District Accountability Committee
November 10, 2015
6:30-8:30 p.m.
Wilcox Building BOE Room

Call to order/Roll Call

Sandra Brownrigg (DAC Chair)
Brian Wetterling (Vice Chair)
Amy Pfister (Recorder)
Kim Kibort (Communications Chair)
Barb Cousins (Voting Parent)
Judi Reynolds (BOE liaison)
Megan Silverthorn (BOE liaison)
Kathy Brown (DCSD Parent Liaison)
Dr. Steven Cook (Assistant Superintendent Secondary Education)
Ted Knight (Assistant Superintendent Elementary Education)

Absent:

Mark Harrell (Principal Representative - Voting member)
Jean Medberry (Voting Parent)

Acronyms used in November meeting

DAC - District Accountability Committee Report	EPR - Elementary Progress
FOC - Fiscal Oversight Committee Committee	SAC - School Accountability
LRPC - Long Range Planning Committee	PU - Parent University
UIP - Unified Improvement Plan District	DCSD - Douglas County School
CITE - Continuing Innovation Teacher Effectiveness	BOE - Board of Education
CART - Charter Application Review Team Curriculum	GVC - Guaranteed Viable
4C's — Communication, Creativity, Critical Thinking, Collaboration	
IB - International Baccalaureate	

Meeting began at 6:35

Introductions/Old Business

Sandra-Welcome!   Our goal is to create more opportunity for dialogue at DAC

meetings while ensuring that our discussion remains structured and on topic. Following presentations we will offer opportunity to ask questions to DAC members first, and then to the community (these are timed).   We are also encouraging the use of comment cards if you have an off topic question and/or there isn't time for your question during the meeting.   It's our goal to answer the questions asked on the comment cards in a timely manner, and if we can't answer the question we will do our best to find the person/department to do so.   This is a work in progress, and feedback is welcome.

A big "thank you" to Dorinda Hedin for all that she does to prepare for our DAC meetings each month.   A card for Dorinda circulating the room, please sign it if you can.

Quorum established.

Motion to approve October 2015 DAC meeting minutes by Brian Wetterling, all in favor, no opposed. -   October 2015 DAC meeting minutes - **APPROVED.**

Introduction of new candidates for DAC - These candidates will be formally approved at the November BOE meeting on 11/17/15.

Motion to recommend candidates for BOE approval by Brian Wetterling, all in favor, no opposed.   DAC Recommendation of candidates to BOE - APPROVED**.**

New DAC member training - 11/18 at Wilcox building.   Time is TBD. (Jean, Sandra, Amy, and Kim are confirmed to help.)

DAC Liaison description changes - Many conversations about this over the past months.   SAC's need to agree upon the language of this role to move forward.   This is a SAC driven item and DAC is facilitating this change.   Rob Ross, the DCSD legal counsel has to review the wording and the BOE has to approve any changes to SAC bylaws. Proposed language changes in bold:

     A. District Accountability Committee Liaison:

        1. Is an elected or appointed position.

        2. Should be a parent representative, a parent from the PTO, or the community member.

        3. Attends all scheduled Forums and fathers information from DAC meetings **to report back to the SAC with a DAC Report listed on the SAC's Agenda on the SAC's scheduled meeting dates.   The DAC Liaison is the communication link (feedback, concerns, questions) between SAC and DAC.**

        4. Is a member of the SAC.

5. Works in collaboration with principal and SAC Chair to create and monitor the UIP.

Audience questions pertaining to DAC Liaison description changes:

In wording, why did you not include the specifics of attending meeting monthly? Answer-Goal wasn't mandating attendance; goal was to acquire information from the DAC meeting.

Where are minutes for DAC meetings posted?-Answer-DAC page (via DCSD website), under DAC meeting minutes.   Monthly minutes will be posted the following month after DAC approval.

Can DAC make a motion to approve the suggested changes to the DAC liaison description?   Answer - Yes.

Comment - Kathy Brown - If within your SAC an individual isn't able to attend the DAC meeting, let Kathy Brown know and she will attend if she is able — skbrown@dcsdk12.org.

