



Mill Bond Oversight Ad Hoc Committee (MBOC)
Special Meeting
Wednesday, August 26, 2026
Meeting Minutes
Legacy Campus Rm 385

Voting Members (X indicates in attendance • indicates absent)

X	Joe Robinson, Chair	X	Mark Brown
X	Vincent Lynn, Vice Chair	X	Serena Hendon
X	Vanessa Hoffman, Secretary	X	Tariro Goronga
X	Chandra Shekar	*	Scarlett Marrone
X	Dan Smith	X	Travis Slack
X	Dave Usechek	X	Lisa Sherpa
X	Lenaya Dotseth	*	Gabbie Damkoehler

Non-Voting Members

X	Valerie Thompson, BOE Director	*	Drew Phelps, Director of Budget
X	Clark Callahan, BOE Director	X	Robyn Riches, Administrative Asst to COO
X	Jackie Millet, Chief Operations Officer	X	Christy Ortiz, Administrative Asst to CFO
X	Jana Schleusner, Chief Financial Officer		
*	Eric McCain, Director of Construction		

Guests

X	Matt Wilhem, Wember		

Call to Order | Chair Joe Robinson

MBOC Chair Joe Robinson officially called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Roll call was taken.

November MLO Ballot Measure Open Discussion | Superintendent Erin Kane

MBOC Chair Joe Robinson introduced Superintendent Erin Kane, who presented the 2026 Mill Levy Override (MLO) Proposal Recap. She announced that the Board of Education voted unanimously (7-0) to place the MLO measure on the upcoming ballot, then opened the floor for committee questions.

A committee member relayed a question on behalf of Cimarron students regarding bus driver shortages, noting that some students must walk up to three miles each way with heavy backpacks. The member shared three potential solutions proposed by the students. Superintendent Kane commended the students for their proactive ideas and outlined the district's ongoing efforts to address hiring challenges. She emphasized that driver shortages are a nationwide labor market issue rather than a budgetary constraint. She added that route scheduling is especially challenging at the start of the school year and typically stabilizes within a few weeks as the district continues to explore alternative solutions.

In response to a query regarding a negative text message campaign targeting the MLO, Superintendent Kane noted the difficulty in directly countering anonymous messages. Instead, the district is focusing on proactive outreach through informational postcards, social media updates, and volunteer door-to-door canvassing.

A committee member inquired about maxing out the district's mills. Superintendent Kane reviewed school funding mechanics (referencing slide 15 of the presentation), explained the various types of MLOs, and clarified that no additional general MLOs would be pursued if this measure passes.

Addressing a question regarding why DCSD's School Finance Act allocation remains lower than neighboring districts, Superintendent Kane explained that funding levels depend heavily on specific district demographics, such as Free and Reduced Lunch eligibility rates.

Asked how simultaneous MLO ballot initiatives in Jefferson County and Littleton might impact starting salary comparisons, Superintendent Kane explained that passing voter measures in neighboring districts makes matching starting pay difficult, but DCSD aims to remain as competitive as possible.

A member inquired about TABOR funding initiatives and whether DCSD would delay action until after the election. Superintendent Kane explained the two ballot initiatives and their potential operational impacts on district funding.

During a brief discussion on effective MLO messaging, Superintendent Kane offered to speak directly with interested community members and encouraged the committee to forward constituent questions to her via email.

A committee member commended the checkmark signage placed at school sites, noting its effectiveness as an informational talking point for community voters without school-aged children.

Regarding strategies to engage Douglas County's aging demographic, Superintendent Kane stated that the district maintains consistent year-round outreach to community groups regardless of whether an active initiative is on the ballot.

A brief clarification was provided regarding the Fair Campaign Practices Act.

Superintendent Kane concluded the discussion by highlighting a current challenge with the Town of Castle Rock concerning designated, unused school land, encouraging committee members to review the recording of the recent Board of Education meeting for further context.

Report of Online Minutes Vote Results

Vanessa Hoffman reported the minutes from the 6/17/26 meeting were approved with 7 "yes" votes and 6 no responses.

Chair Comments | Chair Joe Robinson

Chair Joe Robinson invited COO Jackie Millet to introduce her new administrative assistant, Robyn Riches, who shared a brief overview of her background in DCSD. COO Millet also reported that Bond Manager Katie Van Kooten accepted a state-level position and that the district will soon post the job opening for a new Bond Director. Christy Ortiz, the new Administrative Assistant to the CFO, was also introduced and shared her professional background in DCSD.

