



DAC Meeting Minutes

Date: 2/7/18, 5:30pm

Location: KCPS BOE Building

Meeting called to order by Roland Hemmings, Interim DAC Corresponding Secretary

- Welcomed everyone
- Introduced Yantezia to speak on Title One and

Yantezia Patrick, Parent and Family Engagement Specialist

- Yantezia is responsible for part of Title One in that she oversees school Parent Liaisons
- She is available to meet with groups or individuals regarding any questions or concerns

Susan Stocking, Interim DAC At-Large

- Communicated the efforts of DACX to identify parent leaders at each school and asked for attendees to help get this information for their schools
- Currently it is recognized that not all schools have a School Advisory Committee (SAC), but parent leaders from a PTA, PTO, or other parent leader group is welcomed
- Asked what schools were represented by the attendees:
 - Paseo HS
 - FLA
 - Lincoln HS
 - Central Academy HS
 - Holliday Elem
 - Border Star Elem
 - Wendell Phillips Elem
 - Hartman Elem
 - Hale Cook Elem
 - Southeast HS
- Introduced Samara to speak about Parent Engagement

Samara Crawford-Herrera, Community Partnerships, Advocacy and Engagement Manager

- She is trying to insure more inclusive participation
- Working to help schools achieve their goals and supporting parent entitlements
- Working to help parents be advocates for their children and advocating for all students

Susan Stocking, Interim DAC At-Large

- Spoke about recognizing that there are multiple levels of engagement
- Engagement needs to occur for parents, guardians, families, and the community
- Schools need to provide welcoming spaces within the school to support this type of positive engagement

Small group breakout session- divided up into two groups to discuss parent engagement at the school level and identifying what are some successes and what are some of the challenges:



Group Successes Noted

- Reaching out to the Alumni group and providing incentives for staff and students to attend mtgs.
- Make posters for entrance areas that note upcoming events and activities with suggestions from various individuals
- Southeast HS Freshman Pilot Program funded by the Kauffman Foundation to provide additional support to 50 Freshman and create enhanced family and community engagement in that process
- Parent promoting a digital product to introduce students to different aspects of creating an art portfolio along with parent engagement mtgs. on Sunday's
- The new SAC Chair is having success engaging staff to attend mtgs.
- Expanding the method of parent communication thru creation of a school newsletter that allows parents that can't attend mtgs. to be informed
- Local church brings in snacks once a week and engages the student body
- Benefits have been seen when fun activities and pot luck meals are offered
- Use of Naviance software program for student's benefit to guide them in college and career decisions
- Teaching parents how to advocate for their child thru building relationships with their teachers

Group Challenges Noted

- Suggestions have not been accepted, but told that it would not be a school level decision, but a district level decision
- Few parents are involved for various reasons including too busy
- Parents not involved unless it deals with a large issue
- Not sure how to keep parent interest high
- Engagement is more difficult at the High School level
- Not all schools have a parent engagement office or liaison
- Parents exhibit disrespect to school staff if their child is suspended
- Lack of knowledge on how to use Tyler system to advocate for their children

Roland Hemmings, Interim DAC Corresponding Secretary

- Notified attendees that their handouts they received show some of the DACX activities they have been working on this school year with Yantezia and Samara's assistance

Yantezia Patrick, Parent and Family Engagement Specialist

- Report out regarding administrative response to parental concerns noted at the previous DAC mtg.
 - Hale Cook and other schools requested additional support and equity for their school when resources like social workers are allocated - Molly Ticknor, Director of Mental Health and Chief of Student Support Services Dr. Cordoba are looking into additional funds to assist schools in need. Additional funds were requested to increase the number of social workers and family support specialists. However, Yantezia also noted that it's parent input and collaboration at the school and district levels that assist with this decision-making.
 - Parents wanting more engagement- District working to create a positive parent engagement program and Yantezia along with Samara will be more involve with the ELL program
 - Need of improved and increased security staff relationships with students- Additional training, including trauma sensitive training is being planned for staff at all levels



- District is working to involve more parents to help improve accountability
- Parents expressed frustrations with the special education department's accessibility and operations - This spring the district is planning to have parental training regarding special education and advocacy for special education students

Susan Stocking, Interim DAC At-Large

- Notified attendees about the April DAC elections upcoming
- Sign-up sheet available for those interested in serving on the DAC Executive Team (DACX)
- There are seven officer positions to be filled
- The time commitment varies and sometimes involves multiple meetings within the same month
- Each school should submit the DAC Declaration form to Yantezia prior to the April election
- Each school should submit a list of official DAC Delegates with one being the primary and the others being alternates
- Only one delegate from each school is allowed to vote

Matthew Oates, KCPS BOE Director, Sub-district 2, Treasurer

- 2018 KCPS Legislative Agenda
 - Funding for Pre-K Learners to serve 2400 students (900 more than current)
 - Charter Accountability
 - Fully fund K-12 transportation, KCPS has approximately a 13% homeless rate that elevates transportation costs since those students have the right to be transported to their home school
 - District owned buildings to remain under local control
 - Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) and Abatements
- Currently the MO Board of Education does not have enough members to reach a quorum and so they cannot act on items before them

Miriam King, Acting DAC Chair

- Noted ways for parents to follow current educational issues by following news and updates from:
 - National PTA
 - MO Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)
 - KCPS DAC (@kcpsdac)

Jennifer Woolfsie, KCPS BOE Director, At-Large

- Postponed presentation on new Board policy "Principals of Educational Partnerships" due to limited mtg. time, but will present at the next DAC mtg. in April

Closing Comments, Miriam King, Acting DAC Chair

- Reminder that Pre-K enrollment has started in KCPS
- Reminder to have schools submit an official list of DAC Delegates
- Lean Lab will be having a presentation and discussion about Parent Engagement, Samara will be a presenter at that mtg. on Feb 8th

Meeting Adjourned