Bear Creek SAC Agenda/Notes - 03/30/2022

MEETING LINK

Attendance: Tanner Dayhoff, Michelle Hill, Robin Norton, Dominic Schwartz, Kate Stricklan, Grace Wickersham, Michael Behar, Eva Ziemkiewicz, Leigh Gannan, Caroline Bruce

- Introductions (Renee and Tanner)
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    - Meeting Dates - March 30 and April 27
    - Can we have our April 27 meeting in person?
  - Bear Creek SAC Membership and SAC Website
  - Committee Needs:
    - Co-Chairs - Renee Williams and Tanner Dayhoff
    - Recorder - OPEN
    - DAC Representative - Kate Stricklan
    - Community Representative - OPEN

- Principal Report (Tanner)
  - Volunteers are Back–new volunteer system is working well
    - Anticipate next year we will be back into full-scale volunteering
  - FTE Update
    - Will appeal for any funds that we didn’t get but were hoping for
    - 2 teachers in K-4; 3 in 5th
    - Slight drop in para hours currently
  - Academic Demographics Update:
    - Student Support Process - 60
    - IEPs - 37 (11%) (6 in the process of evaluation)
      - not actually high for BVSD (13%)
      - we are an autism center, which increases our numbers, as well as speech/language IEPs
    - 504s - 16
      - students who need accommodations only, not services—could even include severe allergies
    - READ - 17
      - 9 students after accounting for those with IEPs, of those, 7 are in 4th/5th grade and missed out on early Fundations instruction
    - Emerging Bilinguals - 14
      - Home Languages Other Than English - 9
    - Gifted and Talented - 48—each of these students has an ALP
      - Michael: what % is the 48 GT of the entire student body
        - Answer: 14%
      - Every student at BCE is screened for GT in second grade
  - Gender: 51% male, 49% female
  - Fundations updates? Tanner asked our literacy coordinator and the answer it is still in flux with the state
  - End of Year Celebrations
    - Lip synch signups, performances May 12
Spotlights musical performances next week
Kindergarten graduation, May 24
September 8–50th Celebration of BCE

DAC Report (Kate)–see minutes
  Agendas and minutes can be found on BVSD DAC Website
  Recent discussions:
    Notes from 3/1/2022

Discussion - should conferences be in-person or virtual?
  Grace: feels online conferences are going well; lots are packed into the 15 minutes and teachers are well-prepared –could keep going without much downside
  Michael–dying to get back in person for conferences –feels there is a big difference –feels that they got to know the teachers better in person at son’s school –maybe could give parents an option
  Dominic: doesn’t mind either way –wouldn’t mind an extra five minutes added to all conferences
  Eva: fine either way, likes the flexibility that a parent can call in and both attend, even if they’re not home –thinks an in-person Back to School Night would be more valuable
  Leigh–seconds Back to School Night in person –missed getting to be physically in the classroom –hybrid option sounds good
  Caroline–likes online option a lot; no need to worry about babysitting
  Michelle (teacher:) interesting opportunities with this virtual option that often led to both parents being able to attend –face-to-face is special, but hard to beat the flexibility
  Robin (teacher:) agrees with Michelle –didn’t get to know parents in the past two years, which is sad –virtual conferences are very efficient –Back to School should be in-person
  Tanner: could offer hybrid option Robin: probably tricky if we went back and forth between in-person and virtual in the same night, however

Discussion - how is the transition in morning schedules going for your family? (Earlier start? Late start Wednesdays?)
  On Wednesdays: Offering LLL, SAC, or activities in the cafeteria starting at 7:45 am (last option is free) –is there another option that you’d like to see?
  Caroline: initially skeptical about the change, but now they do family activities in the morning –maybe a sports option that morning?
  Leigh: the new start time is hard for her daughter, who is not a morning person
    Is the free childcare option well-attended? Tanner: yes!
  Eva: Spotlights at 7:15 is tough on the family, but son chose it, so they are going with it
    seconds an athletic option maybe on Wednesdays
  Dominic: 2:50 seems like an early time to get out of school
    Spotlights rehearsals are somewhat burdensome
  Michael: not much of an impact for their family
  Grace: comes down to predictable consistency, rolling with it
  Tanner: feels the transition went well
    no more tardy kids on average than before
• Wednesdays are surprisingly more challenging for some families to arrive on time than others
• Spotlights parents: would your student be able to participate if it was offered after school?
  ● Eva: our afternoons are a time for non-school activities, so having all afternoons open throughout the year is huge
  ● Caroline: enjoy the morning Spotlights rehearsals
  ● Dominic: probably needs to stay in the morning
    ○ why do kids with no lines have to attend all the rehearsals?
  ● Leigh: after school activities often start later in the day, so it could work and also be helpful to working parents

SAC Responsibilities: Colorado State Statute 22-11-402 and BVSD policies AE and AE-R established SAC powers and duties. SAC responsibilities include the following:

• Recommending to the principal of the school priorities for spending school moneys, including federal funds, where applicable;
• Making recommendations to the principal of the school and the superintendent concerning preparation of a school Performance or Improvement plan, if either type of plan is required;
• Meeting a least quarterly to discuss whether school leadership, personnel, and infrastructure are advancing or impeding implementation of the public school’s Performance, Improvement, Priority Improvement, or Turnaround plan, whichever is applicable, and other progress pertinent to the public school’s accreditation contract;
• Providing input and recommendations to the DAC and district administration, on an advisory basis, concerning principal development plans and evaluations;
• Publicizing opportunities to serve and soliciting parents to serve on the SAC
• Assisting the district in implementing at the school level the district’s family engagement policy; and
• Assisting school personnel to increase family engagement with teachers, including family engagement in creating READ plans, Individual Career and Academic Plans, and plans to address habitual truancy.

- Excerpt taken from the Colorado Department of Education - District Accountability Handbook, (Fall 2018)

SAC Membership: Each school is responsible for establishing a School Accountability Committee (SAC). Colorado State Statute 22-11-401 and BVSD policy (AE-R) determine membership requirements. Each SAC should consist of at least the following seven members:

• The principal of the school or the principal’s designee;
• At least one teacher who provides instruction in the school;
• At least three parents of students enrolled in the school
• At least one adult member of an organization of parents, teachers, and students recognized by the school; and
• At least one person from the community

A person may not be appointed or elected to fill more than one of these required member positions in a single term. The number of parents must exceed the number of representatives from the group with the next highest representation. Finally, SACs must select one of their parent representatives to serve as chair or co-chair of the committee.

Note: To the extent practicable, parents serving on accountability committees should reflect the student populations that are significantly represented within the school. Such student populations may include, but not be limited to, students who are members of non-Caucasian races, those who are eligible for free or reduced-cost lunch, those who are Emerging Bilingual students, migrant children, students who are identified as having a disability and students who are identified as gifted.

Note: Generally, a parent who is an employee of the school or who is a spouse, son, daughter, sister, brother, mother or father of a person who is an employee of the school is not eligible to serve on a SAC. However, if, after making good-faith efforts, a principal or organization of parents, teachers and students is unable to find a sufficient number of persons who are willing to serve on the SAC, the principal, with advice from the organization of parents, teachers and students, may establish an alternative membership plan for the SAC that reflects the membership specified above as much as possible.

- Excerpt taken from the Colorado Department of Education - District Accountability Handbook, (Fall 2018)