

BVSD DAC Meeting Minutes (March 7, 2023)

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

Action Items:

1. Brendan Sullivan invites DAC membership to leave feedback on the issue of interior security cameras in BVSD middle and K-8 schools
 - o [Feedback form](#)
2. Rob Price provided information about how DAC membership or other interested parties can apply to participate on the Community Bond Oversight Committee. Note: application closes on Friday March 17th.
 - o [Refer to this website to learn more and apply](#)

Links and Resources

- [DAC Attendance Form](#)
- [BVSD Security Cameras Presentation Materials](#)
- Policy KB Materials
 - o [DAC Policy Subcommittee Presentation on Policy KB](#)
 - o [Draft Policy KB and Memo Packet](#)

Meeting Opening and Welcome

- Meeting called to order: 6:24 pm on 7 March 2023
- February minutes approval: Motion to approve; seconded; unanimously approves at 6:25 pm on 7 March 2023

DAC Open Comment Period

- DAC Member: CAPL request - providing transportation for bilingual elementary school (to Pioneer), since families cannot get children to Pioneer.
- DAC Member: Creekside parent - enrollment for K at Creekside. When do they consider the third class not a trend but an always-have-it? For our community, we need to advocate for the K teachers (and students and parents) to have that space filled before August. Hiring that late gives our school a disadvantage to higher quality teachers already being placed in other openings. I know this is an ongoing issue but it hasn't changed at Creekside for 6 years (except the 2021 start due to covid so that shouldn't count in the data set).
- DAC Member: University Hill parent - preserving integrity of bilingual model when open enrollment by English-speaking families limits space; exacerbates the round situation - even with more time to allow enrollment for Spanish-speaking families, the round hiring

decisions come too early. This is an equity/access issue. DAC policy subcommittee has been researching open enrollment, and is looking for input from parents and families about their experience.

Board Liaison Report (Kathy Gebhardt, filling in for Kitty Sargent)

- Legislature is gearing up for figure setting, and heading into budget season
- Had a presentation on universal pre-K, and acknowledges that there are challenges in the process given state backlogs and technical issues; challenges with differences between how 4 and 3-year-old child enrollments are handled. Working hard to make the process more seamless. Despite all of the rhetoric, the coverage is for 15 hours per week. Board and district are working hard to make sure that students are getting placed in the schools they've chosen.
- Work session on DAC and SAC accountability policies, with emphasis on making sure that the groups are made up of a broad and diverse representation of the district community. Coming up for one more work session, then up for action.
- School Board elections - 4 seats open; last candidate information session coming up in March. Spread the word if we know of interested parties. Sessions will overview what it means to serve on the Board, the process of running, and more.
- Recent presentation on the bond initiative; there is an application for a community bond oversight committee - this is the financial arm of the project ensuring that the bond measures are completed. There is an application to participate that will close by the middle of March, and the list of 20 seats will be approved by the Board April 11th. First meeting in May, then quarterly thereafter.
- Questions from the DAC Membership:
 - What bills are coming up in the legislature? **Response:** inflationary adjustment in the budget and funding for special education, but there's a spin. Charter bills coming up, and more finances related bills. The extra covid relief dollars dry up this year, and therefore the districts need to plan ahead.

Security Cameras (Brendan Sullivan, Dir. Safety & Security)

- [Presentation materials for distribution](#)
- Presentation about the expanding use of interior cameras into middle schools. Safety and security is top of mind right now for everyone. BVSD approaches security through a layered approach, including positive school culture, staff training and exercises, hardware and software, physical security, emergency management, and security personnel on call 24/7.
- Board policy ECA-R governs when and where interior and exterior security cameras can be used. Very limited range of district staff can access the security camera feeds.
- Presents feedback from middle school principals about the need; feedback from the high school leadership teams who have used them has been positive.

