



District Accountability Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: November 15, 2020 **Time:** 5:30 p.m. **Location:** District Admin./Google Hangouts

In attendance: Heather Barritt, Kristin Pejsa, Kim Parr, Deanna Truelsen, Staci Cost, Sue Garlick, Cara Meier, Michael Nielson, Tara Olson, Kayci Stone, Mary Weiss, Shirley Tourjee, Tatum Smith, Doreen Jones, Reece Blincoe, Katherine Freeman. Not in attendance: Lurleen McCormick, Valiena Rosenkrance, Alisha Sainz, Elisa Olson, Justin Schmitt, .

Meeting was called to order at 5:32 by DAC Chairperson Staci Cost.

- I. DAC Responsibilities** – New members were recognized. Discussion was made and decided to review the Colorado Department of Education’s website and download a new DAC handbook if available and distribute it to all members. A link to a virtual copy of the newest version of the DAC handbook will be made available on the DAC web page.

- II. ESSER III** – Review of current proposal of ESSER III funds was discussed with Superintendent, Reece Blincoe and Doreen Jones. Staci Cost shared documents of ESSER III proposal from the 11/11/2021 Dolores School Board meeting and the COVID-19 Handbook Volume 2 PDF with outlined version created by Staci Cost. Discussion was initiated by Staci Cost in regards to time outside of the classroom to facilitate improvement and professional development as one of the outstanding needs discussed in the COVID-19 handbook. The need for strategic time management, finding time in the day to support students. Superintendent Blincoe added that the secondary interventionist has been included in the ESSER III as one outstanding request to support falling national exam scores. He related that this is one area that the DAC did not discuss but is needed. The DAC was in agreement. Fun Day Friday is meant to be social and enriching. For secondary students Fridays seem more about making up lost work time instead of Social and Emotional Engagement. It was discussed later that this would be something focused on by the secondary school to facilitate more age appropriate Friday Fun Days as well. Discussion progressed to there being another grant that we have, School Health Professionals Grant, that pays for social emotional supports at elementary and secondary; it also pays for parent night and drug resistance program for secondary, suicide prevention and PD; the Go bags are under this grant as well. Discussion about transportation for special programming with cost, location and personnel. Concern was discussed regarding the logistics of the transportation system and if it will facilitate improved enrollment, will it work with the amount of students enrolled out of the district, and will it reach as many kids as possible. Superintendent Reece discussed the retention of bus drivers being difficult but with extra days offered and over the summer driving options a possible enticing chance to retain and possibly attract drivers. A trial of how this will need to see if the funds allocated will be

utilized. If any funds are not utilized for any certain area of the ESSER III grant, they can be allocated to other areas of the grant. Discussion was made regarding group counseling, Friday options, inclusive and safe learning environment, re-engaged students who are out, stipend teachers to go above and beyond. Superintendent Reece suggested it would take from the 2% Hazard Pay. Sue Garlick discussed that a teacher attempting to re-engage students may not be as capable of facilitating lost or missing work as the actual teacher of the class the student is missing. Kim Parr suggests this is already what teachers are to do and how would we decide who has earned the stipend, what would the criteria be? Group discussion talked to the point of using Hazard Pay as it's listed. Healthy learning environment also goes to custodial staff, which has experienced a decrease in workforce, not by choice. Cara Gilder asked about the air filter system. Superintendent Reece discussed that a new system will be put into every teaching space in possibly two-six weeks with additional filters ordered. Doreen reported that once the ESSER III funds are approved they can be utilized and spent and get reimbursement. Tutoring was discussed next and Kristin feels it should be an intervention and targeting skills. Superintendent Reece informed the DAC that this is something that can easily happen and is up to each individual principal and teacher to decide. Heather discussed the impression for the COVID-19 Handbook Vol 2 being more about students with IEPs; Mike and Sue Garlick both explained it's; Heather voiced concern about who tutoring is targeting to ensure we follow the guidelines. Mike shared that Friday school is all about helping any student that comes through the door. Mary discussed supports and how it's looking for Fridays; focus on math and reading comprehension depending on which teachers are present to lead groups. Technology for chromebooks and hot spots created; hot spots may not be feasible; Reece we need to know who needs access. This will need to be researched to find the region/ district for who needs what. Staci will touch base with Mark to find out the student needs; signals are limited in certain areas, especially up river. Cara facilitated a discussion of the equity of teachers promoting learning that did not require the internet to complete. Cara wanted to suggest the possibility of teachers facilitating alternative assignments that do not require an internet connection. Tara stated that she felt teachers were attempting to complete this with their classes by keeping in mind those students that have access to the internet and those that don't. Sue Garlick discussed that project based learning is effective and does not always require the internet. Katherine Freeman, the school's licensed librarian, addressed the DAC to discuss the needs of the current school library. She would like to bring the current library up to standard designation with the Colorado Department of Education. This would support students to learn skills, create meaningful and effective interventions with Tier I supports. The interventions promote equity and support outside the classroom by pulling out small groups and addressing learning gaps. Katherine discussed needs for replacement of tables and chairs to assist with the workspace and flow. The State Library Grant was discussed and furniture would not be allowed to be purchased through this grant. Doreen discussed with Katherine that the current budget does allow for updated furniture out of a different part of the budget. Shirley discussed an idea that students may respond well to incentivised math facts recollection by facilitating a competition with students 1:1 with prizes. Discussion wrapped up that the funding allocation sheet presented to the board meets the COVID-19 Handbook Vol. 2 suggestions. The handbook facilitated excellent discussion and ideas for future follow through over the next few DAC meetings.

