



Dr. Carrie Olson
President, DPS Board of Education

At Denver Public Schools Foundation, we believe that our city is strengthened by every student who graduates ready to lead a successful life. At the DPS Foundation, we invest in accelerating progress, we connect the community to our classrooms, and we inspire confidence in the promise of public education.

Dr. Olson received her B.A. in Elementary Education and Spanish from Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa in August 1985. She received her M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Language, Literacy, and Culture from the University of Colorado at Denver in August 1990. She also received her PhD in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Holocaust and Genocide Studies from the University of Denver in August 2016. Her dissertation, *The Meaning of Educational Travel in the Lives of Urban Middle School Students: A Transformative Mixed Methods Study*, examined quantitative data from DPS and qualitative data from interviews with former travelers and a focus group chaperones. In addition, she holds a Colorado Professional Master Teacher License and is a National Board Certified Teacher (Middle Childhood Generalist) since 1999. She certified in English Language Arts, Social Studies, Linguistically Different (ESL), and Spanish.

From 2004 – 2014, Dr. Olson held the position of Executive Director for the Kepner Educational Excellence Program, a supporting nonprofit of Kepner Middle School. KEEP supported student educational travel at Kepner Middle School and provided mini grants for teachers to assist in building relationships and strengthening academic achievement. From 1993 – 2014, she and her team traveled with over 800 students from the Westwood neighborhood to Washington, DC and Europe. Since 2006, she has been a Museum Teacher Fellow for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and runs conferences and seminars for teachers and professors regarding Holocaust and genocide education, including the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance and the Ministry of Education in El Salvador to train teachers in Holocaust and genocide education. In 2008, Dr. Olson began work with EF Tours as a Global Education Ambassador where she trained teachers and gave talks on her dissertation. Currently, she's an independent consultant for the USHMM and Educators for International Human Rights. In addition, she's an adjunct professor at the University of Denver in the Teacher Education Program.

Her daughter Ekaterina (Katya) is a DPS graduate attending Denison Montessori, Kepner Middle School and George Washington High School. Dr. Olson is a northern Minnesota native and loves to canoe in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area with Katya and her family. Other hobbies she enjoys when not working

with her quirky adolescents, are reading while walking on her treadmill, spending time at a ranch, traveling anywhere, skiing in the beautiful mountains of Colorado, and cooking vegan food for anyone willing to try it.

We know that when our students thrive, our city thrives. *My 33 year career has included elementary, middle, and high school education. I am very excited to serve on the DPS Board of Education as I dedicated my entire adult life to teaching in Denver Public Schools*

