

SCHOOL DISTRICT 11

UPCOMING DATES:

SAC Training
April 4, 2024
6:00—8:00pm,
Tesla, room 116/129

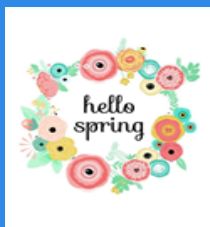
DAC Meeting
April 18, 2024
6:00—8:00pm,
Tesla, room 112/113
and via WebEx

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

News & Notes 2

SAC News 4

Good Things 5



District Accountability (DAC) Newsletter

April 2024

Welcome

Welcome to Spring, The season of regrowth and State testing. Please support your students and your school in this tough season! While CMAS testing is important to the school and the district with the results determining the Schools' school performance rating (SPF), the information regarding the student's learning is a simple snapshot of a specific moment in time. Understanding what students are learning in class and how they are doing is an ever-occurring conversation parents and teachers alike wish to engage in through the entire school year. The district offers summer school to help students that aren't ready for the next school year. This is a great opportunity to set students up for success. For more information, reach out to your students' teacher or the school administration.

To finish the school year strong, I am asking you to check your school's website to verify that information for parents is easy to find and updated. Easy access to information is an important step to build trust within our community and set us up for success when new families enter our community in the upcoming school year.

SACs engage in conversation with your principal on ways to be involved in the development of your schools unified improvement plan (UIP) or One plan. SACs need to be involved in the development of the plan; the parent perspective in particular is an important piece of the puzzle.

Reviewing the plan in August or September can't be the first time you are involved, since schools plan for the implementation long before students return. Starting to think about improvements starting in August has not shown success for many schools in the past. Improvement planning means being ahead of the game so schools don't need to scramble to catch up. The UIP is a school's business plan and needs to include ALL stakeholders in the development process, we are all in this together, after all! Engagement is a mindset and honest conversation, listening, and empathy open the door to collaboration.

Last but not least, if you missed the last SAC training of the year, you can watch the recording on the DAC website, because you really missed out! We covered screen time in the elementary school session and vaping in the middle school session. Please consider bringing these training sessions to your school as part of a SAC meeting. We talked about cellphones in school, a hot topic desperate for student perspective.

If you have any questions or need support, reach out to me at Clawson.Marion@gmail.com.

Thank you for being a part of our D11 Community!

Be healthy and happy,

-Marion

D11 District Accountability Committee (DAC) chair

News & Notes

DAC Membership for 2024-2025

- It is important we conduct legal elections for DAC members and new officers in May, so we need to be thinking about who wants to be a member for the 2024-2025 school year.
- If you would like to be on the DAC for next year please contact Lauren Blazis Walker, our membership chair, so she has time to solicit new members and candidates.

Please respond to Trudy.Tool@d11.org or respond to loryash@gmail.com to let us know whether or not you will continue on the DAC.

Spring Public Review Window April 8- April 15, 2024

Colorado Springs School District 11 will be adopting new instructional resources and courses which will be implemented beginning in the 2024-25 school year. One part of this process includes all proposed instructional resources and courses being available for public review and comment as per Board policy IJJ. More information can be found on the D11 Website, found at the link below beginning April 8th.

<https://www.d11.org/academics/approval-process-for-instructional-materials-courses>

The public review window will be open from Monday, April 8th through Monday, April 15th which includes both online and in-person access to review resources and courses. For more information, contact the D11 Academics office at 719-520-2045.



High School Graduations– 2024

High School Graduation Dates/Locations

- 5/ 21 Doherty HS 9am, Coronado HS 3pm - **Ed Robson Arena (Colorado College)**
- 5/ 22 Mitchell HS 9am, Palmer HS 3pm - **Ed Robson Arena (Colorado College)**

Alternative High Schools -

- 5/16 Odyssey 9am, Tesla 1pm - **RJWAC**
- 5/17 Achieve 9am, Bijou 1pm - **RJWAC**
- 5/30 Adult and Family Education 7pm - **RJWAC Auditorium**



News & Notes Continued

Security Updates at Schools

- All schools will be having updates to their front entrances based on feedback from the district wide security audit.
- The changes are different at every school. Jennifer Hotaling, Capital Program Manager, and her team have agreed to attend SAC meetings at any school interested in learning about their updates.
- Please reach out to Jennifer.hotaling@d11.org to schedule a time at your school. Invite your entire school community to learn about the updates being done.

SECURITY

Family Engagement Impact Study: Investigating the relationship between pre-pandemic family engagement and current student and school outcomes.



- While student attendance and learning outcomes got worse during the pandemic, this study found that schools with strong family engagement experienced much smaller declines in chronic absenteeism, attendance, and achievement.
- In partnership with TNTP (An education nonprofit that brings research, policy, and consulting together to reimagine America's public education system), and with Harvard scholars Karen Mapp and Todd Rogers as advisors, these findings come from the first of a three-phase study, which also aims to surface successful models of engagement and improve family engagement measurement for the K-12 sector.



