

## Board of Directors

### Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 (12:00 to 2:00 p.m.)

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

#### Attendance

**Members (In Person):** Dr. Lydia Prado (Chair), Ms. Erin Brown (Vice-Chair), Ms. Andrea Albo, Mr. Michael Baker, Mr. Nathaniel Cradle, Mr. Zach Hochstadt, Ms. Janice Sinden and Ms. Susan Steele

**Members (Zoom):** Mr. Chris Daues (Treasurer), Ms. Jennifer Luke and Councilwoman Amanda Sandoval

**Members not in attendance:** Ms. Anne Rowe (Secretary) and Ms. Amber Münck

**Staff (In Person):** Ms. Nayely Avila, Ms. Irene Bonham, Ms. Ellen Braun, Dr. Cristal Cisneros, Ms. Diana Herrera, Ms. Elsa Holguín, Mr. Chris Miller and Ms. Carley Noerr

**Guests (In Person):** Mr. Rhett Gutierrez

**Guests (Zoom):** Ms. Priscilla Hopkins and Mr. Zaki Robbins

Agenda Topic	Discussion	Action/Follow-Up/Decision
<b>Call to Order and Welcome</b>	<b><u>Call to Order and Welcome</u></b>	
<b>Consent Agenda (For Approval)</b>	<p><b><u>Consent Agenda (For Approval)</u></b>            Dr. Prado presented the Consent Agenda for approval, highlighting the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• June 20, 2023 Board of Directors Minutes</li> <li>• May 2023, Financial Statements</li> <li>• June 2023, Financial Statements</li> <li>• Financeologist, LLC</li> <li>• Parent Possible – HIPPY</li> <li>• QualAudit</li> </ul>	Mr. Baker motioned to approve the consent agenda, Ms. Sinden seconded; All in favor, motion approved.
<b>How the Budget Works Presentation</b>	<p><b><u>How the Budget Works Presentation</u></b>            Ms. Braun presented the How the Budget Works Presentation, highlighting the following:</p> <p><b>Approved by a Ballot Initiative:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2006 - .12% city sales tax</li> <li>• 2014 - .15% city sales tax</li> <li>• Each year's funding is based on Denver Revenue Projections</li> <li>• The current 2023 sales and use tax appropriation is \$30,720,920</li> <li>• The estimated 2024 sales and use tax appropriation is \$31,432,153</li> </ul>	

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	<p><b>How Funds Arrive</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The City of Denver divides its total annual revenue forecast into 12 equal payments and distributes them monthly to DPP.</li> <li>• Payments are made in the calendar year.</li> </ul> <p><b>City of Denver and DPP</b> The City of Denver sets annual allocations based on a sales tax projection. Funding is reconciled in the spring following the end of a calendar year. For the Calendar year 2022, Denver’s revenue forecast for DPP was exceeded by \$4,036,059 dollars. This amount was transferred to DPP in June, 2023.</p> <p><b>The Future of DPP</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following recommendation from the Board and DPP’s Communications Committee, a rebranding campaign will need to occur</li> <li>• As the State Universal Preschool Funding better supports 4-year-old children, DPP will have the opportunity to more deeply support our younger children.</li> <li>• It is clear that the early childhood workforce will continue to need deepened support. This includes recruitment, retention, and increased mental health support.</li> <li>• As the organization evolves and lives out our strategic plan, support to address preschool deserts and licensed capacity will be crucial.</li> </ul> <p><b>DPP and Denver Public Schools</b> For the 2021-2022 program year, DPP evolved our work with DPS and extended a grant to the ECE department to support Denver families' enrollment and eligibility intostate and preschool tax tuition support. The organization will review this possibility for a 2022-2023 grant in the upcoming months.</p> <p><b>Budget Development</b> DPP Develops Budget Recommendation Based On:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historical Revenue</li> <li>• Revenue Forecast</li> <li>• Historical Spending</li> <li>• Population Data</li> <li>• Enrollment Data</li> <li>• Strategic Planning</li> </ul> <p>DPP Finance and Governance reviews and makes recommendations. DPP full Board of Directors approves final budget.</p>	

