



DAC Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2025

6:30pm-8:30pm

Meeting Logistics:

Jessica Bassan - **Present**
Jenny Brown - **Present**
Anne Chacon - **Excused**
Chad Cox - **Present**
Amy Davis - **Present**
Brian Domokos - **Present**
Lenaya Dotseth - **Present**
Allison Fox - **Excused**
Julie Gooden - **Present**
Keith Langford - **Present**
Lisa Loomer - **Present**
Katie Lynch - **Present**
Victoria McDermott - **Present**
Kristina Parent - **Present**
Jenn Spykerman - **Present**
Kate Welsh - **Present**
Sammye Wheeler-Clouse - **Present**

Quorum: Quorum is met (need a majority)

Matt Reynolds, Learning Services Officer - Present

Susan Meek, Board of Education Director - Present

Christy Williams, Board of Education Director - Present

Alison Rausch, Director, Parent, Community and Civic Engagement - Present

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

Came to Order at 6:30

Total Attendance 33

1. Meeting Logistics (Julie Gooden)
 - a. Roll Call/Confirm Quorum
 - b. Ashley Opfer, the former Vice Chair of DAC, resigned. Amy Davis, an alternate who was already submitted and approved by the board, has stepped in and was welcomed.
 - c. To replace Opfer's position of Vice Chair, Spykerman nominated Wheeler-Clouse, and Loomer nominated Kate Welsh. Both accepted. Sticky

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notes were given to everyone to vote and Kate was elected as the new Vice Chair.

- d. A motion to approve 12/19/24 meeting minutes was made by Jenny Brown and seconded by Keith Langford. Passed unanimously.

2. Chair Report (Julie Gooden)

- a. She welcomed everyone and asked for subcommittee updates.
 - i. Communications Subcommittee -- Brown reported they are currently working with the Parent Engagement Subcommittee. They are focused on Growth/Decline and SAC Engagement. They will later work on results from the Fall Survey, namely the feedback that charter schools feel DAC engagement isn't as necessary.
 - ii. Membership Subcommittee -- Loomer reported that she has sent out a survey asking current DAC members if they are available to continue their term or serve another term, depending on the DAC member's current status. Timeline for interviews and bringing new members before DAC is determining how many openings the DAC has in February so that the subcommittee can solicit applications in February and early March, arrange interviews after Spring Break, ask for DAC feedback in April or May and receive approval for applicants by the Board in May. A DAC member asked if the DAC could add other roles (substitute teachers, bus drivers, etc) as she has asked this in the past. Loomer replied that the handbook committee should be working on this.
 - iii. Handbook -- Walsh reported they need to regroup after Opfer's resignation. They are going to see if there was any work started but creating a first draft could potentially happen by February's meeting. They invited people to email DAC@gmail.com with any ideas. Dir. Meek reminded them that there are some state requirements, so the handbook should be run by the legal department. She also mentioned that Jeffco has a larger DAC and they could be asked for some advice if DAC membership is increased, as some have suggested. A member asked about these potential roles being unfilled and Brown responded that since these are optional roles, based on DAC choice, they'd still be able to run without DAC.
 - iv. Parent Engagement -- Gooden reported they are following up with the Communications Subcommittee on February 4th and will have more to report next meeting.

3. Ad Hoc Committees

- a. Equity Advisory Council -- Kristina Parent reported that they are reviewing the bullying policy, specifically the section on reporting, to get recommendations to the board before the end of the year.
- b. MBOC Update -- Allison Fox was absent but had sent an email update to Gooden reporting that the next meeting is on January 29th, so there will be an update next meeting.

4. Board of Education Liaison Update (Dir. Meek and Dir. Williams)

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- a. Dir. Meek thanked everyone and wished them a Happy New Year. At the last meeting, students presented after attending the CASB conference, there was a presentation on the district framework, a growth and decline presentation, some closed session, and some readings on [Policy JKA-R, Use of Physical Intervention and Restraint](#).
 - b. At a Superintendent presentation this morning, they discussed the hiring of the bond manager, a former Lone Tree mayor.
 - c. Dir. Meek reminded the DAC that the state of Colorado is looking at a potential 1 billion dollar cut, which would be about 17 million dollars for Douglas County.
 - d. Dir. Williams mentioned the first reading of [Policies FCB](#) and [Policy FCB-R](#), School Closure, Consolidation, and Relocation. The Board conducted a first reading of Policies FCB and FCB-R and reminded people that the board was requesting feedback on the policies.
 - e. There's a three hour retreat this upcoming Saturday, January 25th, to discuss dyslexia and school readiness.
 - f. A member asked about the deadline for feedback as the feedback for the policies is currently closed. Dir. Meek reminded people that though the form may be closed, people can always email each board member feedback.
 - g. Gooden asked about the sheet that Dir. Meek handed out a monitoring report she had provided, and Dir. Meek offered to share it.
 - h. Gooden asked about what the Board Policy is about potential ICE Deportment. Dir. Williams said she wouldn't know but would think they'd work alongside local law enforcement. Matt Reynolds said current policy is that law enforcement doesn't go into school to arrest students unless there is a security issue that threatens the safety and security of students. Dir. Meek reported that she has asked the superintendent about this issue and expects an answer soon. She reported that there are currently policies about students feeling safe, but not on this one specific issue. A DAC member asked about what would happen if a parent is arrested and deported. A member mentioned that Colorado law requires a warrant for the state to work with ICE. Matt also mentioned a parent being arrested and a child not having parents to pick them up already happens for other reasons and there are some procedures already in place. A member asked if Dir. Meek has given a timeline to the superintendent. Dir. Meek responded that there isn't one but this issue was first broached in December but with all of the issues facing the district, the staff is stretched thin but reiterated that many policies exist that address this issue in general terms. She is trying to give grace on this critical issue. An audience member stated that she was teaching in Greeley during the ICE raids of a nearby plant and there is a clear need for a plan.
5. SAC Engagement - Growth and Decline (Julie Gooden)
 - a. Gooden reminded DAC members about signing up to attend a SAC meeting via a spreadsheet sent out through her email.
 - b. She referenced the fears she had heard last month that DAC members will be greeted with hostility. The plan for DAC members attending will be to say that

they are simply there to listen and pass on feedback. After collecting the notes, the DAC member will email Jenny Brown, who will reach out to the board. At the next DAC meeting, each member who can attend will give a short report to the DAC on what they heard.

