

# District Accountability

(DAC)

SEPTEMBER 2019



## UPCOMING DATES:

- September 3, 2019, Training & SAC Support Meeting, 5:30—7:00pm, Volunteer Services Conference room
- September 19, 2019, monthly DAC meeting, Tesla, 6:00—8:00pm
- September 26, 2019, SAC Training Session, 6:00—8:00pm, Tesla
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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

News & Notes	2
Updates to SAC	4
Good Things	8

## Welcome

On behalf of the entire District Accountability Committee (DAC), welcome to the start of the 2019-20 academic year. We hope all of you had a wonderful summer break.

Once again, this year, the DAC intends to publish monthly newsletters. The purpose of the newsletter is to keep various District 11 stakeholders informed and open channels of communication between our parents, community members, schools, and district.

Each newsletter will contain one or more of the following sections:

*News & Notes* – Relevant happenings in the district; information on upcoming meetings, events, and deadlines.

*Updates to SAC* – Planning guide and helpful tips for your monthly meetings.

*Good Things* – Highlight some of the incredible things happening at our schools.

One of the primary charges tasked to the DAC by the Board of Education (BOE) is to work with and support every D11 school in the development of an effective and highly functional School Accountability Committee (SAC). We plan to accomplish this goal with our quarterly SAC Training Sessions (the first one is on September 26, 2019), updates through this newsletter, and one-on-one sessions with individual SACs (if necessary).

Excitement is in the air as District 11 works on realizing our strategic plan. Dr. Michael Thomas is leading the way as we carry the vision and mission at each of our schools. The DAC looks forward to working with all of our partners to “Inspire every mind.”

Finally, the DAC serves as an advisory body to the BOE. Everything we recommend and accomplish is centered around the “Students First” approach. We will continue to do that by leveraging our partnership with parents, community members, schools, district administration, and BOE. On behalf of the BOE, District, and DAC, I would like to thank all the volunteers for their dedication, service, and commitment to the betterment of D11. Please do not hesitate to contact us if your SAC has comments, questions, or concerns.

Thanks for your support,  
Velvet Stepanek  
Chair – District Accountability Committee

## News & Notes

### NEWS & notes

*"We make a living  
by what we get;  
but we make a life  
by what we give."  
Winston Churchill*

### New D11 Brand and Messaging Architecture System



Colorado Springs  
School District 11



Colorado  
Springs  
Schools

*Inspire every mind.*

- As you may have seen and heard, Colorado Springs School District 11 proudly announced a new brand and messaging architecture system on August 8. If you haven't gotten a chance to watch the brand rollout video, be sure to visit <https://www.d11.org/Page/11753>, where you can watch the video and take a look at the new brand standards.
- Quoting the video, there is so much more to a brand than just a logo or a website. Every communication from D11 contributes to the perceptions we own, from the message to the treatment of photos and the text. They all project attributes of D11. The goal of the brand standards is to improve the effectiveness of the District's communications in today's crowded messaging environment, while reducing overall design expenditures for individual pieces. Maintaining consistency in messaging and design across the District strengthens the brand.

### Pikes Peak Library District and D11 Team Up to Offer the PowerPass

- ◇ Starting August 26, all D11 students will have a digital **PowerPass** card, which will provide access to all digital resources, information about events and activities at their local PPLD branch, and allow them to checkout up to five physical resources at PPLD locations.
- ◇ We are excited to provide access to research databases, free homework help, eBooks and Audio books, practice SAT and driving tests, coding and STEAM activities, and so much more! Visit <https://www.d11.org/PowerPass> to learn more!



## News & Notes (Continued)

### **Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) Family, School, and Community Partnering (FSCP):**

- As MTSS concepts are implemented in our schools this year, we strongly encourage SACs to focus on supporting implementation of the Family School and Community Partnership components of MTSS.
- A wealth of ideas and resources is available from the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) on their MTSS Family, School, and Community Partnership web page at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/mtss/fscp> . Be sure to check out these resources as you consider how to improve your overall approach to family, school and community partnerships.



### **Many D-11 schools again post strong academic results on state tests**

#### **for the 2018-2019 school year:**



***Congratulations*** to the many D-11 schools who achieved significant gains in student academic growth and also overall performance on their preliminary School Performance Framework (SPF) report/designation for 2019 based on the results from the 18-19 school year.

