

District Accountability (DAC) Newsletter



May 2023

UPCOMING DATES:

- **May 11, 2023**
6:00—8:00pm
Full DAC
meeting
Tesla, room
116 and via
Web Ex

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Welcome

The 2022-2023 academic year is almost at a close. I have been honored to serve as the District Accountability Committee (DAC) Chair for District 11 for the last four years. We've been through many challenges together as we strive to inspire every mind. Thank you for your support. The DAC will continue to be a strong voice for every student. The DAC has a deep gratitude for our schools and everyone who works there. Please take time to thank teachers and staff at your school for the work they do.

School Accountability Committees (SACs) should be looking at the results of the 5 Essentials Data and final STAR test at their schools this month. Have open conversations about what good things are happening and what opportunities there are for improvement at your school. How will your SAC be part of the One Plan development? Look for information about the Summer Bridge Program at your school. Many school sites are combining so that maintenance work can be completed at many of our schools.

The DAC has continued our work through this school year. We are in the process of wrapping up our charges and responsibilities for the year. In the coming weeks, the DAC and its subcommittees will look at the membership rosters and prepare end of the year reports to the Board of Education (BOE). The Mill Levy Override Oversight Committee is also actively looking for volunteers to serve on that committee. See <https://www.d11.org/MLO> for more information.

During this past academic year, some of DAC's successful accomplishments include:

- Supported School Accountability Committees as needed.
- Hosted 4 SAC Training Sessions with relevant and insightful topics to better prepare SAC members to fulfill their charges at their respective schools.
- Participated on the fund balance task force.
- Studied and prepared a report on the Fiscal Year 23/24 Budget Modification Requests (BMRs).
- Reviewed the District Financial Audit results.
- Analyzed and tracked STAR benchmark and Acadience results.
- Reviewed and gave feedback on the School Improvement Plans for priority improvement and turnaround schools.
- Reviewed the one new charter application and three transfer charter applications and provided final reports to the BOE.
- Participated on the Family School Community Partnership Collaborative (FSCP) with Colorado Department of Education (CDE).
- Supported FSCP Collaborative Celebrations Spotlight for 10 schools.
- Published comprehensive monthly DAC newsletters.

I would like to thank all the volunteers across our district! So much valuable work would not be completed without you. You are appreciated. Thank you for working to empower all of our students.

On behalf of the DAC, I congratulate the 2023 graduates and wish you the very best in your next adventure. I wish the students, parents, and staff a wonderful summer!

Regards,

Velvet Stepanek
Chair – District Accountability Committee

News & Notes

D11 “One Plan” School Improvement Summer Symposiums (May-June 2023)

- Dr David Khaliqi, Executive Director of Education Insights, Nata-sha Crouse, Director Student Improvement, and the EI team will conduct “One Plan” School Improvement Summer Symposiums with all D11 schools in late May and early June 2023. **One Plan**
- The goal of the symposiums is to have the principal, key staff and SAC members from each school review their key challenges and successes of the past year in the context of their 2022-2023 One Plan/USIP and develop a draft One Plan/USIP for the 2023-2024 school year.
- SAC members will be invited to participate – check with your local principal. DAC has worked closely with Education Insights this past year to improve SAC participation in the One Plan development and monitoring process.
- **Please participate in your school’s Symposium sessions if at all possible.**



D11 Support Initiatives for Students with Dyslexia:

- District 11 has been providing support for students who may have Dyslexia for several years through the use of high quality programs that provide direct instruction in foundational reading skills that are critical for students with a profile indicating dyslexia.
- **Now, D11 is introducing an expansion of Dyslexia therapy opportunities for identified students during regular and extended school days at specified D11 elementary sites at no cost to families. To get the details on the expanded opportunities go to <https://www.d11.org/dyslexia> or contact the Dyslexia Leadership Team at 719-520-2023.**



COLORADO'S STORIES OF PROMISING PRACTICES

This is a CDE series of videos and stories that highlight schools and districts that have implemented new strategies to improve student outcomes, developed exemplary practices and validated their results through data and other verifiable demonstrations of student performance. Featuring work in four key areas, these stories highlight the innovative practices in schools and districts across the state. For valuable information, check out the series at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/promisingpractices> .

News & Notes Continued

Academic Support Plan – What is this?

- The District and Board of Education are currently considering a contractor-led update to the Facilities Master Plan dubbed “Academic Support Plan” to bring it more in line with the vision and major initiatives in the Academic Master Plan.
- The proposed Statement of Work includes a bullet, “*Conduct stakeholder and community engagement to guide the analysis and recommendations ensuring that school communities’ values and input are incorporated.*”
- If approved, the Scope of Work tentatively targets July 1, 2023 for a 75% complete draft with a final product due by Oct 3, 2023. Stay tuned - check with your principal, Area Superintendent and the D11 Website for details on community meeting times and places as this project evolves.



DISTRICT 11 SUMMER BRIDGE

EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND THE TRADITIONAL SCHOOL CALENDAR

Summer Bridge Program Information

- One 4 week session (June 5 – June 30), Tesla—June 5—June 23 (3 sessions)
- 5 days per week
- 5.5 instructional hours
- 4 key elements: Academics, Enrichment, SEL, Range of Subjects
- Project-based learning experience

Summer Bridge Design

- Academics
- Multiple Subjects
- Student Learning
- Intervention
- Enrichment
- Social Emotional

Summer Bridge Target

- All schools focus on unfinished learning with emphasis on preparing students for the next school year
- Elementary and Middle Schools target reading and math
- High Schools target credit recovering, essential standards, and preparation for the next course in the subject area

For site/host information go to: <https://www.d11.org/Page/17283>

Upcoming deadlines of interest to SACs:

- **Acadience Reading (READ Act) EOY (end of year) tests K-3:** Scheduled April 24th – May 12th

Election of New SAC Officers and early DAC support:

- If not already done in April, May is the month to elect, or be thinking about election of officers for the coming school year as outlined in Regulation AE-R-2, School Accountability Committees.
- If you are a new SAC Chair and would like some early training/support over the summer please contact Trudy Tool at 520-2016 and she will connect you with the appropriate DAC resources.

