



DAC Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2025

6:30pm-8:30pm

Meeting Logistics:

Roxanne Aviles - **Present**
Jenny Brown - **Excused**
Chad Cox - **Present**
Brian Domokos - **Excused**
Lenaya Dotseth - **Excused**
Allison Fox - **Present**
Michelle Franci - **Present**
Luke Freeman - **Present**
Julie Gooden - **Present**
Keith Langford - **Present**
Lisa Loomer - **Present**
Jessica Mason - **Present**
Victoria McDermott - **Present**
Molly Mund - **Present**
Kristina Parent - **Present**
Jenn Spykerman - **Absent**
Kate Welsh - **Present**
Sammye Wheeler-Clouse - **Present**

Quorum: Quorum is met

Matt Reynolds, Learning Services Officer - Present
Susan Meek, Board of Education Director - Present
Erin Kane, Superintendent - Present
Steve Colella, Chief of Staff - Present
Danelle Hiatt, Deputy Superintendent - Present
Jonny Grusing, Director of School Safety and Security - Present
Alison Rausch, Director, Parent, Community and Civic Engagement - Present

Guest in attendance: 8 (this does not include DAC and DCSD staff and board members)
Came to Order at 6:30

Total Attendance: 14 DAC Members

1. Meeting Logistics (Julie Gooden)

Minutes Approved at December 18, 2025 DAC MEETING

- a. Roll Call/Confirm Quorum
 - b. Discussion of approval of September 18, 2025 Meeting Minutes with the following corrections:
 - i. Molly volunteered for EAC
 - ii. "Allison" name spell correction
 - c. Motion to Approve September 18, 2025 Minutes - Victoria McDermott moved to approve 9/18/25 meeting minutes, Allison Fox second. Motion passed
2. Chair Report (Julie Gooden)
- a. The Chair welcomed several new faces in the audience and encouraged everyone to help themselves to food, noting this is now part of the committee's welcoming culture. Attendees were reminded that leftovers typically go to staff lounges, and guests were invited to take extra food home. The Chair did not present a formal report and instead invited committee leads to provide updates.
 - b. Bylaws Subcommittee Update - no updated provided
 - c. Communications Subcommittee Update (Allison Fox reported)
 - i. Continuing ongoing work with district communications.
 - ii. No formal updates provided at this time.
 - d. LRPC Update: Christa Gilstrap reported
 - i. Reviewed growth and decline reports and boundary scenarios with district staff.
 - ii. Continued feedback being provided regarding School 51 boundaries and potential impacts across Roxborough, Coyote Creek, and other possible feeder areas.
 - iii. Sterling Ranch remains the most complex area due to projected enrollment assumptions.
 - iv. Received an initial demo of the online Master Capital Plan, intended to replace the previous printed booklet.
 - 1. The online tool will allow users to click a school and view completed work and upcoming bond-funded projects.
 - 2. Work underway to determine how to integrate bond information and maintenance needs.
 - 3. Goal is to launch the online capital plan this year.
 - e. FOC Update - Keith Langford reported
 - i. Covered budget priorities, funding models, and alignment with strategic initiatives.
 - ii. Additional details expected at future meetings.
 - f. MBOC Update - skipped at this time
 - g. Kate Welsh on subcomm assignments
 - i. Subcommittee assignments can be found [here](#).
3. Board of Education Liaison Update (Dir. Meek reported)
- a. Although President Williams was unable to attend, she sent the following message of appreciation, which was delivered by Dir. Meek: Dir. Williams extended her gratitude for the DAC's work, noting the dedication and seriousness

with which members approach their responsibilities. She expressed regret for missing the meeting due to a family engagement.

- b. Dir Meek provided the following update:
 - i. Summary of BoE meetings since August 14.
 - ii. Board actions from October 7, including DIP approval and presentations on growth and decline, AIE, and school policy.
 - iii. October 21 Executive Session on security arrangements, followed by open-session discussion on safety and community engagement.
 - iv. Strategic plan updates to be presented at subsequent meetings.
 - v. November 11 Library District presentation, governance updates, and discussion regarding fairness and safety in sports.
 - vi. Overview of upcoming Board following election:
 - 1. New members sworn in on December 2.
 - 2. Committee liaison assignments may be refreshed after seating of new board.
 - 3. Provided background on newly elected Board members (Callahan, Densler, Parker, Ryan).
 - vii. Upcoming CASB Conference attendance and Board retreat on December 13.
 - viii. Reported attendance at multiple community meetings related to school refurbishments and safety initiatives.