III. UIP and Budget – Staci asked for members to extend the time by 10 minutes to discuss the UIP and budget priorities in place of another meeting in December 2021. Everyone agreed. Staci reviewed an outline of the UIP with the DAC and opened discussion with Doreen regarding areas of the UIP that may need budget funding.

UIP Bullet Points:

- Math growth
 - Big Ideas Curriculum was purchased as a base program with Saxon as a supplement.
 - Engage NY previously purchased was showing gaps in math facts
 - Seeing gains with the additional changes made
 - Will continue to monitor through data analysis
 - NWEA and DIBELS/Accadience are the most reliable courses of actionable data.
- District focus on staff data analysis
 - District is working on how to improve the process through which data is evaluated and examined.
 - Levels of assessment are being looked at by individual teachers, schools, district stakeholders and the District Accountability Committee (DAC).
 - Staff training for data analysis needs to be addressed as it has not shown the growth needed. Therefore needs a systematic process of data analysis in place.
 - Campus principals have submitted their staff's ideas on implementation.
- Attendance
 - Response to intervention (RTI) is being implemented with a student centered focus.
 - Elementary staff have added training, stipends and time to support students.
 - An elementary counselor, with expertise in PBIS has implemented a model that staff and students are responding to.
 - MTSS team has been working to create RTI support processes.
 - RTI handbook was developed and is posted on the website.
 - Staff has been trained on the process of RTI for students each year.
- Differentiation
 - Lack of staff training in differentiated instruction due to classroom dynamics changing.
 - Need to supply teachers with the tools needed to address the changes.
- Interventions at the secondary
 - Tutoring
 - Friday school support
- Gifted and Talented (GT)
 - Continue to identify students.
 - Written ALPs with goals that are SMART.
 - Hired an GT coordinator
 - Supporting teachers in the differentiation model of support in the classroom setting.
- Family engagement
 - Parent, Staff and TLCC surveys have shown a need to focus time and resources toward family engagement.

Doreen informed the DAC that \$7,000 is set for professional development for math instruction and tutoring. \$30,000 over the next 2 years is set for data analysis. Other money has been budgeted for the secondary interventionist and the gifted and talented coordinator.

IV. Exit Survey - Discussion was wrapped up about the Exit survey and DAC reviewed the survey. Sue Garlick suggested a change from 10 minutes to complete to 5 minutes. Cara Meier was unable to open the document. Staci will discuss the exit survey and troubleshoot the problems and make the necessary changes. Once completed the Exit survey will be in place and submitted to all students that are disenrolling from the Dolores School District by Lezlie Dibsie.

V. Future Business – Panorama Survey presentation, Parent/Family Engagement Meetings, Policy and CKLA curriculum(Lurleen), SPED salary schedule, mentor program review, comment box, social media ideas

Meeting adjourned at 6:45. DAC's next meeting is their regular meeting on Monday, January 24, 2022 and will be held at the district office meeting room and on Google Hangout.

Submitted by,
Staci Cost, DAC Chair