Schools attaining an 80% or better score on the preliminary School Performance Framework include:

Bristol ES	Buena Vista ES	Chipeta ES
Columbia ES	Edison ES	Penrose ES

Special recognition also goes to Scott ES, Buena Vista ES, Edison ES, Jackson ES and Penrose ES for attaining a growth rate of greater than 50% at all grade levels and for all sub-categories of students for the 18-19 school year in both ELA and Math.

## SAC UPDATES



*"Volunteers do not  
necessarily have  
the time; they just  
have the heart!"*

*Elizabeth Andrew*



### **School's SPF and Student Growth Data**

For SACs, both your school's SPF and student growth data for the last three years should be available from your principal for review. Here are links to some CDE aids and fact sheets for interpreting the data;

- CDE generated State Accountability Data Tools and Reports page – provides descriptions of latest tools and reports and links to all key tools and reports: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/schoolviewdataandresults>
- 2019 Annotated School Performance Framework Report, [http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/2019-annotated-spf\\_final\\_081419](http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/2019-annotated-spf_final_081419)
- Annotated Colorado Growth Model Summary Report, <http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/2018-annotated-growth-summary-report>
- Colorado Growth Model Fact Sheet for Parents, <https://www.cde.state.co.us/communications/20170818growthparents>



Colorado Springs  
School District 11



## SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE (SAC) TRAINING

**When:**  
**September 26, 2019**  
**6pm – 8pm**

**Where:**  
**Tesla Professional Development Center –**  
**room 116/129**  
(2560 International Circle)

**LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED**

**PLEASE RSVP TO TRUDY TOOL WITH NUMBER OF  
PEOPLE ATTENDING FROM YOUR SCHOOL -**  
**[TRUDY.TOOL@D11.ORG](mailto:TRUDY.TOOL@D11.ORG)**

**CHILD CARE WILL BE PROVIDED FOR CHILDREN AGES  
PRESCHOOL TO 12**

**PLEASE RSVP TO TRUDY TOOL IF CHILD CARE IS NEEDED**  
**– [TRUDY.TOOL@D11.ORG](mailto:TRUDY.TOOL@D11.ORG)**

**Highly recommended for  
SAC Chairs/members,  
school administrators,  
and DAC members**

**Open to all parents and  
community members**

### **TRAINING WILL PROVIDE:**

- **A MESSAGE FROM  
SUPERINTENDENT THOMAS**
- **TESTIMONIAL**
- **BREAK-OUT SESSIONS:**
  - **SAC 101**
  - **HOW DOES SCHOOL PER-  
FORMANCE FRAMEWORK  
(SPF) DRIVE YOUR USIP?**
  - **FAMILY LEARNING  
INSTITUTE – FAMILIES AS  
PARTNERS - PROMOTING  
SCHOOLS**

## SAC UPDATES (Continued)



*“Volunteers do not  
necessarily have  
the time; they just  
have the heart!”  
Elizabeth Andrew*

### **2019 SAC Handbook and 2019 SAC Budget Handbook are available**

- \* The D11 SAC handbook has been updated for 19-20 and provides all the by-laws and requirements for a school SAC along with an agenda planning guide, links to useful references, and relevant contact information.
- \* The SAC Budget Handbook has also been updated for 19-20 and contains information on all school budget accounts and how they are used at the school level. These handbooks can be found at <https://www.d11.org/Page/5868>.

### **First SAC Training Work Session**

**Thursday, Sep 26, 2019, 6:00 – 8:00 PM at Tesla**

This first SAC Training Work Session for school year 19 – 20 will be an information packed session headlined by an opening presentation by Supt Michael Thomas on Implementation of the new D11 Strategic Plan and more.

That will be followed by three training topics presented in parallel with one session each. Choose the training that will benefit you most, and bring multiple SAC members to cover all topics as appropriate.

The topics will include;

- SAC 101 – SAC basics for all new SAC members
- Understanding School Performance Framework (SPF) and school growth data (will have copies of each D-11 school's data available) and relation to development of Unified School Improvement Plan (USIP) for 19-20
- Family Learning Institute-Families as Partners – Promoting Schools



## SAC UPDATES (Continued)

### Key Deadlines of Interests to SACs



- Sep 13, 2019: All schools complete first draft of USIP in CDE data system
- Sep 18, 2019: Board of Education Work Session on USIPs for Turnaround and Priority Improvement schools
- Sep 26, 2019: First 2019 SAC Training session 6:00 – 8:00 PM at Tesla bldg.
- Oct 7, 2019: Galileo K-12 Aligned District Benchmark testing begins for ELA and Math
- Nov 1, 2019: USIPs completed for Turnaround and Priority Improvement schools
- Nov 15, 2019: USIPs completed for all schools

