WHEREAS, the Board of Education of School District No. 1 in the City and County of Denver, State of Colorado (“Board of Education”), has adopted the Denver Plan 2020 to ensure at least 80% of Denver students will attend a high-performing school by 2020;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education seeks to respond to the strategic needs identified by the Denver Public Schools, in collaboration with students, parents/guardians, and community members, to continue high-performing school options and launch new high-quality schools;

WHEREAS, on June 20, 2013, the Board of Education approved DSST Middle School VII as a new school following a quality review by the District and the gathering of community input, including public comment, for which reasonable notice was provided;

WHEREAS, in February 2015, the Board of Education passed the Facility Allocation Policy (Policy AG), which establishes criteria to govern facility use decisions in Denver Public Schools (“District”);

WHEREAS, in May 2015, the District issued a Supplement to the 2015 Call for New Quality Schools in which it requested placement applications from providers seeking to serve as the replacement provider for Henry World School, an underperforming middle school in the Southwest Middle School Enrollment Zone;

WHEREAS, on July 22, 2015, the District received a placement application from DSST Middle School VII, in which it sought to serve as the replacement provider for Henry World School and to be placed at the Henry facility, beginning in fall 2016;

WHEREAS, on July 22, 2015, the District received a new school application for Bear Valley International School (“BVIS”), which included a placement application in which the new school sought to serve as the replacement provider for Henry World School and to be placed at the Henry facility, beginning in fall 2016;

WHEREAS, from May through September 2015, the District convened a Thought Partner Group to provide feedback on the strengths and weaknesses of the placement applications including DSST Middle School VII and BVIS;
WHEREAS, between July and September 2015, a Placement Review Team convened to review the quality of the placement applications and to provide a body of evidence to inform a placement recommendation to the Board of Education in alignment with the criteria of Policy AG;

WHEREAS, on September 15, 2015, the Thought Partner Group presented its findings to the Board of Education;

WHEREAS, on September 17, 2015, the Board of Education approved BVIS as a new school following a quality review by the District and the gathering of community input, including public comment, for which reasonable notice was provided;

WHEREAS, on September 22, 2015, the District hosted a community meeting to gain community feedback on placement applicants including DSST Middle School VII and BVIS;

WHEREAS, on October 8, 2015, the District staff presented evidence to the Board of Education related to placement applicants and recommended that BVIS be selected as the replacement provider for Henry World School and be placed at the Henry facility, beginning in fall 2016.

WHEREAS, on October 8, 2015, the District also presented as an alternative scenario the co-location of BVIS and DSST Middle School VII at the Henry facility;

WHEREAS, on October 12, 2015, after giving public notice, the Board of Education held a public hearing in which the Applicants and other interested parties could provide information regarding the District’s recommendation as well as the alternative scenario for co-location of BVIS and DSST Middle School VII at the Henry facility beginning in fall 2016;

WHEREAS, on October 15, 2015, the Board of Education engaged in public deliberations at its regularly scheduled meeting;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The Board of Education hereby directs staff to place BVIS as a District-run school in the Henry facility, serving students in the Southwest Middle School Enrollment Zone, starting in the 2016-2017 school year with a 6th grade class and adding one additional grade per year until the school serves grades 6-8. Such placement shall be contingent upon the following expectations:

1. Shared Campus
a. BVIS, as a District-run school, is subject to the District’s Shared Campus Policy FN;

2. Placement Application Commitments

a. BVIS shall fulfill the commitments it made as part of its application for placement at the Henry facility, including its commitment to meet or exceed requirements for Native Language Supports for English Language Learners.

The Board of Education hereby directs staff to negotiate a facility placement of DSST Middle School VII in the Henry facility, serving students in the Southwest Middle School Enrollment Zone, whereby DSST Middle School VII shall serve 6th grade students at the Henry facility in 2016-2017 and adding one additional grade per year until the school serves grades 6-8 at the Henry facility.

Such placement shall be contingent upon the following conditions:

1. Shared Campus

a. DSST Middle School VII shall be subject to the District’s Shared Campus Policy FN.

2. Placement Application Commitments

a. DSST Middle School VII shall fulfill the commitments it made as part of its application for placement at the Henry facility, including its commitment to meet or exceed requirements for Native Language Supports for English Language Learners.

Because these conditions are necessary for DSST VII’s operations to be in the best interest of the students, Board of Education, District, and community, failure to satisfy any of the above conditions, which are material to the approval of the placement, constitutes grounds for revocation of the conditional placement.

District staff is authorized to negotiate and take any reasonable action(s) necessary to facilitate said placements.

Allegra “Happy” Haynes, President

Rosemary Rodriguez, Secretary