

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

December 11, 2018

6:00 p.m.

Members present: Sally Sue Coddington, Bruce Cole, Donna Ecks, Clara Hoellerbauer, Sandra Park, Jan Rennie, Michael Reyes, Carl Schueler, Toni Seberger and Elisa Villarruel

Members absent: Lara Crowell, Tom Hunt, Pete Lee, Trish Nixon, Bob Null, and Kim Polomka

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

Guests: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Michael J. Thomas, DAC Chairman Dr. Parth Melpakam, and Board of Education Director Ms. Julie Ott

Chairman Rennie brought the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Rennie asked for approval of the agenda. Motion to approve agenda came from Mr. Schueler, seconded by Ms. Villarruel and carried.

Dr. Thomas was welcomed by the subcommittee. He wanted to address some of the changes that are taking place with the summer enrichment series, knowing that the subcommittee had been reviewing the program as part of the 2018-19 approved charges. Dr. Thomas had several points of discussion that included:

- Reminding the subcommittee that the District is charged with good stewardship of its budget
- The program is not meeting the expected and anticipated outcomes
- Planning to move forward with a redesigned effort to target students who will benefit from enrichment
- Redesigned model will include more academics
- Will be working with the Board of Education regarding the summer program to align with achievement and retention expectations at the next board meeting
- There will not be any sort of voting to reject or retain the program at the next board meeting
- Redesign will be a part of the upcoming budget
- Mr. Schueler addressed equity issues with the southern area of the District with regards to the current summer enrichment series
- Updates as to the fate of the program will be coming to the DAC

The subcommittee moved next to final review and a vote on the budget modifications for the 2018-19 mid-year budget. With ten members present, the subcommittee met the simple majority requirement for a vote. The subcommittee recognized that it is not typical to fund budget modification requests out of reserves. Results of final discussion and voting on the nine budget modifications presented to the subcommittee are shown in the following table. These results will be included in the subcommittee's recommendations to the Board of Education at the work session scheduled for January 16, 2019.

Catalog #	Description	\$ Amount	R/N	Voting Results				Comment or Concern
				Yea	Nay	Neutral	Abstain	
ALL-1	Dual credit / concurrent enrollment certifications	103,000	R	9		1		Concern expressed is that 500+ students enrolled in AP classes also opt for dual credit in the same class, and D11 pays for both. Savings could come from only one option paid for by D11.
ALL-2	Career and technical education student organizations	59,500	R	8	1	1		Would like to see other national level competitions are funded as well as the CTSOs.
TS-1	Support vehicle purchase	25,000	N	8		2		Personal vehicles are not a satisfactory option.
DBS-1	Floor, ductwork, and wall refinishing at Mitchell High School	55,000	N	10				See the need for safety.
DBS-2	Renovate restrooms at Mitchell High School	75,000	N	10				Could impact rental revenues if not completed.
DBS-3	Welding ventilation system upgrade at Coronado High School	30,000	N	10				Safety need. Would impact use of existing equipment if not funded. Used by many different programs.
DBS-4	Landscaping damage repair at West campus	65,000	N	10				See the need for safety.
DBS-5	HVAC upgrade in Technology Services building	25,000	N	10				This need is a district-wide advantage.
DBS-6	Motor coach funding increase	230,000	N	8		2		Transportation's efforts towards developing and then to implement an alternative, less costly plan to reduce the use of motor coaches was applauded.

The subcommittee turned to the fact finder sheet's revisions for implementing charge three. It was decided that to look at the programs efficiently, each one would have the sheet designed for that particular program. The subcommittee decided to begin with the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program. After examining the results of this program, the subsequent information requests should help improve upon the form and its questions.

Dr. Thomas indicated that he was pleased to see the subcommittee looking at these programs and their viability, AVID and International Baccalaureate in particular, as the new district strategic plan is developed.

Approval of the meeting notes for November 27, 2018 was called for. Mr. Reyes moved to approve the meeting notes, seconded by Ms. Hollerbauer and all in favor. The meeting notes will be posted to the DAC web page on the District 11 web site.

There was no DAC update since the last meeting and the committee does not meet in December. The DAC will be participating in a budget balancing exercise at a special meeting of the committee on January 10, 2019. The regular DAC committee meeting will include development of the strategic plan on January 17, 2019. The DAC Budget Subcommittee will participate in the same exercise at its next regularly scheduled meeting on January 8, 2019.

At this time, the subcommittee discussed several different topics which included:

- The different groups scheduled to participate in the budget balancing exercise
- The D11 marketing spot at the movie theaters – lack luster at best – when compared to D20’s spot
- Parents around Colorado Springs and within District 11 are unaware of the myriad of great programs offered by District 11 for their children, most notably the college and career readiness programs
- This subcommittee has been challenging the District to step up its marketing practices and to move forward with more aggressive advertising
- An update on the mill levy override progresses
- Laptop rollout at the schools for teachers and the professional development accompanying the roll out
- District 11’s third place award from the Gazette’s “Best Places to Work” large industry category
- The demographic study – report still in draft form
- New strategic plan development
 - How the plan will fit in with the 2019-20 budget
 - Strategic plan in the request for proposal process
 - Redirect D11 to compete with surrounding school districts
 - Conclude end of August, must complete in order to conduct the mil levy override audit
- Braiding programs to move them to college/career K-12
- Education pathways revamping
- Student loss at transition grades (grade 5 to grade 6 and grade 8 to grade 9)
- Budget reinvesting vs. budget reductions
- Capital renewal – renovating and renewal inside school buildings
- Curb appeal improvements
- Demography of schools – exploring K-8 schools where they might be a good fit
- BEST grants and school security grants – District 11 is close to the TABOR cap
- Rebalancing staffing ratios
- A late budget modification submission from the Early Childhood Department
 - Increase in special needs preschool children in the District
 - State and federal mandates state school districts must provide services for children beginning at three years old
 - District needs to add a classroom second semester and thereafter, requiring one teacher and two aides
 - Budget modification request form available upon request
- Staffing freeze for second semester is being studied
- Closure of Roy J Wasson High School savings vs the costs of Roy J Wasson Academic Campus
- District is over staffed
 - Attrition preferred method to reducing staff
 - Attrition may not be enough

The subcommittee’s agenda for January 8, 2019 will entail the budget balancing exercise. It is anticipated that the meeting will take two hours instead of the usual 90 minutes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the administration building boardroom.