Community member- CAC suggests that there is an attendance requirement for the DAC liaison (or person asked to attend).

DAC vote to suggest DAC liaison description changes-Amy Pfister motioned, all in favor, no opposed. - **APPROVED**

The recommendation of the liaison description change is a guideline, not a mandate. Please take this proposed verbiage to your SAC's and discuss.   New changes are what DAC suggests school SAC's use, not what DAC is mandating. **CARRY FORWARD:** DAC (Sandra) to send to Rob Ross for review.

Budget priorities for SAC's: (Sandra)-DAC asks SAC's to give feedback on budget priorities.   The reality is that school budget priorities are site based for each school/SAC.   DAC is looking at a way to evaluate budget priorities and decide if they are school (site specific) or district wide needs.   As a group we need to work together to find a way to make this realistic and productive.   Site based budget allows schools to have some control over their "wants".   It is up to each school (and SAC) to determine a want vs. a need with regard to the individual school budget.   Focus for DAC this year is recommendations on district wide budget items like transportation, safety, etc… and looking for ideas, topics and speakers related to funding at the state and federal level.

Committee Updates

FOC update (Sandra) - Deep dive to understand audit and accounting processes

currently taking place.   DAC goal is to come up with solid communication between FOC, LRPC, and DAC.

LRPC update (Kim) - New chairperson and vice chair elected.   Renaissance Magnet school is looking to expand and offer a new middle school.   Master Capital Plan reviewed changes.

UIP update (Brian) - Look for a presentation to DAC in the next couple of months on DCSD UIP.

CITE update (Brian)-Visiting with different SAC's and talking with school administrators and teachers over the next several months to understand what recommendations they (SAC's)   may have for improvement based on the current framework that exists.

BOE update (Judi)-Next BOE meeting 11/17 - available on Live stream.   New BOE members will be installed on 11/30 (Monday), county clerk will validate election results on 11/20 (rule is within 10 days of clerk validating).

CART update (Barb)-No update

Community Liaison (Kathy)-Working on PU for next semester, any suggestions or ideas email Kathy - *skbrown@dcsdk12.org.*   School Choice Fair is on 11/12 at DC Fairgrounds 6:00-8:00.

Discussed Renaissance magnet expansion, Renaissance is a magnet school, not a charter school.   They are looking at an extension of the magnet model (currently at the inquiry stage of this discussion).   If Renaissance is looking at changing to a charter model (some discussion about this) they would be governed by the same timeline as other charter school applications and FOC, LRPC, CART, and DAC would be involved.

Elementary Progress Report Update (Dr. Carrie Stephenson- Director of Elementary Education, Chris Lawson - Project Manager ITS, Rick Kendall - Principal Roxborough Primary)

Rick Kendall (Principal - Roxborough Primary)-Project began in 2013 to "reinvent" the EPR. EPR committee consists of teachers, parents, admins, WCE, and Systems Performance personnel.   Committee tasked to define "What is our goal outcome?" Over two years there were several draft and feedback sessions from multiple groups (including InspireED Innovation Team) who helped develop the new EPR.   Fall 2015 EPR rollout begins.   Parents will see the new EPR in December of 2015.

An important goal was to ensure there was a tool within the EPR to allow each school to create their own site specific EPR to reflect what they are teaching under GVC.   4C's are available throughout the EPR and there is great ability to customize the EPR for each school (e.g., IB school).

Parents can expect the new EPR to reflect 4C's throughout, receive personalized feedback throughout, and access demographic pieces (attendance, tardies, etc…).

Communication of new EPR to the community — articles in Newsline, school messenger letters, training materials for principals and parents.

Looking ahead - Next goal is to personalize and track a student's progress and achievement of GVC within EPR reporting.

DAC member EPR questions and comments:

With changes, did everyone get an understanding up front to plan for what the EPR would look like?   Answer: - Yes.   Content that is in the EPR is driving the teachers' work.   This measures what they are teaching.