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	<p><b>Hybrid Financial Reporting Method</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Accrual Accounting</u> - revenues are reported on the Budget vs. Actual Statement when earned and expenses are matched with the related revenues and/or are notified when the expense occurs, not when the expense is paid.</li> <li>• <u>Cash Accounting</u> - revenues are reported on the Budget vs. Actual Statement when the cash is received and expenses when they are paid.</li> <li>• <u>DPP utilizes a hybrid model</u> – DPP records two large liability accruals for the Tuition Credit and portions of the Quality Improvement commitments. Budget vs. Actual statements presented reflect actual expenses incurred. The statement of financial position and annual audit are reflected on a pure accrual basis.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>2023-2024 Budget (For Approval)</b></p>	<p><b>2023-2024 Budget (For Approval)</b>  Ms. Braun presented the 2023-2024 Budget, for approval, highlighting the following:</p> <p>The following budget and narratives reflect current programs and administration expenses. This budget has been submitted to the Office of Children’s Affairs and the City Finance Office.</p> <p><b>Overview</b>  The City of Denver projects the DPP revenue for calendar year 2024 to be \$31.432 million. The 2023 calendar year appropriation is \$30.391 million. Four months of the 2023 City revenue and eight months of the projected 2024 City revenue is \$31.085 million. We will reference this revenue figure as program year City revenue. Realized Income reflected in the proposed budget is program year City revenue less the estimated 2023 reconciliation due to the City of \$457,369 for a total of \$30.628 million.</p> <p>As of July 2023, the City estimates actual sales tax collections for calendar year 2023 to be 1.5% lower. If this projection remains true it would result in a payment due to the City from DPP of \$457,369. This figure will be finalized in the spring of 2024.</p> <p>DPP projects a total program expense of \$26.941 million and an administrative expense of \$1.890 million. This represents 92.7% of total program year City revenue. The proposed budget reflects \$2.209 million to reserves. This intentionally funds our strategic plan initiatives, supporting purposeful deep investment in the community and providing for future growth and development.</p> <p>DPP anticipates utilizing \$3.362 million of Board Designated Reserve to fund a portion of the 3-year-old Tuition Credit Pilot and DPP Scholarships in the 2023-2024 program year.</p>	

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	<p>Total Program Expense accounts for 86.7% of program year City revenue.</p> <p>Administration Expense accounts for 6.1% of program year City revenue, under the 7.0% cap identified in the City contract.</p> <p>Other Revenue reflects a proposed budget of \$411,700 for interest earnings on Reserves.</p> <p><b>Sales Tax Revenue</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The City has forecast \$31.432 million for DPP in 2024, a 3.4% increase from the 2023 appropriation of \$30.391 million.</li> <li>• The proposed budget reflects a program year budget. September 2023 through December 2023 revenue is based on the appropriation for 2023. January 2024 through August 2024 revenue is based on the City’s forecast for 2024.</li> <li>• The City forecasts a 2023 reconciliation of \$457,369 due from DPP to the City as of July 2023.</li> </ul> <p><b>Tuition Credit System</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Tuition Credit System utilizing purely in-year City revenue is budgeted at \$19.413 million (62.5% of program year City revenue).</li> <li>• DPP approved and published its 2023-2024 tuition credit scale on March 21, 2023. The DPS cap for the 2023-2024 program year is \$9.264 million. Program year tuition credits for 4-year-olds are budgeted at \$17.459 million. The scale reflects a 6.5% increase in tuition credit funding over the 2022-2023 program year scale forecast.</li> </ul> <p><b>Quality Improvement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total Quality Improvement (QI) is budgeted at \$3.764 million (12.1% of program year City revenue).</li> <li>• The contract portion of the quality improvement budget is the sum of three contracts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Clayton Early Learning</li> <li>○ Denver’s Early Childhood Council</li> <li>○ Mile High Early Learning.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• To maintain consistency in Quality Improvement services many major QI line items remain the same as their 2022-2023 amounts.</li> <li>• Mental Health Supports reflects initial funding for innovative and pilot activities.</li> <li>• Substitute Funding Pool is to support increased access and reduced financial burden for providers who need substitute coverage.</li> </ul>	

