



DAC Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2023

6:30pm-8:30pm

Meeting Logistics:

Jessica Bassan - **Excused**
Irene Borisov - **Present**
Brian Domokos - **Excused**
Julie Gooden - **Present**
Kelly Pointer - **Present**
Becky Krug - **Present**
Lisa Loomer - **Present**
Katie Lynch - **Excused**
Melody Mathews - **Excused**
Allison Fox - **Excused**
Ashley Opfer - **Present**
Chester Shaw - **Present**
Valerie Thompson - **Present**
Jen Spykerman - **Present**
Sammye Wheeler-Clouse - **Present**
Jenny Brown - **Present**
Kate Welsh - **Excused**

Quorum: Quorum is met 11 voting members present

Matt Reynolds, Learning Services Officer - Present

Susan Meek, Board of Education Director - Present

Jason Page, Board of Education Director - Absent

Guest in attendance: 14 (this does not include DAC and DCSD staff and board members)

Came to Order at 6:32pm

Total Attendance 23

1. Welcome - Chester
 - a. Minutes from September
 - i. Kelly Pointer made the motion to approve
 - ii. Ashley Opfer 2nd
 - iii. All agreed
2. Chester - Chair Report
 - a. Welcome

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- b. Subcommittee Assignments - Lisa will send out an email so people can select themselves. The list of subcommittees includes:
 - i. Budget
 - ii. By-Laws
 - iii. CART
 - iv. Communications
 - v. Forum/Expo Event Planning
 - vi. KB Policy Review
 - vii. Membership
 - viii. Parent Engagement
 - c. DAC Bylaws Subcommittee
 - i. Ashley mentioned there is a meeting Dec 11th to meet with the subcommittee and will have something ready to present to the DAC March/April
 - d. DAC Membership Subcommittee; Lisa
 - i. Subcommittee is considering removing the need for references
 - 1. Lisa asked for any concerns from DAC - none given
 - ii. Adding: How they heard about the opportunity to be included in the questions
 - 1. Trying to see where to focus marketing for these positions
 - iii. Adding: Which district goals are you most interested in as a standard questions.
 - iv. Adding: Have you volunteered recently in the district and in what capacity?
 - v. Have 2 open positions right now (parent representatives)
 - 1. We have people on the wait list now and we are also opening up applications to all.
 - 2. We will fill the two parent representative spots that are currently vacant and they will begin in January, unofficially, and then start officially in February after BOE approval.
 - 3. Remaining candidates not chosen may be good possibilities and ready to fill open positions in the spring/early summer.
3. DAC norms
- i. End on time
 - ii. Be engaged and listen
 - iii. Come prepared and informed--read through emails first
 - iv. Turn nametag sideways to make note you are waiting to speak
 - v. Audience - public comment forms are on the table so we can plan for time
 - vi. Discussion about asking people to join a subcommittee and follow through with the actions needed - Chester suggested if someone has suggested wording, to forward to him
 - vii. Matt will add the below to the left side of the Norms doc
 - 1. Culture of trust
 - 2. Commitment/accountability

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- 3. Commitments to subcommittees
- viii. What's the process for feedback so we are staying to the norms
 - 1. DAC self-evaluation was discussed, but frequency of the evaluation was not.
- 4. Board of Education Liaison Report (Dir Page is absent)
 - a. Dir Meek
 - i. Celebrating the passing of 5A
 - ii. Dec 6th BoE Retreat
 - 1. Will talk about next steps upon failure of 5B
 - iii. Election
 - 1. Record turnout election
 - 2. Congratulations, Valerie
 - a. Valerie received the most votes ever in the county for a Director position
 - iv. Dir Page sent an email goodbye to the DAC; thanking DAC for their work and citing his daughter's theater needs for the reason he was missing the meeting.
 - v. Outgoing reception for Dir Ray on Tuesday was good and well attended
 - vi. BOE
 - 1. Sept 26
 - a. Superintendent monitoring/contract updates
 - b. Approved DAC UIP recommendations
 - 2. Nov 14
 - a. Discussed 5A/B
 - vii. Mission/Vision Statement Changes (Sept 12th BOE mtg; 4:48 min into meeting)
 - 1. Not quite the final version that was released for feedback earlier this week
 - 2. Add was "in a safe and caring environment" to the Mission
 - a. Statute requires the mission to address safety
 - 3. The change to Vision was "The DCSD strives to maximize the potential of every student to live independently and pursue their chosen endeavor in society, including but not limited to postsecondary education, career, or military service"
 - 4. Recommendations;
 - a. should explain the statute
 - b. DCSD cannot maximize potential, but can help the student maximize theirs
 - c. Add "welcoming" to the Mission
 - viii. Work session with the BOE
 - 1. A working session has not been planned, but on Dec 12th DAC will present to the BOE for 30 min with a 15 min Q&A on KB subcommittee work
 - 2. Dir Meek will ask for a working session for DAC at the retreat