* How are you going to look at a higher success rate for parents accessing the EPR? - Answer: The hope is that because this is specific to what each teacher is teaching, and more feedback is available, more parents will access their child's EPR.*

This is a parent involvement tool, and it's up to DAC, DAC liaisons, and SAC's to communicate this tool (the new EPR) out to the community and educate your schools on what to expect.   Carrie - We are hoping this will create a conversation with the SAC's.   This is an instrument to fit your specific school.   There is an opportunity for PU to have the new EPR as a topic.

Would it be helpful to have a meeting in the winter (January/February) to follow up on the roll out? Answer: Yes! This is a nimble tool.   Changes can be made quickly to the format. **CARRY FORWARD -** EPR follow up in spring - Sandra.

Last month there were some concerns about a mid-year roll out.   What guidance can you provide to this group about this concern?   Answer: We hoped to build some of that into the guidelines, time frame for teachers to enter the information (grades) into the system.   Building these templates will take longer this first go round as it's a new tool. There are many things built into the tool to help expedite this process for teachers in the future, but it will take longer this first go round.   Rick - From a principal and teacher perspective in the long run this will save time.

How as a parent am I going to know where my student stands? - Does not meet, approaching, meets, exceeds vs. 1,2,3 or A, B, C, D.   Rick - School level expectations is a customizable tool for site specific topics.

Community member EPR questions:

Why wasn't there a pilot? -   Answer: There was a survey that went out.   This tool will continue to evolve.

Would a grade specific EPR look different from year to year?   -   Answer: Yes, possibly.

I have been doing a lot of data gathering.   At the state level data can be linked from student to teacher.   Will this tool allow for that?   Answer: No. This tool does not do that nor was it designed for that.

*When are teachers going to have the opportunity to use this?   Answer: Most schools are finished with template creation.   Some schools are already "live" with the system; others are in the review state.

*How can this tool be both static and interactive?   Answer: You can actually have both within the tool.

*What is the teachers workload on this EPR compared to past? Answer: Similar work load and more friendly.

*If I move my child mid year from school to school what does that do to the EPR?   How does this EPR transfer out of state?   Answer: If a child moves from one school to another, that child would be moved to the new format, with access to the old.   It would be helpful for the teacher as they would have access to the previous EPR.

*Do the elementary students of DCSD know about this change and understand what they are being measured on? - Answer: This is the same four point scale that DCSD students are currently measured on (and receiving feedback on) from their teacher, so yes, they know and are familiar with these measures.

*How long will it take a parent to access and understand this? Answer: As with all things new, there will be a learning curve.

Open Forum/Community questions

*Will presentations be available on the DAC website for people to access? Answer, yes and no.   If something is a draft format, it won't be available.   Final versions of presentations are always posted, usually within a few days of the meeting. If not, it will be.

*On the SAC budget questions, do you want those sent directly to Sandra Brownrigg? Yes,   Email is sandrabrownriggdac@gmail.com.

*Regarding EPR, is there a plan for having this move up to the middle/high school level? -   Answer: Elementary has started this, now we need to look at what a middle/high school model may look like.   It is a process that we are talking about, but there needs to be a pathway that makes sense. Additionally, middle and high school teachers have many more students than at the elementary level, would be very challenging to utilize a tool of this nature with so many students.

Both Wendy Vogel (incoming BOE member) and Kevin Larsen (outgoing BOE member) were both present at the meeting and addressed the group.   Wendy thanked everyone in the room for their service within the DCSD district and that her door is open for anyone who wants to reach out.   Kevin Larsen congratulated the new BOE appointees

and thanked the community for allowing him to serve DCSD over the past several years.

Brian Wetterling made a motion to adjourn the meeting, all in favor, no opposed. - Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Link to November DAC meeting agenda:

https://www.dcsdk12.org/sites/default/files/boardofeducation/districtaccountabilitycommi ttee/2015-2016AgendaMeetingMinutes/DAC%2011.10.2015%20FINAL.pdf

Link to EPR presentation:

https://www.dcsdk12.org/sites/default/files/boardofeducation/districtaccountabilitycommi ttee/Presentations/Elementary%20Progress%20Report%20for%20DAC-%20for%20pos ting.pdf