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	<p><b>Enrollment and Customer Service</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrollment and Customer Service is budgeted at \$1.221 million (3.9% of program year City revenue). The budget is driven by the MetrixIQ contract, which oversees DPP application and tuition credit processing as well as the development of the DPP tuition credit scale and on-call consulting services.</li> <li>• MetrixIQ also administers the DPP Scholarships and the 3-year-old Tuition Credit Pilot. This is the first year the administration of these programs will be funded by in-year revenue and accounts for the increase in line item spending year-over-year.</li> </ul> <p><b>Evaluation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total Evaluation is budgeted at \$985,930 (3.2% of program year City revenue).</li> <li>• The budget reflects a continued emphasis on the evaluation of child outcomes, longitudinal student outcomes, operations evaluation and a newly added workforce evaluation.</li> <li>• The evaluation contracts underwent an RFP process at the conclusion of the 2021-2022 program year, seeking four project components. Contracts were awarded in July 2022 and this budget reflects the agreed-upon contracts approved by the Board of Directors in August 2022.</li> <li>• The Quality Assurance contract went through an RFP process in 2023. A contract is in negotiation with QualAudit.</li> </ul> <p><b>Community Outreach</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total Community Outreach is budgeted at \$1.246 million (4.0% of program year City revenue).</li> <li>• The 2023-2024 communications strategy includes a deep investment of public awareness. This will consist of an increase in grassroots outreach efforts and media buying.</li> <li>• Contractors account for 50.7% of the community outreach budget, and targeted projects such as marketing and events account for 49.3% of the budget. Targeted projects are higher than in previous years due to a focus for the 2023-2024 program year to increase DPP's visibility in the community and the return of in-person events.</li> <li>• Contract hourly means work completed by organizations with which DPP has a formal contract, while non-contract hourly accounts for materials, events, marketing and other outreach initiatives not connected to a formal contract.</li> <li>• Contracts for Gomez Howard Group and Elementive Marketing began January 1, 2019. DPP has elected to exercise its second option to extend, extending their contracts to December 31, 2023.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current contracts go through December 31, 2023. The remaining eight months of the program year are estimations as we are revamping the contract strategy.</li> <li>• Non-contract hourly includes paid advertising, photography, website expenses, printing and mailings costs, and community outreach events.</li> </ul> <p><b>Other Outside Contract Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total Other Outside Contract Services are budgeted at \$310,315 (1.0% of program year City revenue) and include RFP support, a partnership to support alternative pathways to preschools, program support, and partnerships with the Denver Public Library.</li> <li>• An additional expense line totaling \$200,000 is included in the budget proposal. This Program Support – Undefined will allow the organization to implement pilot projects and be agile in supporting the changing early childhood environment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Administrative Expense</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administrative Expense is budgeted at \$1.890 million, 6.1% of program year City revenue. The City contract sets an administrative cap of 7.0% of actual sales tax collections.</li> <li>• Each area of administration is impacted by the Colorado Department of Early Childhood (CDEC) contract. This contract pays for a small calculated portion of rent, certain full-time employees, and certain operational expenses. These expenses are offset proportionally.</li> <li>• Administration is comprised of three areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Payroll</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Payroll and benefits expenses make up 65.6% of the total proposed Administration budget.</li> <li>▪ Payroll expenses reflect one full time and one half time new mid-level positions, in addition to an annual salary increase for existing staff.</li> <li>▪ Health insurance expense budgets for an estimated 10% increase. Dental, vision, disability, and life insurance expense budgets for an estimated 3% increase. All increases are effective June 2024.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Operations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Operations make up 30.0% of the total Administration budget.</li> <li>▪ Operations includes accounting fees, the DPP Business Manager/Bookkeeper, auditor, administrative outside contract services, computer expense, insurance, legal fees,</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

