

## Minutes: BVSD District Accountability Meeting (November 1, 2022)

Agenda ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#))

### Links and Resources

- DAC Meeting Attendance Link: <https://forms.gle/bu2Pu45EQJM7LQHS6>
- Links related to SROs discussion:
  - BVSD SRO Literature Review:  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BTwdHF0LdHslgREem-v\\_JvFkgzAOe9rU/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BTwdHF0LdHslgREem-v_JvFkgzAOe9rU/view?usp=share_link)
  - DAC SRO Memo to BVSD BoE:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/14a1gLDyWaC-0B-izHNloQWCD9I3lcZYM\\_H2ugXRq8bul/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/14a1gLDyWaC-0B-izHNloQWCD9I3lcZYM_H2ugXRq8bul/edit?usp=sharing)
  - <https://coe.arizona.edu/sites/default/files/SRO%20Fact%20sheet.pdf>
  - <https://www.nea.org/advocating-for-change/new-from-nea/making-schools-safe-and-just>
  - <https://www.clccrul.org/blog/2020/6/23/research-sros>

### Report on Meeting

The DAC meeting was conducted remotely via Zoom. The first part of the meeting was a DAC All Hands session with welcome remarks, open comment period, the Board Liaison Report, and the Superintendent's Report. The second part of the meeting was individual subcommittee work time, with distinct Zoom rooms for each subcommittee.

Meeting recording started and the meeting was called to order at 6:18pm.

#### Approval of minutes from October 4, 2022 session

- Move to approve from Matt Dahl; second Garret Savage; unanimous vote to approve minutes at 6:20pm

#### Open Comment Section

- Jorge Chavez: there is an apparent push from some BVSD parents to return to the district's previous SRO program. There is no evidence that such a program works, and in fact there is ample evidence that SRO programs hurt students and student outcomes. Encourage BVSD to use proactive measures like restorative justice, not reactive measures like SROs.

- Stan Hickory: request for DAC to share the data that informed DAC's recommendations on SROs.
- Mamta Saxman: What I heard regarding renewed SRO program was around external issues around schools/communities and community safety, not necessarily internal school building issues.
- Kelly Herbert: Calling attention to "alternative aggressions" as the primary ways girls bully each other. What are we doing at elementary and middle level that builds a culture that recognizes these forms of bullying and moves away from them; what are we as a community doing to combat these issues?
- Kevin (joining by phone): We can't totally dismiss safety in the schools, and need to recognize the positive relationships between students and SROs. There is room for a conversation about the role of the SRO itself; how can BVSD work with local law enforcement to refine the role of the SRO. A little shortsighted to say "we want them" or "we don't want them"; no data on adverse impact in anecdotal experience; but thumbs up thumbs down on SROs is short sighted.
- Jamillah Richmond: Part of the reason DAC recommended deprecation of the SRO program was that while some children could develop positive relationships, children of color were not able to, and the rates of children referred or ticketed were disproportionately skewed toward children of color. The MOU with SROs is that they are police officers, first and foremost. School community has no say in how the police officer handles situations in schools.
- Conor Sehl: As an input into the DAC SRO recommendations, an extensive literature review was performed and the review found that extant empirical literature suggested at best inconsistent evidence on positive impact; but clear negative impacts on perceptions of safety and outcomes for students of color. In terms of outcomes, a higher proportion of students of color entered the prison pipeline via the SRO referral process. Caution the community, including DAC, to make a reasoned decision based on the empirical data.

### Board Report (Kitty Sargent)

- High volume of parents asking for BVSD to reinstate the SRO program. Many were talking about safety and threat at Fairview, and also safety walking to Boulder High along the creek path. Kitty is not aware of any Board support for considering reinstating the SRO program. The research is clear that they don't make schools safer.
- Presentation from Dr. Hill about teachers of color hiring event, the program and sites of recruitment. 13% of teachers hired in BVSD were teachers of color; 6%, 12%, 14%, 19%, 13% over the last few years (showing an overall trajectory of growth).
- Passed resolution in support of Proposition FF on November ballot
- Passed a resolution supporting LGBTQ+ history in the social studies curriculum and standards. In context of the CO State Board of Education considering parent feedback on standards.