Introduction of New Committee Member: Vice-Chair Vincent Lynn

Vice-chair Vincent Lynn welcomed Lisa Sherpa as a voting member of the MBOC after her formal approval at the Board of Education meeting on January 25, 2026.

New Bond Project Recommendations | COO Jackie Millet & CFO Jana Schleusner

CFO Jana Schleusner presented the "MBOC Recommended New Projects" and "MBOC Project Recommendation General Fund" documents (linked on the agenda), detailing the underlying financial structure. She proposed that the MBOC recommend both measures to the Board of Education for formal approval. Following a brief Q&A session:

- Lenaya Dotseth moved to recommend that the BOE approve reimbursing the General Fund in the amount of \$5,887,900. The motion was seconded by Dan Smith and passed unanimously.

- Dan Smith moved to recommend that the BOE fund the new projects using bond premium and interest funds totaling \$8,649,900. The motion was seconded by Dave Usecheck and passed unanimously.

Bond Update | COO Jackie Millet & CFO Jana Schleusner

CFO Jana Schleusner presented the "2024 Bond Report 6.30.26" linked on the agenda. She detailed staff efforts to refine the document to provide clearer breakdowns of budget variances (overages and underages) as requested by the committee. She apologized for the delayed distribution and noted that the report will be emailed alongside a Google Form, allowing members to submit questions for staff to answer via email.

Update on Aug 25, 2026 BOE Presentation | Chair Joe Robinson

Chair Joe Robinson presented the "Final 8/25/26 MBOC Annual Report" linked on the agenda. He noted that the presentation was well-received by the Board of Education, highlighting their appreciation for slides detailing dollar allocations and project completion percentages. Director Callahan confirmed that the board's feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

Election of Officers for the 26-27 & 27-28 School Year | Vice Chair Vincent Lynn

Chair Joe Robinson noted that this marks his eighth year on the MBOC and announced that while he will remain an active committee member, he is stepping down as Chair. He shared that Vincent Lynn was nominated for the Chair position and opened the floor for additional nominations. Hearing none, Joe Robinson moved to elect Vincent Lynn as MBOC Chair; the motion was seconded by Travis Slack and passed unanimously.

Vincent Lynn noted that Vanessa Hoffman was willing to continue as Secretary and opened the floor for further nominations. Hearing none, Joe Robinson moved to re-elect Vanessa Hoffman as Secretary; the motion was seconded by Dave Usecheck and passed unanimously.

Vincent Lynn informed the committee that the Vice Chair position remained open and emphasized the importance of filling the role. Serena Hendon volunteered for the position. Vanessa Hoffman moved to elect Serena Hendon as Vice Chair; the motion was seconded by Dan Smith and passed unanimously.

Following the officer elections, a brief discussion was held regarding leadership terms. It was decided that committee liaisons would serve one-year terms. Lenaya Dotseth (DAC) and Serena Hendon (LRPC) were reappointed as their respective committee representatives. Dan Smith noted that because the FOC had not yet met, his continued representation remains pending. Committee commitment dates will be distributed via email.

Committee Updates | Committee Liaisons

DAC: Lenaya Dotseth reported that the DAC passed a resolution supporting the MLO ballot measure. She noted that a new board was elected and has committed to livestreaming spring meetings, with a long-term decision on streaming to follow.

LRPC: Serena Hendon reported that the committee received an update on new district inventory reporting software, expressing optimism regarding its implementation. The LRPC also passed a resolution supporting the MLO. Additionally, a special meeting was called for Monday to address the ongoing Castle Rock land issue.

FOC: Dan Smith had no updates, as the FOC's initial meeting is scheduled for September 10.

Board of Education Updates | Director Valerie Thompson and Director Clark Callahan

Director Callahan reported that the Board of Education voted 7-0 to place the MLO on the ballot. He noted that the Board also voted unanimously to guarantee staff a 4% salary increase if the measure passes. A recommendation was made to review the implementation plan at the next meeting following a successful vote. He added that the Board discussed the Town of Castle Rock land ordinance.

Comments from the Chair | Chair Vincent Lynn

Incoming Chair Vincent Lynn formally recognized Joe Robinson for his dedicated leadership, expressing gratitude for his years of service as Chair and welcoming his continued presence as a committee member.

Addressing a query regarding an MBOC resolution in support of the MLO, the committee agreed that the newly elected officers will draft a resolution for member review. If necessary, a virtual meeting will be scheduled to finalize the language and conduct a formal vote.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Vincent Lynn, seconded by Chandra Shekar. Passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 pm.

Next Meeting

The next MBOC meeting is November 18, 2026 at TBD