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	<p>meetings, mileage, postage, printing, supplies, telephones, training, books and subscriptions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Administrative outside contract services budget includes funds for strategic planning and equity work, a part-time contract financial and human resources support.</li> <li>▪ Business insurance is budgeted at a 10% increase beginning in May 2024.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Facilities and Equipment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Facilities and equipment make up 4.4% of the total Administration budget and includes expenses for equipment purchases, equipment rental and maintenance, and rent and utilities.</li> <li>▪ The current lease expires December 2026, with a clause to extend upon mutual agreement. This budget reflects the historical increase of 1.5% beginning April 2024.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Other Revenue Interest Income</b>  On February 18, 2020, the Board of Directors approved an Investment Policy, to be reviewed annually, to provide a clear statement of the program’s investment objectives. Following the implementation of this policy, DPP began investing in an Insured Cash Sweep (ICS). Reserves interest is budgeted at \$411,700. As of July 2023, the initial purpose and objectives of the Investment committee were discussed.</p> <p><b>State Contract Income</b>  DPP is contracted with CDEC at \$365,776 for a program year of July 2023 through June 2024. The contract amount that corresponds with DPP’s City program year is \$304,862.</p> <p><b>Board Designated Project Allocations</b>  This budget reflects expense to be paid out of DPP’s Reserves of current approved reserve funded projects. Total Designated Reserve is budgeted at \$3.362 million.</p> <p><b>Preschool for 3s Pilot</b>  The 2-year pilot program supporting 3-year-old children through a tuition support mechanism began September 2021. At the April 18, 2023 meeting, the Board approved a \$3.260 million total budget for tuition credits and administrative costs, which includes a \$2.065 million allocation from the Reserve to serve up to 400 students for its second year, the 2023-2024 program year. The tuition credits align with the approved 4-year-old scale.</p> <p><b>DPP Scholarships</b></p>	

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	<p>The 3-year pilot DPP Scholarship program’s final year ended August 2022. At the June 20, 2023 meeting, the Board approved a \$2.355 million total budget for tuition credits and administrative costs, which includes a \$1.297 million allocation from the Reserve for the continuation of the DPP Scholarship program beyond the pilot stage for the 2023-2024 program year to serve up to 345 students.</p> <p>Ms. Steele asked what process was used to calculate increases for staff positions.</p> <p>Ms. Holguín noted the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), industry standards (both for- and non-profit organizations) and merit increases.</p>	<p>Ms. Brown motioned to approve the 2023-2024 Budget, Ms. Steele seconded; All in favor, motion approved.</p>
<p><b>2023-2024 Reserves Policy</b> <i>(For Approval)</i></p>	<p><b>2023-2024 Reserves Policy</b> <i>(For Approval)</i></p> <p>Ms. Braun presented the 2023-2024 Reserves Policy, for approval, highlighting the following:</p> <p><b>Reserves Purpose</b></p> <p>The DPP reserve target is designed to give the organization adequate funds to weather economic downturns (recessions or failed renewal) while adhering to the principles listed below. It is designed to provide needed funding to maintain program offerings at current levels while ensuring adequate organizational capacity to deliver programming in a quality and effective manner.</p> <p>DPP’s reserve policy is based on lessons learned from past fluctuations in data and seeks to meet the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DPP will be in a financial position to prevent the organization from reducing tuition credit support to families or shortening the program year (eliminating summer).</li> <li>• DPP will have adequate resources to run and maintain an effective, efficient, and high-quality program for Denver preschoolers and their families.</li> <li>• Should DPP not be renewed in 2026, DPP will be able to provide services for the 2026-2027 school year, close down the program, complete the final audit, and ensure continued longitudinal student evaluation through the high school graduation of the last child to attend preschool through DPP.</li> <li>• DPP will designate funds, after both operating and administrative reserves are fully funded, to develop new initiatives as needed to maintain adequate services for our community.</li> </ul> <p><b>Long-Term Reserve – Program Wind Down:</b></p>	



