

MITCHELL HIGH SCHOOL SAC MINUTES

Date: March 13, 2026

Opening: Alysa Webb at 5:01 PM

Present: Joe Aida, Michael Bibbs Shelley Bibbs, Terrie Blackwell, Valorie Jordan, Rebecca Kenderdine, Edward Mouchette, Sharon Simpson-Dogon, Mr. Smith, Alysa Webb

Absent: Cassie Booth, Irene Kornelly

Visitors: Mr. Gaal (Superintendent),; D11 School Board Members LeAnn Baca Bartlett, Jill Haffley, Charles Johnson, Parth Melpakam; various staff from the ad building; Colorado Springs City Council Member Nancy Henjum; Mr. Short, Mr. Melvin

Agenda Presentation

Approval of Minutes was accomplished in January via e-mail by Mr. Bibbs

New Business:

Good things at Mitchell were highlighted by Mr. Smith, including capital improvements to the building and grounds over the past few years. 8th-Grade Discovery Day was a great success. The current enrollment of 589 is up from last year's 550. The renovated and reimagined planetarium was reopened on Monday. It will welcome students from within and outside of the district.

Student Spotlight: Isabella Wilkenson was recognized for basketball. Bella is a junior who demonstrates growth, perseverance, and excellence in attendance, academics (3.6 GPA), and behavior. She will represent the district — 1st-team All-Colorado All-Star game. She is a multi-sport athlete, participating in volleyball and track.

Mr. Short (Athletic Director) spoke highly of Bella and the representation she embodies. Coach Melvin has coached her since freshman year and highlights her growth and leadership. She hit the 200 rebound mark. Her strengths transition to the field of play.

When asked by various adults why she came to Mitchell, Bella came to MHS because of the natural progression from Jack Swigert and following her older sister. She aspires to attend college and to major in criminal justice. She enjoys her English class. She has learned to show respect to staff because they are good people. She encourages students to participate in sports. She's looking forward to the track season in high jump and relay.

Ms. Blackwell shared that beyond the sports and academics, Bella has two jobs and is contributing to her family's household. Understanding the importance of legacy in the city is an important learning point.

Pikes Peak Reg. Science and Engineering — Delila Epps

Honor Choir — Kylee Keller, Autumn Golden, Aleerah Dorsey and others

Matthew Cole, PTA Reflections Award and is participating in the district in work-based learning. Thespians are performing in a national competition this summer and are performing their musical production this weekend.

Business from Previous Meeting:

Mr. Gaal segued to discussing student interns. A new student intern position in the planetarium will open up for next year now that the planetarium has reopened.

SAC Workshop was hosted at MHS in January. Workshops are held quarterly, and Mr. Bibbs encourages more of us to participate in them.

We are looking forward to working with the admin on site-based budgeting.

Mrs. Kinderdine spoke about the DAC, its work, the format and suggestions that she and others have regarding how the format can be improved for greater engagement.

USIP MIS 3 highlight — Ms. Silva (CLDE — Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Education) hosted a resource night for the multi-linguistic community.

CLDE Parent Academy began this week, and Ms. Silva and her team are using flex days to provide adult learning opportunities for the parents. Classes will meet twice monthly at no cost to families.

Question: *How are families being made aware of the opportunities?* Through the website and the MLL students who share information with their families.

Kinder Derby — Mr. Blanc and Matt Cole presented that the ACCEPT core values were demonstrated in association with the event. A variety of student organizations participated and the organization was live-streamed. Many viewers watched an average of 30+ minutes. That event was one of the “peak experiences” offered throughout the grade levels in the district. Feeder kindergarteners came to Mitchell to experience racing cars on tracks constructed from different materials at the various high schools. Students (kindergarteners) reflect on the contributing factors to speed variations.

Mr. Smith celebrated the construction teacher (Mr. Schwartz) and his team who fabricated the wooden track.

5-E Survey — We don’t have the results yet, but we did meet the threshold to receive the data about students, parents, and staff. Those data will be presented at an upcoming SAC meeting.

CMAS — *How are staff being prepped? Is collaboration with central ad occurring?* There is a building coordinator. 60% of the staff have been trained as proctors. The rest will be trained. April 13 will be an all-school assembly. Incentives for students and staff will be provided to encourage participation.

Progress Learning program was purchased and has been used this year to close the learning gaps evident because STAR isn’t aligned with PSAT/SAT.

IE has little to do with the testing, but teachers are utilizing the IE engagement format effectively

Are there any plans to support the staff on testing days? Nothing has been planned at the moment.

Site-Based Budget — Staffing numbers have been set in anticipation of the Saturday job fair. The rest of the budget will be conveyed later because we need to wait until the School Finance Act is shared so that we know how the district’s budget will be impacted and what kinds of adjustments will be required.

Specific Occupancy tax states that vehicle occupancy taxes are distributed to schools.

Budget Stabilization Factor was mentioned.

April 1 is the lock-in date for the MHS budget to be presented to central administration.

Mitchell's enrollment was declining when Mr. Smith's tenure began. It trended upward this year. Projected 9th-grade enrollment for next school year is 207. Current enrollment is 589. 136 students are graduating. 660 could be the number at the beginning of next year's enrollment.

USIP — specific to improving math and ELA performance. IE processes are impacting MLL (multi-linguistic learner) students most significantly. ILT (Instructional Leadership Team) has vertical accountability and horizontal support. There will be more embedded instructional coaches. CFAs (common formative assessments) are important to data-driven instruction.

Michael Robinson oversees Future-Ready Future Centers. MHS is front-running in the district in terms of how the center is being utilized, according to him.

MIS 2 is built around MTSS (multi-tiered student support). Mr. Blanc shares that the form is complete and the process will facilitate identifying students requiring the additional support for their success.

SAC will be involved with USIP collaboration for 2026-27. The date is TBD.

Discussion about increasing Mitchell's enrollment numbers significantly led to the reintroduction of a future MHS parade. Mr. Mouchette is charged with organizing that for next year. Mr. Gaal has verbally committed central admin monetary support for the endeavor. We need the numbers to increase. The positive press about the planetarium is a step in the right direction.

Adjournment: 6:53 by Mrs. Webb

Next SAC meeting: Thursday, April 9, at 5:00 PM