- Principals from Casey Middle School and Platt Middle School recount their experiences with interior cameras. Benefit: maintain safety with more accuracy and efficiency, reducing the disruption to instructional time. Students believe there are cameras in the schools, and are actually surprised when they find out that there aren't interior cameras. Importance of making students feel that their voices are heard and they are believed - the cameras help reinforce fact, taking away the feeling of not being believed. Do kids feel safe when they walk into a space? That's the precondition for any effective learning.
- Elementary and middle have exterior; high schools have interior and exterior. Middle and K-8 are in scope for the expansion of interior cameras.
- Rob Price: through the citizens bond oversight group at the time and feedback from DAC, the Board policy was developed. Current decision on middle-level and K-8 cameras has not been made and funding has not been allocated.
- Middle school principals came forward and requested this.
- BVSD is one of very few school districts in CO without interior cameras at all levels.
- **Feedback opportunity: QR code and link for parents to provide feedback.**
 - [See action item at top of minutes]
- Questions:
 - Plan for K-8s would be installing everywhere currently permissible by policy, so that there is better coverage.
 - What are the negatives or drawbacks? Altered behavior is one thing, but what negative repercussions could there be. **Response:** In previous discussions, needed to make sure that cameras aren't installed in learning environments; data collection and duration - addressed in policy, can only retain camera data for 15 days; student records - they are FERPA-protected when they are part of the student record.
 - High school students report that many of the prohibited behaviors are happening in areas that are impermissible to cameras (i.e. restrooms). How is this accounted for in the middle school plan? **Response:** Have heard about this behavior, and would need to investigate with the individual schools.
 - Some middle school students report that the restrooms smell like vaping - could air quality checkers be installed in restrooms? **Response:** There are vaping detectors that could be installed; there is no current funding for this work, about \$1200 apiece. CU Boulder has been awarded grant funding for air quality monitoring, and wonder if there's an opportunity to collaborate.
 - If there are cameras, could the feed be subpoenaed by a parent if they were not happy with a disciplinary event. **Response:** District counsel would need to be engaged on this, but it's not clear whether a parent would be able to take this action.
 - Hear the positives, but worried about the messaging this would send to children. I.e. "you only have to behave because you might get caught"; "that means they don't trust us" - torn on this issue.

- How are the cameras in the high schools publicized or explained to the students currently? **Response:** in the student handbook; signage at entrances about the use of cameras in schools.
- What is the oversight on the limited range of staff who have access to video recordings? **Response:** Video recordings are in IT closets, with IT security. There is *not currently* an audit log on which staff watch which video clip and when.
 - People who have access to tools are able to misuse them to meet their own ends. Is there oversight of this process? Can there be logging for when a video feed is accessed and for what reason. **Response:** the same trust put in the district for handling all student data applies to video camera feed.
- Agree with the outcomes outlined, esp. alleviating staff from non-instructional time burdens, etc. But concerned about the tools to get from here to there. Surveillance might not be the way we want to get from here to there. Unlike a mall, the school system does care about the behavior after the event. If we suppress that care using this technology, we might get short term gains but hurt longer term outcomes. Money going to camera installations is money not going to educational programs.
- Love cameras; have 4 kids; have helped out at home. There is an effect on kids' behavior, reducing negative behaviors. An attorney can get access to the feeds, but there is a detailed and rigorous process to facilitate access. There have to be specific needs identified.
- Do we have a ballpark estimate on the costs for all middle schools and K-8s? There are lots of difficult choices in education, and competing priorities. **Response:** Roughly \$2M one-time funding.
- This isn't a policy change, the policy is established. Two pilots already: high school interior cameras - not hearing about specific negative outcomes; they are already in exterior places at all levels - the principals at elementary schools can already go back to camera feeds and review incidents. Not seeing a huge difference between getting to see the playground and getting to see the hallway. But implementation does require additional conversations about trust building. **Response:** only video, no audio recording.
- Hadn't thought about the negative aspects, so it was helpful to see all the perspectives. Some positives: some kids who may have a reputation for behavior are able to be validated when they aren't responsible for an incident.
- Mom of a middle schooler who is terrified to go to the bathroom by herself because of issues with physical altercations happening in bathrooms, even to the point of staff escorting students to and from bathrooms.
- Mentioned how there would be more cameras and data coming. Are there plans for AI security programs for gun detection, audio, etc.? What AI assistance is possible? **Response:** No plan for additional FTE and the installation is handled