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	<p>The Program Wind Down Reserve is defined as the approximate amount needed to cover core program and administrative costs if DPP’s revenue ceases at the conclusion of a calendar year. This reserve should also include the necessary funds for proper transfer/storage of multi-year evaluation data.</p> <p>The Program Wind Down reserve would equal eight months of the tuition support system and quality improvement dollars, administrative expenses aligned with our 7 percent allocation, data storage/transfer, and any transition costs estimated at \$500,000.</p> <p><b>Exhibit A – 2023-2024 Reserve Target</b>  <u>Long-Term Reserve – Program Wind Down</u>  The Program Wind Down reserve would equal eight months of tuition support for 4-year-olds, tuition support for the Preschool for 3s cohort, Scholarships and quality improvement dollars, totaling \$17.693 million for 2023-2024, administrative expenses in alignment with our 7 percent allocation, totaling \$1.239 million plus data storage/transfer and any transition costs estimated at \$500,000 for an approximate total of \$19.431 million (+/- 10 percent).</p>	<p>Mr. Baker motioned to approve the 2023-2024 Reserves Policy, Mr. Hochstadt seconded; All in favor, motion approved.</p>
<p><b>2023-2024 Quality Improvement Framework (For Approval)</b></p>	<p><b><u>2023-2024 Quality Improvement Framework (For Approval)</u></b>  Mr. Miller presented the 2023-2024 Quality Improvement Framework for approval, highlighting the following:</p> <p><b>Overview</b>  The Denver Preschool Program (DPP) annually invests 10 to 14 percent of its program budget into quality improvement (QI) for its contracted providers. This investment encompasses the execution of DPP’s QI framework, which currently primarily includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coaching and professional development</li> <li>• Quality improvement grant funding</li> <li>• Achievement awards</li> <li>• Scholarships to improve assistant teacher qualifications</li> <li>• Colorado Shines Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) and Professional Development Information System (PDIS) technical assistance</li> <li>• Strengthening Grants</li> <li>• Educator stipends</li> </ul> <p><b>For the 2023-2024 school year, DPP’s Quality Initiative Committee has recommended the following priorities for the QI Framework:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In light of the massive changes providers are experiencing due to Colorado’s Universal Preschool Program (UPK), the QI Committee recommended stability for DPP’s QI Framework for next school year</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain existing rating requirements for 2023-2024 and stay closely attuned to the to-be-determined UPK rating requirements the Colorado Department of Early Childhood (CDEC) will finalize before the 2024-2025 UPK school year</li> <li>• Continue the QI grant model that distributes funds to DPP providers to support expenses such as professional development, classroom learning materials/supplies, educator stipends/bonuses, rent/utilities and other operating expenses</li> <li>• DPP should maintain focus on language acquisition, social-emotional health, COVID-19 impacts on child development/kindergarten readiness, and wellness/self-care during coaching and professional development sessions</li> <li>• DPP should continue utilizing an equity lens when determining QI resource allocations</li> <li>• DPP should support sites in preventing educator burnout, recruiting a diverse pool of educators, and having increased access to Early Childhood Teacher-qualified staff, substitute teachers, mental health resources and livable wages/benefits for educators</li> </ul> <p><b>Mental Health Resources</b>  The QI Committee discussed this topic at length and stressed that while this is a major issue that DPP cannot address on our own, there is importance to pilot several different types of supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some schools have already been implementing effective mental health resources for their educators/children and need funding to support/enhance/continue their programs</li> <li>• Other schools that have not yet had the time or resources to offer mental health supports need more guidance and funding to offer these resources to their staff</li> </ul> <p>Mental health resources could include items such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanding early childhood mental health consultation</li> <li>• Coaching and professional development on self-care, mindfulness and burnout prevention</li> <li>• Providing access to outdoor activities to support healing</li> <li>• Counseling/therapy services to support navigating grief, loss and trauma</li> <li>• Supports to improve working conditions such as time off, planning time and staff break room improvements</li> </ul> <p><b>Request for Approval</b></p>	<p>Mr. Hochstadt motioned to approve the 2023-2024 Quality Improvement</p>