- c. Brown added that she would email each SAC along with the appropriate DAC member to remind the expectations and to give each DAC member a point of contact.
 - d. Reynolds showed how to find the Growth and Decline section of the website, where [Policies FCB](#) and [Policy FCB-R](#) are. Dir. Meek referenced the criteria on there that will be used. Dir. Williams mentioned that FCB-R is for this specific consolidation but Policy FCB is the overall district policy that would apply if there were future closure, consolidations, and/or relocation in the future.
 - e. An audience member asked about Sterling Ranch, which doesn't currently have a school, but a school is being built. He asked if there are funds for that, are there also funds for the buildings that are being consolidated and/or reused for a new purpose. Dir. Meek and Reynolds responded that the bond addresses these concerns, providing funding for both issues.
 - f. Dir. Meek said her experience at SACs has shown that they have some fears about what happens after the announcements, especially in terms of budgets and/or students changing enrollment after the changes. There are also concerns about 6th graders and what the transition will be for them.
 - g. Gooden asked if there are any options and communication about what the buildings that won't house students will then serve as, the sending school. Dir. Meek stated that this will happen later based on the paired schools. The sending school could be used for a Bridge Program, office space, and some other issues. Reynolds also mentioned eDCSD, Cloverleaf, student support, and becoming an administration office, as they are currently leasing space at an expensive rate for this.
 - h. A member mentioned there is [an FAQ about this issue](#).
 - i. A member asked about the bill that would allow people to turn a sending school into affordable housing. Reynolds said it could be expensive but nothing is off the table.
 - j. Allison Rausch explained that the Growth and Decline website goes over the process of why this is happening.
6. Budget Spending Priorities (25-26) (Matt Reynolds and Budget Subcommittee)
- a. Domokos explained the process the Budget Subcommittee went through to decide on the survey that will be sent to SACs to gather information. They have decided to do a similar form to last year with some changes on which ranked choice options are available like Capital Needs not being there (in light of the bond) but Support for Small Schools being added in light of the current issues facing our school.
 - b. Reynolds went through the Google form that will be sent out and explained that there was a description of each of the ranked choices. He plans to send it out in principal notes next week.

- c. There was a request to add some subgroups to the Target Student Supports definition.
 - d. Brian Domokos requested a motion to approve using this survey, including the subgroups edit, and its format to gather information from SACs about budget priorities as amendment. Kate Welsh made the motion and Lisa Loomer seconded. It passed unanimously.
 - e. A member asked about the timeline. Matt Reynolds requested that SACs meet at least before Spring Break to take the survey.
 - f. There were multiple requests to send the survey out sooner, perhaps before Monday. Reynolds agreed to try to send it out by that deadline.
7. Staff Update (Matt Reynolds)
- a. Matt requested that people find the [Growth and Decline website](#) as he was going to show how it's used. He pointed people to the policies and requested people read [policy FCB](#).
 - b. He reminded DAC members that this website was dynamic and any question that they received after meeting with SACs that isn't on the website could be added. He also asked that DAC members meeting with SACs direct many questions they receive towards this.
 - c. He asked people to explore [the interactive dashboard](#) that includes a map with data on each school's demographics and information, including current enrollment and available capacity. He asked them to practice pairings, either with the closest school and second closest school.
 - d. A member asked about the changes to middle schools when some 6th graders are added. Reynolds clarified that this current dashboard doesn't include this.
 - e. He also pointed out the links about the cost, the [survey results from the staff](#) and from [the community](#), and the timeline section.
 - f. A DAC member said that the current PDFs of survey results doesn't have all of the information properly displayed and needs to be uploaded again. Another member asked about the FAQ about 6th graders being sent to a middle school but electing to go to a different K-6 school: would they have to go through the normal open enrollment process? Reynolds responded they would need to do this. An audience member asked about how these decisions are communicated to community members who have kids who aren't currently old enough to attend school. Rausch mentioned the numerous news coverage as well as how they've reached out to pre-schools that are associated with the district. An audience member asked about clarity that the automatic pairing that is suggested isn't the actual pairing as it appears to. Reynolds agreed to give this feedback. An audience member asked about elementary schools that house pre-school and if they would not happen. Lynch mentioned that the ultimate goal is to have a pre-school in each elementary school and suggested it be added to the FAQs. A member asked about what weights are given to the categories in the policies. The answer is there isn't currently any information published on this.
8. Open Discussion
- a. An audience member thanked people for the tables, per a previous request.

- b. A DAC member thanked the secretary for the bullet pointed summaries sent out to SACs and DAC members to highlight key parts of the previous meetings.
 - c. There was quick feedback on meeting norms.
- 9. Public Comment
 - a. There were no public comments.
- 10. Motion to adjourn by Jenn Spykerman and seconded by Kate Welsh passed unanimously at 8:32 pm.