- by vendors. There are AI tools available, but there are risks involved in false positives, etc. There has been research, but no implementation plans.
- Are we missing the root cause of why we need cameras in the first place? There could be real benefits in this, but the underlying reason remains unaddressed.
 - Are the cameras just pushing the incidents (vaping, fighting, etc) from the hallway into the bathrooms? Is this missing the real cause or reason?
 - Policy subcommittee question: when is this policy up for review? **Response:** include any questions on this in the responses to the feedback form.
 - Quality and resolution of the video? Is it possible to accurately identify who was involved? **Response:** No issues with accuracy or resolution.
 - Do we have any data on how video cameras contribute to disproportionality in discipline of students of color? If we don't have sound, how do we know what might have precipitated the physical altercations? **Response:** Being able to identify who to interview to get statements is the benefit; it's about being better able to verify the information from interviews and investigations.
 - Let's say there's a case where an incident takes place and camera footage is reviewed. A troubled kid is getting watched all day, and this could feed disproportionality. How would we monitor and catch if this becomes a pattern. **Response:** Not a tool to catch things in real time, just a tool to validate and verify during investigations.
 - Uncomfortable with the thought that kids would feel that it is normal to be watched all day long.
 - I think we're forgetting that there are victims of these incidents, and we need to consider the multiple sides of the issue, especially the experience of victims.
 - Having the extra eyes protects victims, protects kids with disabilities, it protects all of the kids. It makes it easier for staff to validate and investigate.
 - Quick question on the numbers: heard that this is a deterrent measure. How many kids will be helped by installing these? How much would behavior get better when cameras are installed? **Response:** BVSD has reached out to districts across the country to solicit data on deterrence and impact, and there isn't good data. The information is more anecdotal from the personal experience of school leaders. There is no quantitative analysis being performed to measure the efficacy of interior cameras.
 - There would be a benefit in tracking the impact and quantifying the impact so that we can build trust over time. **Response:** Casey principal offers to be a guinea pig on tracking the time on investigations.
 - There's a reason why there isn't data - because it would require a direct causal relationship of cameras cause X or Y; but, we can carefully evaluate the perspectives of students, etc.
 - Where would the \$2M come from, and what's the intended timeline? **Response:** Upcoming budget process would potentially include this in scope. Depending on

- committee and Board feedback, it is possible that this could go forward to Board and hit the 23-24 budget cycle. But it could push later than that.
- From DAC member, sent via email: 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. Angevine is in desperate need of hallway security cameras. Our parent group has expressed concerns over lockers being broken into (there is an easy way to get into a locker even with a lock on it). Our SSA, Ruben Rojas has this as a top priority and has had surveyors out to plan the locations and provide quotes. We are waiting on funding. We are curious when Angevine might see funding to support this? When over \$2M was allocated for school safety was middle school part of that plan? I have reached out to Robbyn Fernandez and Dr. Gionni Thompson as well. Since this appears to be a District level decision I thought I would ask DAC since it was brought up in our November meeting with Dr. Anderson. Any information on a timeline would be much appreciated and how Angevine can be on a priority list.

Policy KB Discussion

- Presentation and discussion facilitated by Chris Haynes and Terri Wilson
- Brought to a vote, and DAC membership unanimously voted to approve the plan to forward the presented policy KB memo and draft packet to district counsel for inclusion in a future Board work session or reading session. Vote completed 8:27 pm on 7 March 2023

DAC Subcommittee Group Work Time

- [No subcommittee time this session]

Meeting Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm on 7 March 2023