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	<p>The Denver Preschool Program staff is presenting the 2023-2024 Quality Improvement Framework Priority Recommendations for review and approval as outlined above.</p> <p>Following recommendation from the Finance and Governance Committee, this is being presented to the full DPP Board of Directors.</p> <p><b>Projected 2023-2024 QI Budget</b> DPP staff projects a QI budget of \$ 3,762,699 for September 1, 2023, to August 31, 2024, 12.0% of DPP’s total budget.</p>	<p>Framework Priority Recommendations, Mr. Baker seconded; All in favor, motion approved.</p>
<p><b>2023-2024 Contracts (For Approval)</b></p>	<p><b>2023-2024 Contracts (For Approval)</b> Mr. Miller presented 2023-2024 Contracts, for approval, highlighting the following:</p> <p><b>Denver’s Early Childhood Council</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contract Type: Existing Contract</li> <li>• Term: Two (2) Years (September 2021 – August 2023), with three (3) options to extend the Agreement for one year each</li> <li>• Term Year 1: September 1, 2021 – August 31, 2022, \$663,945 Not-to-Exceed Budget</li> <li>• Term Year 2: September 1, 2022 – August 31, 2023, \$689,563 Not-to-Exceed budget</li> <li>• Term Year 3: September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024, \$734,381 Not-to-Exceed Budget request</li> <li>• Total Not-to-Exceed Budget for Year 1 through Year 3: \$2,087,889</li> </ul> <p><u>Contract Overview</u> DPP contracts with Denver’s Early Childhood Council to provide a range of quality initiatives services in support of Denver Preschool Program’s QI Framework and strategy as outlined below. DPP is electing to exercise its first option to extend the term of the Agreement from September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024, referred to as Term Year 3.</p> <p><u>Request for Approval</u> The Denver Preschool Program staff is presenting the Denver’s Early Childhood Council’s not-to-exceed budget utilizing DPP preschool tax, as outlined above, for review and approval.</p> <p>Following a recommendation from the Finance and Governance Committee, this is being presented to the full DPP Board of Directors.</p>	<p>Ms. Brown motioned to approve the 2023-2024 Denver’s Early Childhood Council not-to-exceed budget utilizing DPP preschool tax, as outlined, Mr. Baker seconded; All in favor, motion approved.</p>

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	<p><u>Additional Request for Approval Utilizing Colorado Department of Early Childhood Funding</u>  The Denver Preschool Program staff is also presenting a \$10,000 budget for Denver’s Early Childhood Council utilizing Colorado Department of Early Childhood (CDEC) funding through DPP’s Colorado Universal Preschool (UPK) Local Coordinating Organization (LCO) contract with CDEC for the Board’s consideration. If approved, Denver’s Early Childhood Council would use this CDEC funding to provide coaching, training, business management supports and/or QI navigation support on UPK topics to Denver preschool providers.</p> <p><b>Clayton Early Learning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contract Type: Existing Contract</li> <li>• Term: Two (2) Years (September 2021 – August 2023), with three (3) options to extend the</li> <li>• Agreement for one year each</li> <li>• Term Year 1: September 1, 2021 – August 31, 2022, \$767,316 Not-to-Exceed Budget</li> <li>• Term Year 2: September 1, 2022 – August 31, 2023, \$714,781 Not-to-Exceed Budget</li> <li>• Term Year 3: September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024, \$759,583 Not-to-Exceed Budget request</li> <li>• Total Not-to-Exceed Budget for Year 1 through Year 3: \$2,241,680</li> </ul> <p><u>Contract Overview</u>  DPP contracts with Clayton Early Learning to provide professional learning communities, professional development trainings and customized coaching for directors and teachers on early childhood education best practice. DPP is electing to exercise its first option to extend the term of the Agreement from September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024, referred to as Term Year 3.</p> <p><u>Request for Approval</u>  The Denver Preschool Program staff is presenting the Clayton Early Learning Contract not-to-exceed budget utilizing DPP preschool tax, as outlined above, for review and approval.</p> <p>Following a recommendation from the Finance and Governance Committee, this is being presented to the full DPP Board of Directors.</p>	<p>Ms. Brown motioned to approve the 2023-2024 Clayton Early Learning Contract not-to-exceed budget utilizing DPP preschool tax, as outlined, Mr. Baker seconded; All in favor, motion approved.</p>
<p><b>Proposition ii: Preschool for All Coloradans</b></p>	<p><b><u>Proposition ii: Preschool for All Coloradans</u></b>  Ms. Holguín presented Proposition ii: Preschool for All Coloradans, highlighting the following:</p> <p><b>What was Prop EE?</b></p>	

