



DAC General Meeting Minutes

Date: 05/03/23, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Location: Kansas City Public Schools Board of Education Building and Zoom

Welcome and Introductions

- **Angie Lile, DAC Chair**
 - Meeting called to order

Hour 1: Remarks and Presentations

- Dr. Jennifer Collier, KCPS Superintendent
- Rita Cortés, KCPS School Board Member
- Emmalyn Case, Be SMART
- Cecillia Belser-Patton: Founder, Building Just Systems
- Lori Peters, KCPS Extended Learning Opportunities Manager

Hour 2: KCPS Budget Discussion

- Dr. Derald Davis, KCPS Deputy Superintendent
- Erin Thompson, KCPS Budget Manager

Election: DAC Executive Board

Hour 1

- **Dr. Jennifer Collier KCPS Superintendent:**
 - Acknowledged DAC members, importance of work of the group
 - Committed to partnering with parents
 - Welcome parents to reach out and comment when mistakes or missteps are made at Board of Education, school district
 - Moving Forward Together
 - District lead, parent co lead, community co lead for committees
- **Rita Cortés, KCPS School Board Member**
 - KCPS board of directors
 - Appreciate involvement of parents. Recognize the importance of what parents have to say. Parental voices matter
- **Emmalyn Case, Be SMART**
 - Parent at Hale Cook Elementary (Kindergarten student)
 - Everytown for Gun Safety
 - Gun deaths are the leading cause of death among children today
 - SMART – Secure, Model, Ask, Recognize, Tell
 - **Secure**
 - 13 million homes
 - Children know where guns are stored



- Store guns and make inaccessible to kids
- **Model**
 - Adults' responsibility to make guns inaccessible
 - Make gun safety part of normal conversation
- **Ask**
 - Make it part of general safety conversation with friends and family
 - Try e-mail or text for comfort
 - 4.6 million children live in household with a loaded unlocked gun
 - Scenarios of conversations
- **Recognize**
 - Recognize role of guns in suicide
 - 90% suicide attempts using guns end in death
 - 41 percent of child suicides involve a gun
 - 20% of high school kids seriously considered attempting suicide within the last year
 - 41% have easy access to guns
 - Resources
 - National Suicide Prevention Line
 - 800 273 8255
 - Trevor Project
 - Trevor Lifeline
- **Tell**
 - Tell everyone you know to be SMART with guns
 - Use your voices to encourage people around you to be safer with guns
 - SMART 64433 (text messages to legislators)
- Curriculum currently adopted by Liberty and NKC School districts
- Interested in getting curriculum adopted by KCPS
 - Would like to connect with other parents
 - Emmalynmcase@gmail.com
- Question: Ashley: Vision for implementing in High Schools
 - Getting curriculum and information to families, get the education components to adults in our community education on the importance of safely stowing guns away from children
- **Cecilia Belser-Patton: Founder, JUST Systems**
 - Restorative practices and trauma informed practices in schools
 - Shifting our lens
 - What stories do we tell ourselves to explain behavior?
 - Negative thoughts about students in their families instead of extending grace and looking at the underlying conditions
 - Trauma? What is it really?
 - Event: actual experience or threat. Lack/withholding/control of material or relational resources

- Experience: perception of the individual, how someone assigns meaning to the event
 - Effects: Results (neurological, emotion effects)
- Private Event Trauma
 - Secrecy
 - Power imbalance
 - Sense of hopelessness
 - Sense of isolation
 - Sense of irretrievable loss
- Public Event Trauma (COVID)
 - Shared experience
 - Lack of judgment
 - Sense of helplessness
 - Forces beyond control
 - Sense of irretrievable loss
- Community trauma
 - Combination of experiences that negatively impact a community
 - An event that impacts a few people but has structural and social consequences
- Stress-Response System
 - Fight, Flight, Freeze
- Discussion of Historical Trauma within the school district
 - Difference between resources at different schools
- Chronic Trauma
 - Multiple instances of the same traumatic event, happening to the same person, or environmental or community trauma
- Prevalence of trauma
 - More than 50% of the general population have experienced at least one traumatic event
 - 90% of the KCPS community have experienced at least one traumatic event
 - Foster care: PTSD rates twice as high as US war veterans
 - Nearly 40% of foster care recipients have witnessed an act of violence
- The Core Principles
 - Equity
 - Trustworthiness
 - Empowerment
 - Choice
 - Collaboration
 - Safety
- Change Question from “what’s wrong with you” to “what happened to you”
- Alive and Well Communities (www.awcommunities.org)
 - Started in 2020 to provide trauma informed response to providing support
- Opportunity for trainings during the summer
 - Through community, DAC, SAC, and other parent teacher organizations
- Question: How do you get involved, stay connected?

