



DAC Meeting Minutes

December 18, 2025

6:30 pm-8:30 pm

Meeting Logistics:

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

Quorum: Quorum is met

Matt Reynolds, Learning Services Officer - Present
Kriza Parker, Board of Education Director - Present
Kelly Denzler, Board of Education Director - Present
Danny Winsor, Assistant Superintendent - Present
Drew Phelps, Director of Budget - Present
Christa Gilstrap, LRPC Liaison - Present
Alison Rausch, Director, Parent, Community and Civic Engagement - Present
Dr. Deanne Kirby, Director of Educator Effectiveness - Present
John Gutierrez - East Highlands Ranch Region EDOS
Ian Wells - West Highlands Ranch Region EDOS
Kristin Drury - Parker Region EDOS
Nikki Ballow - Pathways and Alternative Education EDOS
Gordon Mosher - Choice Programming EDOS

MINUTES APPROVED at January 22, 2025 DAC MEETING

Guest in attendance: 5 (this does not include DAC and DCSD staff and board members)
Came to Order at 6:32

Total Attendance 29

1. Meeting Logistics (Kate Welsh)
 - a. Roll Call/Confirm Quorum
 - b. A motion to approve 11/20/25 meeting minutes was made by Molly Mund and seconded by Jenn Spykerman. Passed unanimously.
2. Chair Report (Kate Welsh)
 - a. She welcomed our new board liaisons.
 - b. Subcommittee Updates
 - i. Gilstrap talked about the boundaries for the new elementary schools in Sterling Ranch.
 - ii. Langford had no updates on the FOC meeting
 - iii. Reynolds told the budget subcommittee that they should expect an email from him tomorrow to start that process.
3. Board of Education Liaison Update (Dir. Denzler and Dir. Parker)
 - a. Dir. Denzler spoke about the board's first meeting and how they elected new officers and the new liaisons/committee membership.
 - b. Dir. Parker reported that at yesterday's meeting they talked about security and the Colorado Survey.
 - c. There are some new school names that Danny Winsor reported because there were some glitches from board members. Acres Green/Fox Creek will become Silver Spruce (mascot of a Moose); Heritage/Summit View will become Mountain Peak (Mustangs); and Saddle Ranch and Eldorado will become Golden Ridge (Owls)
4. PLC Time (Danny Winsor)
 - a. Winsor went over a [slide deck](#) (26-27SY Professional Learning Communities) and introduced the Executive Directors who were joining the meeting.
 - b. There was a discussion about providing equitable time for Professional Learning Communities (PLC) by having all schools, PK-12 start 45 minutes later on Friday. The goal is to give this presentation at a January Board Meeting.
 - c. Kristin Drury spoke about what a PLC is. She distinguished it from a team meeting because the focus is on student outcomes instead of simply logistics. The goal is collaborating, analyzing student data, discussing teaching strategies, and supporting others.
 - d. Drury spoke about the research supporting PLC work but the problem is that only high schools and preschool teachers have this dedicated time built into the schedule. K-8 don't have PLC time built into the schedule.
 - e. Winsor spoke through some of the logistics including adjusting bus routes to be 45 minutes later on Fridays.
 - f. There was a slide about the logistics for working families and the survey they used.

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- g. A DAC member suggested that the district subsidize BASE on the PLC Fridays. This member also asked about what happened when teachers only had one section of a class. Winsor spoke about the ability to work with other teachers in other schools virtually and also the way that the courses are trying to align. She also asked how the district is intending to increase support from the teachers. The response also stated the statistic was that 55% of teachers wanted more planning time, not were against/for PLC time.
 - h. Another DAC member asked about the timeline with new schools and/or merging schools and repeated the need for financial support for BASE.
 - i. A DAC member asked about 4 day weeks and Winsor stated the question would be addressed at the board meeting as they gather more information.
 - j. A DAC member asked if there would be another chance for feedback prior to the presentation to the board. Winsor stated the survey results were fairly strong. Reynolds stated the survey had a range of results and an open-ended response.
 - k. An audience member who has a middle school and high school student asked for this to start for consistency. She also asked about the logistics for middle school students who don't have BASE. The response was they'd most likely go to the cafeteria and be supervised by administrators. There was another comment stating that PLC activity already happens by the member and Winsor clarified that the time for schools to meet did vary from school to school, depending on the school's budget.
 - l. An audience member asked about the team planning and department planning that middle schools have and if PLC planning would stop this. Winsor mentioned it wouldn't. She also expressed concern that schools won't use the time well and it would depend on the school's leadership. Winsor agreed and stated some of the responsibility would rest on the district leadership. Drury clarified that there would be consistency on expectations. Reynolds mentioned that PLC work is in the teacher rubric.
 - m. A DAC member who is also an elementary school teacher in another district expressed support for this idea. She also stated that the late start may help some high school students get volunteer hours. Winsor clarified that they may utilize students from the Future Educator pathway.
 - n. A DAC member asked for clarity on the BASE price for Fridays and if charter schools would be affected by this. Winsor stated there has not been a decision on BASE yet. Mosher explained that some charter schools already have some of these late starts but have the option of matching the district.
5. Budget Update (Drew Phelps)
- a. Reynolds introduced the Director of Budget named Drew Phelps.
 - b. Phelps shared a slide deck called [2025-2026 Fall Budget Update](#).
 - c. There was a 2% increase in the per Pupil Revenue and a strategic draw down of reserves. There was a slide on where that 14 million dollars was used.
 - d. According to the October count, the state will fund 59,982 students, a decrease of 817 from the previous year's budget and below the actual enrollment of

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60,719. (For Neighborhood schools, the funded public count is 44,755 and the enrollment is 44,699.)

