



Colorado Springs School District 11
Superintendent Michael Gaal
Division of Business Services
Chief Resource Officer, Brandan Comfort
Director of Financial Services Laura Hronik, MBA

DAC Budget Subcommittee

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

Chair Amanda Huber
Vice Chair LuAnn Long

Meeting Notes

February 13, 2024
6:00 p.m.
In Person

Members present: LuAnn Long, Mary Raymond, Ken Pfeil, Scott Sanders, Sheryl Sayler, Velvet Stepanek, Marion Clawson, Amanda Huber, Lyman Kaiser, Clara Hoellerbauer, Carl Schueler, Robert Grossman, Colleen Pearl.

Members absent: Rhonda Heschel, Bruce Cole, Jan Rennie, Amber Hickman, Kevin Cook.

Ex-officio members present: Laura Hronik, Brandan Comfort, Danyalla Cade.

1. Welcome & Introductions Long/Huber

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda Long/Huber
The agenda was approved with no changes.

3. Approval of Meeting Notes – Long/Huber
The meeting notes were approved with no changes.

4. Budget Update- Comfort/Hronik
 - a. Final BOA Mid-Year Budget Mods were viewed.
 - b. CRO Comfort discussed a Budget Power Point showing historical fund numbers, how declining enrollment has an impact and an ESSER FTE breakdown.
 - c. Comfort/Hronik reviewed the PBDA and a copy will be provided to the committee.

5. Incremental Budget Request (IBR)
 - a. Each Chief gave a brief description of their requests followed by a Q&A session for the committee.
 - b. Chief Acevedo spoke regarding Acevedo-01 and the \$86,900 request for Savas Algebra 2 is a one-time startup fee. The training costs and materials are an additional \$35k. It was confirmed that the Dreambox Tier 2 support request is a 2-year contract, and this request is for 1 year support. Chief Acevedo wants consistency across the district and Math materials for \$85k will get Palmer High School on that path. Acevedo-02 Professional learning request is to make sure the space/venue is set up for the capacity and training needs. It was also explained that D11 schools are unable to serve as a location due to summer activities and facility repairs. Acevedo-03 ensures that teachers will be in compliance with state requirements by getting certified with a CLDE Endorsement.

- c. Chief McCarron confirmed that annual 2.5% increase for PowerSchool and the 8% contract increase for PeopleSoft ERP (Oracle), are non-negotiable asks for the district and moving forward he will work with CRO Comfort to get them built into his budget.
- d. Chief Odom and David Allison (Security Director), discussed in detail each request for the \$246,460 request. Summarizing the need to upgrade equipment, increased cost to uniforms, systems, technology, and adjustments for hourly salary increases for Campus Security and the School Resource Officer contract.
- e. Chief Odom and John Berdon (Energy & Sustainability Manager) explained that natural gas changes daily and we are at the lowest point since right before COVID. There has been a savings of \$1.9mil through conservation projects district wide. Four schools, high school gyms and cafeterias have been completely converted to LED. Fields are also being converted to astroturf to help with savings. They will provide the committee with a copy of the Annual Energy report that they addressed.
- f. Mike Willis (Director of Facilities) confirmed that the \$12k price increase for the district work order system is a non-negotiable ask.
- g. Chief Odom and Cedric (CJ) McCampbell explained that the \$210k ask will provide fuel for support vehicles, heavy equipment, and small equipment including mowers. They plan to return any unused funds at the end of the fiscal year. The \$1,710,000 will not only support the families but also other district programs and specialty schools by providing alternative transportation options. The district is anticipating an increase in McKinney Vento students that will require transportation.
- h. CRO Comfort will provide the sheet he has regarding Mitchell's pay for performance request. It was confirmed that this is probably not enough, but it is a start, and they will work with the BOA and the Superintendent on brainstorming for future funding. CRO Comfort confirmed that GAAL-02 is an FTE request for lack of summer support. It will be reviewed and later decided upon for future needs.
- i. CRO Comfort confirmed that the \$400k price increase for legal fees is a non-negotiable ask. He also verified that the BOE compensation ask for \$100k will only be for elected members. The \$145k request for a continued contract with Allovue for budget and finance tools is also a requirement and is non-negotiable.

6. The committee has requested to have the required requests highlighted and subtotaled for easier viewing by the next meeting.

7. Adjourn

Long