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5. Staff Update (Matt)
 - a. Passing of 5A; Matt thanked all present
 - i. Mood in the district has been lighter and happier
 - ii. Becky Krug concurred on the relief her teacher friends as well
 - iii. New Teacher pay went from \$45k to \$50k
 - b. Failure of 5B; attention shifting to how to maintain buildings
 - c. Colleen will report the state of the budget to DAC in the next few months
 - d. Question: Who is going to analyze voter data, those that voted for 5A and not 5B
 - i. Matt figures he will be doing that
 - e. Question: Will Invest DCSD share their canvas turfs to help?
 - i. Matt is not sure
 - f. Question: Is there a communication plan to share with the public how impactful 5A was to teachers?
 - i. Matt said they did ask and requested videos from staff if they are willing; more communication will be coming out
 - ii. Also need to continue to share all the great things happening in DCSD
 - g. Recommendation: Bond needed more info in wording to explain
 - i. Relationships between charters and neighborhood schools could be helpful
 - h. Question: Staff was worried about low turnout and not favorably and were very anxious, but Matt mentioned more people were turning out than previous off year elections.
 - i. DAC Forum was a success
 - i. Wants to lead with 8th grade and merge with Expo
 - ii. Question: Are we going to send the students that helped a thank you, they made it fun? Matt will follow up
6. Educator Effectiveness (Deanne Kirby) - handout given and was in DAC packet
 - a. Deanne explained the feedback she needed
 - i. She would like help defining what "fairness, credibility, professional quality, effectiveness, continuous improvement"
 1. DAC and guests used post it to help define the above
 2. Deanne will be back in Jan and will use this in working with rubrics
 - b. Recommendations for Principals
 - i. Last bullet - examples would be helpful
 - ii. Look at trends in data and points of celebration/concern
 - iii. Delineating Elementary, Middle and High would be helpful
 - iv. Relevant assessments that applies to apples across a subject as assessments can be over one aspect of a subject vs multiple ones in different classes
 - v. Collaborate with educators for the long term in guiding learning
 - vi. Using SPF/CMAS data to decide which assessments to use
 - vii. Students tracking their own growth is effective in better achievement
7. KB Subcommittee Presented Update on KB Policy Review
 - a. KB Subcommittee presenting their work and results on the KB Policy

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- i. DAC offered some suggestions to the presentation in preparation for the 12/12/23 BoE meeting update
 - 1. Add that the subcommittee switched from the 2018 policy due to a directive from the Board to make changes to the current policy in September to make recommendations on the June approved KB policy version.
 - 2. Opt-in Opt out policy? Right now, any parent can opt-out of any part of a curriculum (IMBB and IJC)
 - 3. Culture and Climate relates to the Mission/Vision Policy that is being reviewed and these should be consistent
 - 4. Perhaps also ask the BOE: how does swaying into politics help this district that is already divided? Wouldn't having a policy of neutrality be a good addition?
 - 5. There were 5 pieces of evidence for 7 changes (two of these were national standards)
 - 6. Don't have good access to all different groups (PTA's, etc) due to some inconsistencies around e-mails being forwarded
 - a. Want to figure out how to get better coverage
 - b. SAC Liaisons and others should follow up with SACs to make sure that they received it (e-mail went out Oct 19 or 20 with a reminder e-mail on the 29th from Kelly Pointer)
 - 7. Will the BOE question the low number of respondents? Maybe send once more to principals in order to increase responses.
 - 8. Compelled speech piece that names a Director may cause a breakdown of collaboration
 - a. This intention was confirmed
 - b. After DAC approval in July/August, did not hear anything back with the language in as it is
 - c. Perhaps consider taking Director's name out
 - d. Focus more on the questions around vagueness of the language and the clarification in order to maintain a position of neutrality
 - 9. "Stakeholder" term is not used as much and may have a negative connotation. Instead use collaborator, impacted parties, contributors...
- ii. The subcommittee will update the presentation with DAC's feedback prior to presenting to the BOE on 12/12.
- b. Motion to approve by Lisa Loomer seconded Irene Borisov. All members approved taking the presentation to the December BOE meeting.
- c. DAC invited to come to the 12/12 Boe meeting to support subcommittee
- 8. Chester Shaw led Open Discussion
 - a. Superintendent Kane is coming to DAC next month
 - i. Various subjects, including CART

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- b. Valerie thanked DAC for the experience being on the committee and appreciated getting to work with everyone.
- 9. Irene motioned for us to adjourn. Becky seconded. It passed. Closing was 8:47 pm.