

JEFFCO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY, 2025

Attendees: ~~Strikethrough~~ means did not attend.

At Large Member - VACANT	Corky Guy	Erin Norton	Jessica Gregg	Laura Grims	Columbine AAR - VACANT
Amanda Bryan	Standley Lake AAR - VACANT	At Large Member - VACANT	Julia Morgan	Bear Creek AAR - VACANT	Therese Rednor
Amanda Gomez	Crystal Marine	Evie Hudak	Conifer AAR - VACANT	Leslie Dennis	Charter School AAR - VACANT
Annie Contractor	David Alex	Giselle Arroyo	Karena Hamm	Option School AAR - VACANT	
Aubrey Allmond	Dawn Fritz	Greg Aigner	Kate Otto	Matthew Noll	
Austin Long - resigned - VACANT	JCEA HS Rep - VACANT	Hannah Hoong	Katie Koivisto	Michele DeAndrea-Austin	
Jefferson AAR - VACANT	Diego Rodriguez	Jaelyn Uttley	Option Schools AAR - VACANT	Michelle Kuenzler	
Caitlin Fitzpatrick	Elizabeth Armstong	Jeanine Baird	Kaylie Weese	Monica Keegan	
Carsten Engebretsen	Emily Lubkert	Jeff Baucum	Kim Bierbrauer	Rob Applegate	
Cheryl Secorski	Eric Koch	Ralston Valley AAR - VACANT	Kristina Stuber	Sara Kuntzler	

Minutes By Agenda Topic:

1. Topic: Welcome and Approval of Agenda (5:30-5:40)

Materials:

- [January Agenda](#)
- [November Minutes](#)

Outputs/Outcomes

- Will not address absenteeism tonight.
- Nov minutes and adjusted agenda approved

2. Topic: Update on DAC Leadership Status (5:45-5:55)

Contact: Tara Pena

Materials: N/A

Outputs/Outcomes

3. Topic: Table Conversation / Individual QR Code: Community Needs (5:55 - 6:35)

Contact: Trace Faust: tfaust@keystone.org

Materials: Community Update email, January 17th 2025

Discussion/Questions/Feedback

- District already has a lot of safety measures in place, but they are not visible to many people
- Partners: Ralston House, CASA, Children's Hospital
- Goal: get coordinated, create guidelines around what everyone is doing, accelerate timelines - deadlines for documenting what is in place, making them available to the public, why and how the district does things
- Full presentation to the board of education on February 13th. Willing to come back and present here to DAC.


Questions via QR Code:

1. What feels most important to learn more about and/or provide thoughts on as a DAC?
 - a. Who are the "experts" for the safety summit?
 - b. Many comments related to cost-benefit tradeoffs with visitor management system upgrades
 - c. Adding curriculum for students: is this curriculum already decided?
 - i. Some pieces already in place.
 - ii. Some are "curriculum adoption process" - would follow research process
 - iii. What about CDE School Safety Resource Center
2. What topics are missing from the Friday Community Update?
 - a. Have already heard: crisis communications
3. What else needs to be said?
 - a. Increase the district's readiness to respond to crises - more will come! Specifically, timely communication, and district needs to be first and most frequent communicator (long discussion on this)
 - i. Include - what kind of information will be released, and by whom (sheriff's office, district, etc) - set the expectations
 - b. Recommendation: invite district comms team to be in dialogue about the constraints the district faces and how we can do this better.

Outputs/Outcomes

4. Topic: SAC Survey Work (6:45-7:30)

Contact: Crystal Marine: crystal.marine12@yahoo.com

Materials:  24-25_DAC Budget Recommendations (2).pdf

Questions/Feedback:

- What is the district's role, if any, in getting additional funding? This presentation basically said: there isn't enough money across the board
 - State funding is low
 - So, what other sources of funding exist, and how can we access them?
 - Budget committee made a recommendation to a rank choice, which didn't happen this year. This is important to know what is NOT being prioritized
 - Support for this change
 - Bell Middle School in Golden (middle school rep) - get saved by CTE funding - Career and Technical Education (Perkins Grant, comes from federal government)
 - Alameda Artic - there is no accountant working on tracking expenses against a grant, for example. What can the district offer to support accessing additional funding?
 - No accountant available to schools
 - District provides support by tracking CTE credits held by teachers
- How many schools are fully staffed? A big priority was "staffing." So, what is happening at the school level?
 - Both, we never had enough staffing for interventions, electives, etc. Always had to make tradeoffs.
 - Middle school rep: the hardest place to fully staff is Special Education. If you check openings, that's where we have them. Especially paras.
 - Kids who need interventions often have to give up their elective in order to get the intervention.

- Experience of declining enrollment impacts this
- Demographics changing in different parts of the district, impacts “at risk” funding that means cuts to programming.
- Always feels like there are winners and losers.
- Equitable funding - what are the concerns?
 - If title I goes away, that will impact schools
 - Some schools can raise 6 figures via PTA/PTO, many cannot - inequality in access to community fundraising
 - Principal who is an expert in Student Based Budgeting is giving this presentation to articulation area (Columbine AA)
 - Tight budget year in state government
 - Jeffco is likely to be particularly negatively impacted by proposed new school funding formula - *now is a good time to engage at the state level for education funding*
- DAC → SAC support questions
 - Feedback on slide
 - Consider: what have you heard in this feedback before? What progress can you point to from last year? What is one action we can take as a DAC to be responsive?

Amendments:

Vote: call for objections to this being presented to the board - **no objections**

caveat: Tara Peña: must be presented to and approved by Superintendent and Chief of Staff - it may need to go into a standard, district template

Outputs/Outcomes

- Presentation approved for delivery to the Board, with the caveat of approval by Superintendent and Chief of Staff, and reformatting into district template.
5. **Additional business: Panorama survey**
- Jan 21 - Feb 6
 - Please promote

6. **Chronic Absenteeism: A Special Project by DAC (7:30 - 7:45) - TOPIC STRICKEN FROM AGENDA TO ACCOMMODATE COMMUNITY NEEDS CONVERSATION**

Contact: Trace Faust: tfaust@keystone.org

Materials: N/A

Questions/Feedback

Outputs/Outcomes

7. **Topic: AAR Post Meeting Time (7:45-8:30)**

Discussion

- Concerns for kids of migrants, making sure families feel prepared for potential threats of deportations
 - Privacy and confidentiality of students is important to the district
 - Actions:

- 3 family ambassadors in place - wrap-around supports and resources
- Optional letter for principals, if they decide their context calls for it
- Family resources page -
 - know your rights,
 - updating your contact information
 - FAQ: Under federal law, immigration status does not preclude students from the right to an education in Jeffco
- Working with 8 municipalities and law enforcement in partnership if ICE shows up
- Today: schools and churches no longer considered “sensitive locations” that are off limits from ICE raids
- How community members can be supportive:
 - Direct families to FRST team for vanguard support
 - If you know a family:
 - Help them know their rights - immigration resource page has links to external partners ([Family Ambassadors - Jeffco Public Schools](#))
 - Develop and share a family safety plan

Outputs/Outcomes