “DPP can and will receive funding from other sources, will operate projects in a manner consistent with its bylaws, and will not co-mingle funds”. <p>Colorado Department of Early Childhood (CDEC) and Universal Preschool (UPK) Updates The Strategic Planning Committee noted they wish for enthusiastic approval from the City prior to DPP pursuing the possibility of a role in UPK, asking that no DPP funds be used for UPK related work until DPP received approval from City Council.</p>	

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	<p>The Office of Children’s Affairs (OCA) is raising funds (estimated at \$185k-\$200k) to hire three contractors to assist DPP and Denver’s Early Childhood Council (DECC) in their participation in UPK.</p> <p>Mr. Baker briefed the Committee on the meeting with Mayor Hancock, stating the Mayor suggested that DPP should ask voters to remove the sunset provision while seeking reauthorization in April 2023.</p>	
<p>Community Updates</p>	<p>Community Updates Mr. Baker opened the floor for Community Updates.</p> <p>Ms. Ives, of Denver Public Schools, highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Round one of the SchoolChoice 2022-2023 school year placements has concluded. Approximately 80% of the available ECE enrollment openings were filled during round one. Round two is now open. <p>Ms. Jarvis, of the Office of Children’s Affairs, highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OCA is excited to support DPP, should the City issue their approval, in pursuing a role with UPK. • Other OCA programs, such as Youth Violence Prevention and Youth Development, tie back to the early childhood experience. 	
<p>Adjourn</p>	<p>Adjourn Mr. Baker requested all those in attendance, both in person and via Zoom, that are not members of the DPP Board of Directors to exit the room. This included all DPP staff members and guests.</p> <p>The Board then held an Executive Session to discuss Personnel.</p> <p>Upon completion of the Executive Session, Mr. Baker then led the Board in adjourning the meeting as usual.</p>	<p>Ms. Steele motioned to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Daues seconded. All in favor; motion approved.</p>

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


 Amber Münck (Jul 8, 2022 09:56 MDT)

Münck, Amber, Secretary





2e - DPP 04.19.22 BOD Minutes_FINAL

Final Audit Report

2022-07-08

Created:	2022-07-06
By:	Carley Noerr (carley@dpp.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAuGedy69JuKr6jPOseyp4rQApaKUqw-0f

"2e - DPP 04.19.22 BOD Minutes_FINAL" History

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2022-07-06 - 4:17:44 PM GMT- IP address: 71.229.184.90
-  Document emailed to amber.munck@gmail.com for signature
2022-07-06 - 4:18:02 PM GMT
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2022-07-08 - 3:56:12 PM GMT- IP address: 172.225.199.13
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Signature Date: 2022-07-08 - 3:56:34 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 71.33.150.162
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