One page summary

https://bealearninghero.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/FACE_ImpactFlyer.pdf

More details on Study

<https://bealearninghero.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/FACE-Impact-Study.pdf>

One Plan Symposium (School Improvement Plans)

- Schools are starting the work for next year's One Plans in "step back" meetings.
- The Symposium dates for One Plans are May 29, 30, & 31
- Ask your Principal if you need additional information



SAC Information

SAC Agenda Planning – April (Theme: Assessment/planning for next school year)



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

- Review 5 Essentials Data.
- Review Panorama Survey Data.
- Find out applicable testing dates in April at your school.
- Elect/select SAC chair, secretary and other officers as appropriate for next school year.
- Set SAC meeting calendar for next school year.

Upcoming Deadlines of Interest to SACs:

- Spring STAR District Benchmark (3rd-11th grade) – April 1-12
- DIBELS 8 (K-3) – April 22 – May 10 (schools choose a 2-week window)
- CMAS Tests – April 8-26
- PSAT/SAT Tests – April 15 -26
- CoAlt Tests – April 15-26
- One Plan Symposium – May 29-31

SAC Support and Training

Please take time to fill out this short survey to give the DAC feedback on SAC Support and Training: [SAC Survey](#) or https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScjVV9yOBMAxJb8pGz3v92XIFBi_iBIQSCG9QD23bbYZUXcGg/viewform



Good Things

The District—



The purpose of the Crystal Apple Awards is to honor and recognize School District 11 classroom teachers who demonstrate excellence in education by meeting the needs of their students.

- Congratulations to Crystal Apple Award Winner, Kelci Deal from Jenkins MS
- Congratulations to Crystal Apple Award Winer, Andrea Aragon from Odyssey Early College and Career Options
- Congratulations to Crystal Apple Award Winner, Lolita Wilson from Edison ES
- Congratulations to Crystal Apple Award Winner, Carla Moore from Scott ES
- Congratulations to Crystal Apple Award Winner, Shane Mulligan from Madison ES
- Congratulations to Crystal Apple Award Winner, Christine Baldwin from Midland ES

They will be honored at the Crystal Apple Teacher Awards on May 2nd at the ENT Center for the Arts.

Carver ES—

- On March 21st Carver ES had a few special guests in their kindergarten classrooms. They have been learning about pets, so thanks to the Piedra family for sharing their pet rabbits with the classrooms. This was a great lesson for students to learn about responsibility when taking care of pets.



Coronado HS—

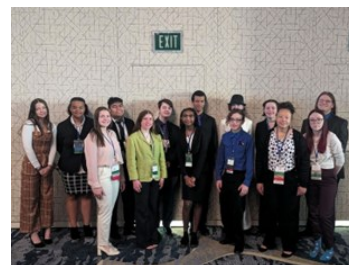
- The Rotary Diamond Award is given in recognition of the outstanding work teachers do and the positive influence they have on our youth, the Rotary Club of Colorado Springs developed a program to honor outstanding teachers in School District 11.
- Selection was based solely on confidential nominations received from Coronado students. Bart Givens, Diamond Award Chair, Rotary President Samantha Chapman, along with Jessica Wise, Alison Burrow, and Principal Addie Arnell were on hand to surprise and congratulate **Ms. Brittany Dziak** in the presence of her period 2 class.
- Recipients of the coveted Diamond Award – A Cut Above will be recognized at the Rotary luncheon on Friday, April 26, 2024, among club members, Brittany's guest, Mrs. Arnell, and a student of her choosing.



Good Things

Doherty HS -

- Doherty HS Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) shared their business and technology knowledge and expertise at the 2024 Colorado State Conference. FBLA inspires and prepares students to become community-minded business leaders in a global society through relevant career preparation and leadership experiences.
- Congratulations to Kristoffer Verceles who received 7th in Intro to FBLA and Jonathan Neppel and Braedon Mankowski for receiving 5th in Computer Gaming and Programming.
- Congratulations to Doherty HS Navy JROTC Cadet, Aeryn Pecha who received first place over all other participating JROTC units in the state of Colorado for her essay on how Lt. Col Marion Rodgers, an original Colorado Tuskegee airman, has inspired her. There is a mural depicting Lt. Col Rodgers and his P51 Mustang that is located in the "Hall of Honor" at Doherty HS. Cadet Pecha is a freshman at Doherty.



Mitchell HS—

- Congratulations to Mitchell HS student Matthew Cole for his 1st place win at the state level in the PTA Reflections Contest! Each year, over 300,000 students in Pre-K through Grade 12 create original works of art in response to a student-created theme. This 50+ year-old program helps them explore their own thoughts, feelings and ideas, develop artistic literacy, increase confidence and find a love for learning that will help them become more successful in school and in life. He will now move on to the Nationals in June.



West ES

- April 3rd was Paraeducator Appreciation Day and Western Governors University (WGU) recognized Dyann Smith, a Paraprofessional at West ES. She was honored for exemplifying excellence, going above and beyond in her role, and offering invaluable contributions to student success. Congratulations Dyann!