SAC Training Session Recordings:

- The WebEx recordings for the main presentations provided for the SAC Training Sessions on Sep 29, 2022, Dec 1, 2022, and Jan 26, 2023 are available on the DAC Meeting Recordings page at <https://www.d11.org/page/17241>. The SAC Training Session on April 6, 2023 was in-person only and not recorded.

**Agenda Planning Guide for May (If meeting - Theme: Assessment/planning for next school year)**

- Review/discuss STAR End of Year results, instructional focus and One Plan/USIP goals for next year.
- Review results of winter and spring Chicago 5E school surveys and progress on SEL successes/challenges
- Plan to participate in District One Plan Summer Symposium for school development of 23-24 One Plan/USIP



Good Things Happening in the District

District:

Congratulations 2023 High School Graduates

High School Graduation Dates

5/ 23 Coronado HS 9am, Mitchell HS 3pm - World Arena

5/ 24 Palmer HS 9am, Doherty HS 3pm - World Arena

Alternative High Schools - Roy J Wasson Campus:

5/18 Bijou 9am, Achieve 1pm

5/19 Tesla 9am, Odyssey ECCO 1pm

6/1 Adult and Family Education - RJWAC Auditorium 7pm



Coronado HS:

Congratulations to Coronado HS student Ana Lucia Ferguson for being selected as one of the Gazette's Best & Brightest 2023. She will graduate from Coronado High School at the top of her class, is co-captain of the tennis team and an upper-tier athlete. Her involvement in community service is admirable, and she is a caring student leader. She has developed remarkable public speaking skills that have led to preparing speeches and presenting them for fundraising. Recently she and a speaking partner competed at a Couples Who Care event, winning around \$10,000 for her favorite nonprofit: Cougars Care. She plans to attend Colorado State University.



Good Things Happening in the District (Continued)

Doherty HS:

Doherty Navy JROTC Represents District 11 at Rockies Game

Doherty Navy JROTC had the honor of presenting colors at a recent Colorado Rockies game.

Doherty Navy JROTC has been hand selected to present the colors at the Sept 11th game honoring First Responders and the Military.



King ES:

- Congratulations to King ES students along with their PE teacher Jason Poole, who raised over \$5,000 for the American Heart Association through the Kids Heart Challenge!



Mann MS:

- Congratulations to Ms. Ryden from Mann MS who was honored by the El Paso County Contractors Association (EPCCA) for investing in educational excellence through the construction and trades industry. Ms Ryden has done an excellent job integrating science and technology within her classes.

Mitchell HS:

- Congratulations on a successful community resource night held at Mitchell High School on April 27. Families from Mitchell, Swigert, Wilson, Henry, McAuliffe, Penrose, Monroe, Galileo, Madison, Grant, and Audubon were invited to eat dinner and connect. Families were able to learn about resources available in Colorado Springs. They connected with organizations that help with accessing food for free, mental health services, housing and much, much more.
- So many people worked together to make the night a success. Thank you to Mary Katungu, Atquetzali Quiroz, Rebecca Kenderdine, Maria Andino-Jimenez, Natasha Davis, Lou Pico, Cendy Angeles, Herlinda Solano, the team from Para ti Mujer, and the other Colorado College student volunteers. Thank you to George Smith, Amanda Wermers, and other Mitchell Staff for their support. Thank you to Will Haden and Rose Salyers for providing translation services.
- We look forward to more resource nights in the coming school year.



Good Things Happening in the District (Continued)

ProStart:

- Congratulations to a team of ProStart students from D11 who placed first at the Colorado ProStart Culinary Invitational in March. They will be competing on the national level in Washington, D.C. May 2—May 4, 2023.



Palmer HS:

- Congratulations to Palmer HS student, Takaya Montez de Oca on being recognized as one of the Gazette's Best and Brightest! Takaya has been on both the tennis and volleyball teams, serving as captain of the tennis team, been a member of the school's rock-climbing club; serves as president of the student body and Palmer's National Honor Society chapter. He will be attending Brown University in the fall.



Sabin MS:

- Congratulations to the following Sabin MS students/artists that are featured in the 60th Annual Pikes Peak Regional Young Peoples Art Exhibition:
 - ◆ Nayeli Chavez Lopez, Cristal Gonzales Ibarra, Jay Johnson, Helena Juarez, Lydia McGinley, Gabriela Shea
- The show is live and can be seen at the link below:
<https://sites.google.com/d11.org/ypae/home>



Twain ES:

- Congratulations to Mark Twain Elementary School for celebrating their 60th birthday on April 27, 2023!
- The Mark Twain Elementary School was dedicated on November 14, 1962. The firm of Bunts and Kelsey was the architect for this \$355,554 school built at 3402 E San Miguel St. Additions were made in 1963, 1964 and 1969.



Wilson ES:

- Congratulations to the Wilson ES Student Council who sold Soda Grams for Valentine's Day to raise money for the Children's Hospital. They were able to raise \$370 and presented the check to the Children's hospital at the end of April.
- Wilson 3rd grade students competed with other 3rd grade classes around the city to create a mascot for Seven Falls. Wilson students were one of ten finalists for the competition. The chipmunk mascot, which they named "Chip Falls" is in the process of being painted based on their design. It will be delivered to Seven Falls in May.