- Reaching out through UMKC department of community members
 - Question: will you organization partner with tier 3 schools with restorative justice programs?
 - Yes, recommend that restorative justice (RJ) coordinator in schools be part of the team with this program
 - Southeast RJ individuals are part of the program
 - Question: with the schools closing, will you go over this again at their new schools
 - DESE Missouri model for trauma informed schools
 - Trauma clinicians in common between different schools, will be able to serve the students there
 - Question: is there a listing of contacts at each school?
 - At KCPS website, you can find the staff and the trauma clinician that is there
 - Question: violence within schools, will there be access to trauma informed initiatives within schools?
 - Working on engaging parents and staff at each school to engaged
- **Lori Peters, KCPS Extended Learning Opportunities Manager (Note: let's have Lori discuss summer programs at the March 2024 meeting)**
 - Summer Academy Mission & Vision
 - Support success of all Kansas City Public Schools students
 - June 5th – June 29th
 - 4000 students
 - Community Partnerships
 - Boys and Girls Club
 - Alvin Ailey
 - Emmanuel Family and Child Development Center
 - Deadline: May 1
 - For families unable to make deadline, encourage parents to get in touch with Boys and Girls Club
 - Summerschool@kcpublicschools.org
 - Subject: Boys and Girls Club request
 - Possible Summer activities
 - STEM opportunities
 - KC STEM Alliance
 - Future U
 - Remake Learning KC
 - KC Math Week
 - Mathapalooza at KC Public Schools
 - Robotic Program through Urban League
 - WeCode/KC Robotics
 - Contact Information
 - Lpeters@kcpublicschools.org
 - 816-418-5272

- Questions: possibility of future coordination with tech department to get summer school confirmation within 24 hours of submission
 - Working on improving system to push out notification earlier in school year
- Question: will PowerPoint be online?
 - Yes
- Question: Staffing? Will FLA just have 1 class for mandarin?
 - Still have openings at different sites.
 - Positions are internal, must be certified teachers in their knowledge area
- Question: Partnership with Boys and Girls Club?
 - Cannot be enrolled in both programs (KCPS summer school and B&G Club). Boys and Girls club is 9 weeks enrollment. Pretest, post-test. Curriculum the district has provided.

Hour 2: Budget Discussion

- **Courtney Adams**
 - Feedback from parents?
 - What are barriers?
 - How can we better support?
 - How can we better foster parent engagement?
- **Dr. Derald Davis, KCPS Deputy Superintendent**
 - Fiscal Year 2024
 - Priorities
 - Teacher Salary Increases
 - Increased starting pay to \$46,650
 - Reading Math & Academic Interventionists
 - 5 Rocks
 - FACE (Family and Community Engagement)
 - Building Substitutes
 - 2 building subs in every school
 - Elementary Instrumental Music for Grades 4 – 6
 - How are instruments dispersed?
 - How many schools?
 - High Dosage Tutoring
 - Tutoring in small groups in TIER III schools
 - “Beyond the Four Walls” Field Trips
 - At least 2 field trips per school year align to curriculum
 - School Safety
 - Additional security officers that will monitor elementary schools
 - Secure perimeter
 - System and policies that ensure only staff, students, and visitors have access
 - Ballistic shield at all school locations

- **Erin Thompson, KCPS Budget Manager**
 - Funding
 - Tax Revenue
 - Increase of 19.66%
 - 75% of operating budget is funded from tax revenue
 - Time for General Obligation Bond
 - Current deferred maintenance of 300 million dollars
 - 67% of budget is people
 - Questions: Share where you are in the budget process
 - Still in the budget process, still getting information in. Currently being invited to multiple counsels
 - Questions: Timeline for budget approval
 - June 24th, statutory deadline is June 30th
 - Questions: ESRE funding
 - FACE positions and building subs are funded through ESRE
 - Funding HVAC systems
 - Questions: teacher salary increases, are their increases being made across the board or in just a few
 - All teachers experienced increase pay
 - Question: Beyond the four walls
 - Question: Volunteers for field trips, will parents have to pay their fee?
 - District will pay for parent volunteers
 - These field trips are on top of any trips funded by the individual school budget. 2 field trip minimum per school year per student
 - Budget Priorities
 - Ranking the priorities
 - Teachers currently receive \$500 a semester for supplies
 - Teacher in room felt \$200 per month would be helpful
 - Opening ability to shop at Amazon for supplies would help money stretch a bit more

Meeting Adjourned