### SAC Meeting Agenda Planning

#### AGENDA PLANNING

Every month we intend to provide a reasonable flow of SAC agenda topics for the month that meet the broad responsibilities of School District 11 SACs. This is just a reference tool and individual SACs should tailor agendas appropriate to their school needs and emphasis. The following are some of the agenda topics that are recommended for the September SAC meeting;

- Review SAC membership guidelines, roles and responsibilities
- Review D-11 SAC Handbook for school year 2019-20
- Review 18-19 Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) results , PSAT/SAT 2018 test results (if HS), Colorado Growth Model 18 – 19 results, and preliminary School Performance Framework (SPF) designation for school year 19-20
- Discuss USIP status/completion date (first draft in CDE system by Friday, Sep 13th) and instructional challenges/focus for 19-20 (make recommendations as appropriate)
- Review District/state assessment calendar for school for 19-20 (available at <https://www.d11.org/cms/lib/CO02201641/Centricity/Domain/541/ASSESSMENT%20CALENDAR%20-%202019-2020.pdf>)
- Discuss what data will be collected/monitored to assess progress toward USIP goals  
Review DIBELS Next (ES) and Achieve 3000 (MS) fall test results (if available)



### **Edison Elementary School**



Edison will be having a ribbon cutting and community potluck for their new playground on Saturday, September 28, 2019. The ribbon cutting will be at 11:30am followed by the community potluck. The potluck celebrates the cultures at Edison Elementary and everyone is asked to bring a favorite dish to share that represents their culture. At 12:45pm Ballet Folklórico de Barajas—A Mexican Folk Dance Group will perform.

### **Mann Middle School**



Congratulations to Mann Middle School who is celebrating their **60th** Anniversary (1959-2019) with an Open House and Celebration on September 5, 2019 from 5:30—8:00pm

### **Odyssey ECCO High School**

- Cyber Security is a class that is part of career pathways offered through Odyssey ECCO High School. They are receiving international attention. Odyssey ECCO hosted international visitors so they could observe what the program entails. District 11 students can earn up to 20 college credits taking the career pathways course. Students can still get involved even without taking classes by joining the Cyber Patriot Program on the D11 website.

### **Roosevelt Charter Academy**

- Roosevelt Charter Academy and staff hosted the Care and Share food bank over the summer. The food bank was open every Wednesday from 9:00 am – noon. Donations of fresh fruits and vegetables as well as other grocery items came from Sprouts and Care and Share. Many families were able to participate in the food bank. Thanks to all those who helped run the food bank.
- August 22<sup>nd</sup> was the first Open House at Roosevelt Charter Academy. Over 100 families showed up for the Open House and were able to visit with homeroom teachers, eat cookies, drink milk and students received a new book to take home.
- Congratulations to teacher LynDel Randash who was featured in an article in the USA Today Magazine, Back to School Edition. The article was titled “Teaching with Tech”. She was also quoted in a Good House-keeping article see link below.

<https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/life/a28461310/8-things-teachers-wish-parents-knew-about-back-to-school/>



## Good Things Happening in the District (Continued)



### Rogers Elementary School



Rogers Elementary School received a \$110,000 grant through Great Outdoors Colorado to help build a new playground. The ribbon cutting ceremony was held on August 16, 2019. The playground is called the “Will Rogers Wilderness” and is a place for students, families and the Rogers community to use.



### Wilson Elementary School

Congratulations to Wilson Elementary School who is celebrating their **50th** Anniversary with an Open House Celebration on September 5, 2019 from 5:30—7:00pm.

### District 11

On the main District Website, you will find a new section entitled “D11 Stories”. This section will highlight inspirational stories about staff, alumni or community members that have had a profound impact in our District. If you have a story that you would like to share please contact Devra Ashby, Public Information Officer at [Devra.Ashby@d11.org](mailto:Devra.Ashby@d11.org).

- If you didn’t get the opportunity to attend the 2019-2020 D11 Welcome Back Assembly at the World Arena on August 8th, you can view the exciting event at the link below:

<https://medial.d11.org/Player/86169329>

- **MISSION:**

We dare to empower the whole student to profoundly impact our world.

- **VISION:**

We are a dynamic, collaborative community of energized educators, engaged students and supportive partners with a passion for continuous learning.