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	<p>In 2020, Colorado’s legislature referred Proposition EE to the voters via HB20-1427 with a bipartisan vote. In November 2020, Colorado voters overwhelmingly approved Proposition EE, which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased existing taxes on tobacco and instituted a new tax on other nicotine products, generating approximately \$275 million per year for public health and education priorities.</li> <li>• Dedicated the first two years of funding to affordable housing and rural public schools.</li> <li>• After those first two years, ensured that the revenue funded tobacco and nicotine cessation initiatives and a new statewide, voluntary universal preschool program that serves Colorado kids through community and school district-run programs.</li> <li>• Invested in K-12 readiness by providing all Colorado kids access to preschool the year before kindergarten.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Problem</b>  Proposition EE is bringing in more revenue than was estimated in the Blue Book revenue analysis in 2020. Colorado’s Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights (TABOR) requires that voters approve the state’s retention of the excess revenue. If Proposition ii doesn’t pass, Colorado will have to refund the \$23.65 million inequitably, primarily to tobacco wholesalers and retailers. This will result in less money to spend on universal preschool.</p> <p>The Board and Staff reviewed a list of current Proposition ii endorsements. Some of which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gary Community Ventures</li> <li>• Spring Institute for Intercultural Learning</li> <li>• Early Childhood Council of Larimer County</li> <li>• Colorado Children’s Campaign</li> <li>• Parent Possible</li> <li>• Executives Partnering to Invest in Children</li> <li>• Bright by Text</li> <li>• Clayton Early Learning</li> </ul>	<p>Ms. Sinden motioned to approve Denver Preschool Program’s non-financial endorsement of Proposition ii: Preschool for All Coloradans ballot initiative, Mr. Hochstadt seconded; All in favor, motion approved.</p>
<p><b>President’s Update</b></p>	<p><b>President’s Update</b>  Ms. Holguín presented the President’s Update, highlighting the following:</p> <p><b>Strategic Plan Visual</b>  Mr. Bonham distributed copies of the new Strategic Plan visual, full narrative and executive summary.</p>	

Agenda Topic	Discussion	Action/Follow-Up/Decision
	<p><b>Board of Directors</b> DPP currently has thirteen active Board Members. Two new potential members are presently in the application and approval process at the City.</p> <p>DPP will implement a Board Mentorship Program to support onboarding new board members.</p> <p><b>Upcoming DPP Events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuesday, September 19, 2023 – DPP Board of Directors Meeting</li> <li>• Thursday, September 28, 2023 – Provider Appreciation Event</li> <li>• Tuesday, October 17, 2023 – DPP Board of Directors Meeting</li> <li>• Wednesday, November 29, 2023 – Board of Directors Retreat</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Community Updates</b></p>	<p><b>Community Updates</b> Dr. Prado opened the floor for updates from community members.</p> <p>Ms. Priscilla Hopkins of Denver Public Schools highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DPS looks forward to the beginning of the new school year next week.</li> <li>• Ms. Hopkins noted the enrollment frustrations that parents are facing and the support DPS is offering them through the process.</li> </ul> <p>Mr. Cradle noted the difference in enrollment numbers from the beginning of this Program Year versus that of previous years.</p>	
<p><b>Adjourn</b></p>	<p><b>Adjourn</b></p>	<p>Ms. Brown motioned to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Baker seconded; All in favor, motion approved.</p>

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

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Anne Rowe, Secretary