4. Sterling Ranch Land Allocation

- a. Superintendent Erin Kane provided a detailed briefing based on the update shared with the BoE:
 - i. Sterling Ranch had previously agreed to 110 acres dedicated to DCSD for school sites.
 - ii. A proposed amendment would retroactively count 26 acres already donated to John Adams Academy against DCSD's 110-acre allocation.
 - iii. The Planning Commission voted 4–4, issuing no recommendation.
 - iv. The Board of County Commissioners hearing was delayed to November 25 at the developer's request to consider the proposed Amendment.
 - v. The District opposed the Amendment, and maintains it needs 98 remaining acres for:
 - 1. 1 middle/high school site (~85 acres)
 - 2. 1 future elementary site
 - vi. Superintendent Kane emphasized negotiations are ongoing and DCSD's position is based on future capacity needs, as Sterling Ranch is only 20% built out.
 - vii. Discussion included:
 - 1. Clarification of past agreements and platting processes.
 - 2. How public comment works at county hearings.
 - 3. The district's desire to negotiate in good faith.
 - 4. Community members encouraged (but not directed) to submit public comment.

- viii. Questions from DAC and community addressed:
 - 1. Whether citizens should advocate publicly (Superintendent Kane remained neutral but confirmed process regarding public comment procedures).
 - 2. Historical agreements and plat dedications.
 - 3. Planning for future developments (i.e. Canyons) and ensuring sustainable land-use formulas.

5. Strategic Plan Update (Superintendent Erin Kane reported)

- a. Superintendent Kane presented on the following,

 DAC - DCSD Strategic Plan Overview.pdf , including an overview of the district's 10-year strategic plan:

- i. Purpose Statement (to 2038): All graduates will leave DCSD with competence, purpose, and optimism.
- ii. Five Cornerstone Commitments:
 - 1. Academic Excellence – foundational literacy/numeracy focus.
 - 2. Strategic Technology Integration – balancing innovation with developmental impacts.
 - 3. Essential Mindsets & Dispositions – resilience, communication, collaboration, critical analysis.
 - 4. Future-Ready Graduates – expanding CTE, concurrent enrollment, and life skills instruction.
 - 5. Thriving Schools & Communities – ensuring facilities meet community needs and attract young families.
- iii. Next Steps:
 - 1. Finalizing initiatives with measurable metrics.
 - 2. Expanding PLC time for elementary and middle schools.
 - 3. Continued development of CTE pathways and life-skills curriculum.
 - 4. Planning long-term school construction, consolidation decisions, and capacity strategies.
 - 5. Developing policy addressing responsible technology and device use.
- iv. Extensive Q&A followed regarding:
 - 1. CTE seat capacity (22,000 seats vs. 44,000 requests).
 - 2. Impact of expansions at Legacy Campus and high schools.
 - 3. Measurement of mindsets/dispositions.
 - 4. Use of personalized learning data.
 - 5. Elementary/middle SPED service models.
 - 6. Potential specialty programs to build district reputation.

6. Grown and Decline (Steve Colella reported)

- a. Steve Colella presented on the following:

 Committee Updates (November 2025).pdf

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- b. Construction phasing plans to minimize instructional disruption.
 - c. School naming process:
 - i. Transition teams developed top 3 recommendations.
 - ii. Voting closed Monday; results to be communicated soon.
 - iii. Board selects school names; Superintendent selects mascots/colors.
 - d. Staffing assignments:
 - i. All affected staff guaranteed a position if they wish to remain in DCSD.
 - ii. Surveys were sent; leadership meetings ongoing.
 - e. Community meetings at Heritage and Saddle Ranch were well attended; clarified rumors including incorrect claims about homeless shelter placement.
7. Communications Policy (Steve Colella reported)
- a. Chief of Staff Colella presented on forthcoming state-required policy changes.
 - b. Colorado requires districts to adopt a posted policy by July 1, 2026.
 - c. DCSD has conducted extensive engagement:
 - i. Student, staff, family, and leadership surveys (3,600+ responses).
 - ii. School visits, town halls, student forums.
 - d. Current practices:
 - i. Elem & middle schools largely operate on bell-to-bell non-use expectations.
 - ii. High schools exhibit varied practices; students overwhelmingly oppose both extremes.
 - e. Drafting policy informed by:
 - i. Brain development research
 - ii. Classroom instructional needs
 - iii. Consistency and enforceability
 - f. Implementation to include:
 - i. Teacher training
 - ii. Parent communication
 - iii. Device management tools and resources
 - g. AI instructional use was also reviewed, focusing on:
 - i. Privacy protections under FERPA
 - ii. Safe use via Google's education LLM (Gemini for Education)
 - iii. Avoiding personally identifiable student data when drafting with AI
 - iv. Current pilots (Google Classroom, Brisk)
8. Safety and Security (Deputy Superintendent Danelle Hiatt and Director of Security Jonny Grusing reported)
- a. Dep. Superintendent Hiatt and Director of Security Grusing presented on the following:  DCSD School Safety DAC Update.pdf
 - b. Primary Framework
 - i. Prevention
 - ii. Hardening
 - iii. Response
 - c. Recent Enhancements

- i. Increased SRO coverage through MLO funding.
 - ii. Campus Security Specialists placed in all elementary schools (49 positions).
 - iii. Strong law enforcement partnerships across four jurisdictions.
 - iv. Districtwide safety and security committee meets monthly.
- d. Safety & Security Forum Themes (September)
 - i. Consistent safety procedure enforcement
 - ii. Student training for unstructured areas
 - iii. Elementary SRO coverage
 - iv. Lightning dismissal procedures (under review, surveys to parents will be circulated)
 - v. Support for students with disabilities
 - vi. Technology options (AI cameras, door hardware, bag policy, metal detection)
 - vii. Community willingness to fund safety measures
- e. Bond and MLO Investments
 - i. \$6M from MLO for personnel & equipment.
 - ii. \$10M from 2024 Bond for:
 - 1. Camera upgrades
 - 2. Burglar/fire systems
 - 3. Radios
 - 4. Secure vestibules
 - 5. Intercom systems
 - 6. Door hardware upgrades
 - 7. Vape detection (to be installed in all secondary schools by year-end)
 - iii. Balcom/LightSpeed Systems - Provides integrated classroom communication:
 - 1. Teacher audio amplification
 - 2. Silent alert buttons
 - 3. Integration with building lockdown notifications
 - 4. Automated visual/auditory alerts during emergencies
 - 5. Three-year rollout expected.
 - iv. Question and Answers from DAC and Public:
 - 1. Procedures for littles during lockdowns (suckers, books, developmentally appropriate scripts).
 - 2. Lightning dismissal process revisions underway.
 - 3. Member of public had questions regarding WatchDOGS program participation and training needs.
 - 4. Parent interest in experiencing or viewing lockdown procedures (district considering whether/how to safely provide such resources).
 - 5. Support for mental health data through Healthy Kids Colorado Survey.

9. Staff Update (Matthew Reynolds) - agenda item continued to next meeting due to time constraints (already at 8:28pm)
 - a. Unified Improvement Plan Update - continued to next meeting
 - b. Career Expo Data - continued to next meeting
10. Open Discussion
 - a. DAC Member expressed positive feedback regarding AVID program expansions.
 - b. Comment from audience on PLC time for elementary - when survey asked about ability to get kids to school during delayed start time, the survey was unclear if transportation would still be available for the delayed start. Staff to review and provide clarification if needed for survey. .
 - c. Member requested to revisit carryover funds once FOC completes its review. Discussion that topic will be on a future meeting.
11. Public Comment
 - a. None
12. Motion to adjourn by Jenn Spykerman and seconded by Molly Mund passed unanimously at 8:33 pm.