

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

February 12, 2019

6:00 p.m.

IT Conference Rooms A and B

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

Members absent: Lara Crowell, Tom Hunt, Pete Lee, and Kim Polomka

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

Guests: Assistant Superintendent Mr. John McCarron, Deputy Superintendent Mr. David Engstrom, Social Studies/AVID Facilitator Ms. Joan Jahelka, Andrew Jackson Elementary Principal Ms. Sara Miller, North Middle School Principal Mr. Chris Kilroy, General William J. Palmer High School Principal Ms. Lara Disney and Assistant Principal Mr. Don Geiser, Thomas B. Doherty High School Assistant Principal Mr. Ryan Alsup, Francisco Vasquez de Coronado High School AVID Coordinator Laura Stuckey, District Research Analyst Dr. Paul Medina, DAC Chairman Dr. Parth Melpakam, DAC Membership Committee Chairman Dr. Wendy Chiado, and DAC Training and SAC Support Chairman Mr. Lyman Kaiser

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. Null, seconded by Mr. Reyes and carried. At this time, the guests were introduced to the subcommittee.

Discussion commenced with Mr. McCarron's update to the subcommittee concerning the one to one laptop/tablet rollout to the high schools. This rollout was an approved budget modification last year. The rollout is taking place with a few modifications from the original plan. Each school had their own plan for how to best get this project going. At this time, the project is running pretty smoothly. A few challenges are mobility of the student population and maintenance of the laptops/tablets. A small reserve of tablets is kept at each school for check out if maintenance or replacement is required as well as for substitute teachers' use. Mr. McCarron asked to be invited back at a later date for further updates if the subcommittee would like.

The subcommittee moved on to the AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination) program presentations. Ms. Jahelka furnished a brief overview of the AVID program – what it is, the impact on students, schools that do and do not have the program, where the program is going.

Ms. Miller spoke about how Jackson Elementary came to embrace AVID and now the school has become a national showcase school.

Mr. Kilroy spoke about AVID at North middle school and the importance of parental involvement with the program. This school has a high at-risk population that has begun to really embrace this program. The school hopes to expand the program.

At Coronado High School, the program is successful for underserved students. It seems to help with shrinking the achievement gap. Although it is still a grassroots program at Coronado, it is growing and AVID strategies are being employed throughout the school.

Palmer High School has been engaged with AVID long enough to have six sections. AVID strategies are employed throughout the school. Aligning AVID with the school's International Baccalaureate program was a challenge but the school has been successful to make the programs supportive rather than competitive. Incoming freshmen are exposed to AVID strategies as they begin their high school careers.

The AVID program at Doherty High School is struggling and enrollment in AVID programs is down. The school realizes a need for updating the program, to include teacher professional development. Because the school is moving towards pre-advance placement, it would like to see a connection with AVID.

Mitchell High School does not offer AVID classes at this time.

The subcommittee thanked the AVID presenters and was asked to forward further questions or comment for this evening's guests.

Following up on the AVID presentations, Ms. Jahalka again took the floor to discuss the financial impact of AVID on the District.

- Selection process of students and parental support.
- Professional development
- AVID site visits (two annually)
- D11 administration walk-through visits
- Digital resources are becoming more available
- AVID dues pay for a school to access AVID resources and materials
- A school may employ AVID strategies but if not formally in the program, the AVID resources and professional development are not available
- AVID aligns with student individual career and academic plan
- AVID follows graduates for six years post-graduation

Ms. Rennie turned the subcommittee to a follow up on the summer enrichment series. The group was given the following program changes:

- Budget has been reduced by about half
- Program at elementary only this coming summer
- Two weeks instead of three weeks
- One full-day site and six half-day sites
- Focus will be on soft skills
- Incentivize enrollment and awards for perfect attendance
- The need to market the summer enrichment series is of high importance, parents not aware of the program

Dr. Chiado briefly addressed the committee regarding membership for the upcoming school year. She would like to know who will be continuing membership and encouraged all to recruit for the DAC and its subcommittees.

The meeting notes from the January 8, 2019 meeting were approved after a motion to accept the notes with one correction was made by Mr. Reyes and seconded by Ms. Hoellerbauer. Dr. Melpakam briefed the subcommittee regarding the previous two meetings of the DAC. The DAC participated in the same budget balancing exercise the Subcommittee participated in. Also the DAC is engaged in reviewing the alignment survey for the demographic study and SAC trainings.

The subcommittee's agenda for January 22, 2019 will include finalizing the AVID discussion and begin review of the preliminary budget development assumptions, which includes budget modification requests.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the administration building boardroom.