- e. The Governor's initial budget request for the 2026-2027 year includes a \$276 million increase to funding statewide, a change from average 4 years to average 3 years. The district projects the per pupil revenue to increase about \$300.
 - f. There was a question about if federal funding would have any impact on these numbers. Phelps stated that DCSD doesn't receive much federal funding.
 - g. He ended with a timeline for the budget adoption including with the budget being adopted by the Board of Education in June.
 - h. He mentioned that [the carryover table](#) now has a new column that stated the SBB Carry Over Z% of SBB Discretionary Budget and the advice is for a school to keep 3-5%. Anything over 1% needs to be explained by the principal and some higher percentages are for major projects. Reynolds mentioned that part of the new expectation that SACs are told about any carry over above 1% will be added to the budget process.
6. SACPIE Overview and Update (Roxanne Aviles)
- a. Aviles went through a [slide deck on SACPIE](#) (State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education.)
 - b. SACPIE meets quarterly and the last one included a presentation on the legislative process, budget request, and educational governance, ESEA Stakeholder engagement requirements, and Absenteeism rates
7. Educator Effectiveness Update (Dr. Deanne Kirby)
- a. She went over a [slide deck](#) that reviewed the DAC Evaluation Council Responsibilities.
 - b. She showed a flowchart that explained the Rubric Revision and Creation Process. She shared [a full Google doc with the information and flow chart](#) and encouraged members to read it on their own.
 - c. A Licensed Evaluation Focus Group is looking at potential revisions to the Generalist and Educator Rubrics and supporting the Counselor Rubric revision process, and developing tools to support best practices in evaluation as well as analyzing data from the survey given to educators at the end of last year.
 - d. She shared [a Google doc](#) that she used Gemini AI to organize and analyze based on the feedback DAC gave in September.
 - e. Most of the changes the Focus Group is looking at is about increasing clarity, especially among the indicators.
 - f. The Counselor Focus Group has met 4 times and has a goal of presenting a finalized rubric to the Board of Education for approval by June 2026.
 - g. A member asked how the evaluators measure the substandards. Dr. Kirby stated that the measurement is primarily based on observation. She also mentioned the coaching and feedback guide that the evaluators can use.
 - h. Dr. Kirby clarified some of the differences between the state's rubric and the district's rubric.
8. Staff Update (Matthew Reynolds)

- a. Reynolds shared the [Career Expo Data](#) for the October Career Expo indicating that all but 2 of the responses were 4 or 5 for being likely to recommend the event and all but 1 response stated they'd rate the event highly. He also gave some themes from the feedback suggested. He mentioned there's a question about if DAC will continue to partner with the EXPO going forward.
 - b. A member stated the desire to potentially change this was really the DAC President's idea to increase engagement for the younger grades and this decision should wait until January because it was unclear if the original idea was to replace the EXPO or be in addition to the EXPO. The other major suggestion was something with dyslexia. Reynolds [shared information](#) about literacy events that are upcoming and it could be helpful information for people on the EXPO subcommittee.
 - c. A DAC member asked for links to provide information to elementary school SACs. Reynolds stated that all information is shared out with communication threads from the district.
 - d. Brian made a motion to continue DACs involvement with the EXPO for 26-27 school year while also considering the possibility of another event as desired. Lenaya Dotseth seconded the motion. It passed.
 - e. Reynolds stated that future DAC meetings will be at Legacy, but it would require us to meet at 6 to make sure the building is cleared by security.
 - f. Lenaya motioned to change the time to 6 pm and Jenn Spykerman seconded it. It passed. Molly Mund made a motion to change the location to Legacy Campus and it was seconded by Jenn Spykerman. It passed.
9. Open Discussion
- a. An audience member stated there has been information about bullying but not, to her knowledge, any training about sexual assault and dangers. Reynolds mentioned there is a policy about this from the Board of Education as well as training for all staff. He clarified that there are differences and a little more information at the high school level. The high school DAC representative stated there is district wide training by WayFinder as well as specific lessons on dating violence and abusive relationships but he hasn't been a part of the specific lessons for over a year and may need to find more information.
 - b. A DAC member spoke again about the DAC request be livestreamed, as previously requested to the new liaisons. They thanked her for her ideas.
10. Public Comment
- a. There were no other public comments.
11. Motion to adjourn by Sammy and seconded by Molly passed unanimously at 8:44 pm.