

Colorado Springs School District 11
Superintendent Dr. Michael J. Thomas
Division of Business Services
Deputy Superintendent/CFO Glenn E. Gustafson, CPA
Director of Financial Services Laura Hronik, MBA

DAC Budget Subcommittee

Web page: [District Accountability Committee \(DAC\)](#)
Chairman Jan Rennie

Meeting Notes

November 13, 2018

6:00 p.m.

Members present: Sally Sue Coddington, Lara Crowell, Bruce Cole, Donna Ecks, Clara Hoellerbauer, Tom Hunt, Trish Nixon, Bob Null, Sandra Park, Jan Rennie, Michael Reyes, Carl Schueler, and Elisa Villarruel

Members absent: Pete Lee, Kim Polomka, and Toni Seberger

Ex-officio members present: Glenn Gustafson, Laura Hronik, and Becky Moore

Guests: DAC Chairman Dr. Parth Melpakam, DAC Membership Committee Chairman Dr. Wendy Chiado, Board of Education Directors Ms. Nora Brown and Ms. Julie Ott, Deputy Superintendent Mr. David Engstrom, K12 Science and Health Facilitator Mr. Darian Founds, and District Research Analyst Dr. Paul Medina

Chairman Rennie brought the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Rennie asked for approval of the agenda. Because there has not been a meeting of the DAC since the subcommittee's last meeting, there was nothing to bring forward.

Darian Founds introduced himself to the subcommittee. He furnished a handout that outlined what the summer enrichment series (SES) is all about. The program is aimed at current year kindergarten through grade seven and was in its fourth year of implementation in the summer of 2018. The program is available to all students and the programs are STEAM-oriented (STEAM = science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics). The program is not meant to be remedial but to provide enrichment and creativity for both students and teachers.

Dr. Medina put together the assessment of the program. He emphasized that the assessment is an analysis of the program and not an evaluation of the program. The focus is to continually upgrade the program. Items of note in the analysis included:

- Decline in enrollment
- Increase in enrollment of students in SES but not returning to D11 in the fall
- Minority participation gap
- Survey of parents of SES enrolled students, not general D11 parent community
- Lack of parental participation
- Good staff and administration participation
- Marketing effectiveness – or not
- Better safety of students
- Decline in data collection
- Communication concerns
- Recommendation to do an evaluation of all areas of the program

The members discussed the District cost per pupil. This would include salaries and transportation. The group also talked about the possibility of the program growing to a full day instead of the current half day program. The subcommittee thanked Dr. Medina, Mr. Founds, and Mr. Engstrom for attending the meeting.

The members next topic of discussion was the draft fact information sheet developed by member Clara Hoellerbauer. Discussion centered around how to pull the data indicated on the form. The additional information sheet should be addressed to principals. Much of the data requested should be available through various district departments including Fiscal Services and Educational Data Support Services. A few adjustments will be made to the form and Ms. Hoellerbauer will resubmit another draft. Discussion of using average class size vs course enrollment was debated. Also, noted was advanced placement fee reduction for at risk students and if the schools were aware that this reduction in fees charges is available.

The 2018-19 mid-year budget modifications were reviewed next. Mr. Gustafson discussed each request individually with the group. He pointed out that photos were provided, as appropriate, per the subcommittee's request at the end of last year. The subcommittee had been told there would be no budget modification requests for this mid-year but there were several real needs identified and of the nine total requests, only two are recurring. Points of discussion included:

- Enrollment down significantly is impacting the budget
- Decline in enrollment will impact next year's projections
- Five-year averaging helps to soften the impact of the declining numbers
- Is the welding grant associated with DBS-3 (welding ventilation) locked in with a match from the District?
- Alternative practices to busing with school buses and motor coaches for field trips, athletic events, etc.
- Outsourcing transportation or sharing with other local school districts

Other items of interest discussed were:

- The recent water damage to Thomas B. Doherty High School
 - Clean up costs
 - Damages costs
 - Insurance help and possible help from the city (fire department)
- Replacement of rubber flooring at Doherty and other district schools
 - Mercury abatement

The members were asked to send questions regarding SES to Chairman Rennie or Becky Moore for distribution and reply.

Approval of the meeting notes for October 23, 2018 was called for. Ms. Villarruel moved to approve the meeting notes, seconded by Ms. Nixon and all in favor. The meeting notes will be posted to the DAC web page on the District 11 web site.

The subcommittee's agenda topics for November 27, 2018 will include wrap up of the SES program, invitation to Mr. Soto to review the budget request DBS-6 for the motor coach funding increase, and invitation to Mr. Hoff for clarification of post-secondary, concurrent enrollment, CU Gold and other programs that offer college credit while students are enrolled in D11. Mr. Hoff could also answer any questions related to budget modification requests ALL-1 and ALL-2.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 27 at 6:00 p.m. in the administration building boardroom.