- Entertained a resolution on supporting the library district proposition, but the resolution failed. Individual board members do express support.
- Heard update on strategic plan metrics review from district administration.
- Oct. 25th presentation on restorative practices, changing discipline in the schools, SSAs working with kids on restorative justice practices.
- Briefed on JECC-R, regulation on open enrollment policy. Have received lots of messages from parents at Horizons charter who were concerned about open enrollment policies.
- Adopted the BVSD district UIP.
- Questions:
  - Why did the resolution on the library district fail at the Board level?
    - Response: Already asking to pay more taxes for schools (bond measure), but didn't feel prepared to ask parents to pay more taxes on the library district. Felt it was outside of the Board's scope.
  - What were the concerns from Horizons parents on open enrollment?
    - Response: Concern about their ability to make FRL students a priority
    - Rob's Response: looking at adjustments to JECC-R, Horizons wants to make modifications in their preferences about to prioritize accepting FRL students

### Superintendent's Report (Rob Anderson)

- Fairview situation: In October, a "safe2tell" report was received based on a social media post from a student, a threat that called out specific students.
  - Important to Note: current relationship between BVSD and the Boulder Police Department worked exactly as expected during this incident. Where the failure happened was in BVSD communication - comms didn't come out until after 10:00 am, when the initial report was received at around 8:00 am. Unsettling for parents to hear things on social media before they hear official news from BVSD.
  - Board meeting last week (Oct. 25th), parents engaged BVSD on law enforcement issues. A group of parents wanted BVSD to have armed guards outside of schools (law enforcement or at least parents with concealed weapons); some wanted a 1000 foot safe zone around Boulder High School; parents wanted to return to previous SRO program.
  - BVSD has no intention to reinstate the SRO program.
  - Some numbers to put on this issue:
    - 130 to 26: the number of incidents BVSD has referred to law enforcement in 2018-19 versus 2021-22. The 130 demonstrated high disproportionality; the reduction helps prove that we can address issues with restorative justice practices.

- \$0 to over \$2M: change in how much money BVSD has invested in school safety over the past two years; SSAs, mental health supports, restorative practices, etc.
- Every time we have an incident, we will have this conversation again. We are seeing a positive impact based on the changes made, but there will be members of the community who maintain concerns.
- Rob thanks DAC for the comments and revisions suggested on the district UIP. BVSD accepted 95% of the proposed edits.
- Questions:
  - For OE, could we just standardize the practice of preference for FRL students?
  - Wondering about the safety investments and the money that has been invested, given that some middle schools don't have security systems or cameras in place, and some parents are concerned.
  - Open enrollment preference: is there a communications plan in the works about letting community members know about preferences and timelines?
  - Question about how the substitute teacher sourcing process is going; heard that sub pay has gone down again, and wanted an update on the current numbers and the program.
    - Response: fill rates are in the 80%-90% range, and pay has been increased since the beginning of the year.
    - Follow up on sub pay: can the sub rate go up any higher, specifically for special ed subs? How can this be implemented?
      - Response: Acknowledge the challenge in the ILC programs based on the shortage of paraprofessional educators.
    - Follow up: what is the difference in fill rate for gen ed vs special ed?
    - Follow up: how do we engage in increased wages for paras, subs, bus drivers, food service, and custodial staff, etc?

#### Additional DAC Questions

- For general follow ups and confusion on the SAC budget survey, who do we ask?
  - Direct questions to DAC Chair Jorge Chavez for appropriate triage

Motion to close the All Hands section of the meeting? Motion and second, All Hands meeting adjourned as of 7:00pm. Subcommittee groups to convene in individual Zoom groups for the remainder of time.