

MITCHELL HIGH SCHOOL SAC MINUTES

Date: September 11, 2025

Opening: Mrs. Webb called the meeting to order convene

Present: Joe Aida, Terrie Blackwell, Rebecca Kenderdine, Irene Kornelly, Sharon Simpson-Dogon, Mr. Smith, Alysa Webb

Absent: Michael Bibbs, Shelley Bibbs, Cassie Booth, Valorie Jordan, Edward Mouchette

Agenda Presentation

Approval of Minutes: August minutes had been previous approved by Mrs. Webb.

Business from Previous Meeting: None

New Business:

1. JAFROTC student representatives Callin, Wally, and Isaac were celebrated by Mr. Smith because of their participation with 9th-graders at the jump start event and the 9/11 commemoration ceremony. They shared their take-aways from the ceremony, especially significant because those students were not alive to witness the devastating event. The students felt honored to remember 1975 Mitchell graduate Katheryn Yancey LaBorie. The colonel who leads the ROTC program share a story about a community member who called prior to beginning his cross-country bike trek. That man will leave a personalized dog tag memento in the state of each individual who perished.
Each student participant shared his thoughts about the 9th-grade jump start. They acknowledged several positives, including that students felt acknowledged, They wished the three wished that their old schools had offered such an event to help the 9th-graders to feel more comfortable in their new surroundings.
Alysa invited the students to return in the future and to know that the SAC door is always open for students to ask burning questions and to share any concerns. The SAC is accountable to students; we want to help them.
2. Feedback on back-to-school night — Mrs. Lavery (assistant principal) reported that it was the largest turnout of families. She attributed that attendance increase to calendar organization, PowerSchool messenger, and Marauder Weekly. Mr. Smith was happy to see SAC presence to invite greater parent participation on the SAC. We will reach out personally to parents in the future. Spanish translation is available. A SAC invitation will be published and distributed by Mrs. Lavery.
3. School Performance Framework (SPF) was released by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). Mitchell is out of Turnaround status and now has earned Priority Improvement status. Everyone is happy about the growth, and the work toward greater growth continues. Mitchell experience the greatest growth of all of the district's high schools. Mrs. Lavery was tasked last year with finding the gaps between students' STAR performance and their PSAT/SAT performance. STAR is an adaptive test; PSAT and SAT are not. Progress Learning was employed to close the test-taking gaps. That intervention platform mimics the PSAT/SAT. Students take Progress Learning tests in the fall, set goals based on the achievement trends revealed. The students are taught strategies and processes to close their test-taking gaps. Staff can also take the PL tests in order to inform their teaching. Following are the cut points to be at Performance status vs. Mitchell's latest metrics:

ELA 415 vs 377

Math 387 vs 351

Science 721 vs 714

Workforce Readiness 37.5 vs. 34.6

English language learners are required to take the PSAT/SAT. About 15% of the ELL population arrived at Mitchell with less than a 6th-grade education in their home country. ELL students are also required to take the WIDA, which is a battery of four tests that must be taken in a certain order. If one test is missed, that counts against the school.

4. CDE BoE update: Mr. Smith and Andy Swanson (CDE liaison) will present to the school board an update on the Unified School Improvement Plan and the Pathway Plan on October 17.
5. Tabled agenda items: fall district assessment scores and Future Center operations, to include the post-secondary workforce counselor.
6. Community news: District teachers will conduct a one-day strike on October 8 to raise awareness of public education concerns. Transparency exists between Mr. Smith and CSEA members. Their relationship is mutually supportive.
7. Next SAC meeting: October 9 at 5:00 PM at the Tesla Professional Development Center on so that we can attend the DAC's board of education candidate forum at 6:00 PM

Adjournment by Mr. Smith at 6:32 PM