



MINUTES OF MEETING

GROUP: District Accountability Committee

DATE: Wednesday, October 15, 2008

LOCATION: ESC Board Room

PRESENT:

William Brown	Bob Vidal
Paula Smith	Greg Cogdal
Paula Cox	Julie Bank
Marit Smith	Angie Johnson
Jan Zieser	Julie Bagnall
Sharon Fons	Emily Fuchs
Cifredo Montano	Justin VanLandschoot
Holly Womack	Carrie Warren-Gully, Co-chair
Lynn Montgomery	Kelly Perez, Co-chair
Melissa Radulovich	Connie Bouwman, Administrative liaison
Tammy Harimon	Renee Howell, Board liaison

OTHERS PRESENT:

Scott Myers	Sam Drury
Pat Wojahn	Conner Bagnall

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Carrie Warren-Gully, DAC co-chair, called the meeting to order. She invited new members to introduce themselves. Carrie said one of the most important roles DAC members play is that of a key communicator and encouraged school representatives to report to their school accountability committees regularly. She noted one change on the DAC agenda. Pat Wojahn, Facility Use Task Force co-chair, will present the task force update.

Carrie reviewed DAC subcommittees and invited those who had not already signed up for a subcommittee to do so.

2. **Approval of Minutes**

Carrie Warren-Gully asked if there were any corrections to the September 17, 2008 minutes. There were none. The minutes were accepted as presented.

3. **Board Liaison Report**

Renee Howell reviewed items from the September 25 and October 9 Board meetings. She said the Board has been hearing annual reports from various district committees including the Educational Technology Advisory Committee (ETAC), Special Services Advisory Committee (SSAC), as well as the District Accountability Committee. Renee said the Board approved a resolution in support of Amendment 59—Savings Account for Education (SAFE). The Board has had presentations on Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) results, as well as an update on the district student achievement index and information about the longitudinal growth model developed by the state. Renee commented on the Board workshop regarding student achievement held on October 9, noting the Board received great information about student learning and the use of professional learning communities (PLC) time in schools.

A major focus coming up for the Board is the report from the Facility Use Task Force scheduled for October 23. Following that discussion, the Board will hold a workshop on October 27; check the district website for location. The Board has scheduled a special meeting on November 6 to continue its

discussion of the Task Force's recommendations, with action scheduled at its regular meeting on November 13. The public is invited to all meetings and time will be available for public comments on October 23, November 6 and 13.

4. **Budget Issues and Update**

Scott Myers, chief financial officer, presented information about the district's 2009-2010 budget. He described the factors that are contributing to the district's forecast budget deficit, which include declining enrollment, PERA employer contribution increases, health care cost increases, employee compensation, and utility and fuel cost increases. He also noted that falling interest rates are negatively affecting the budget. Scott explained that the majority of the district's funding comes from the state in the form of per pupil revenue. Scott reviewed the district's enrollment history as well as historical PERA and health care costs and forecasted cost increases. He presented possible deficit reduction ideas, which could include both a mill levy override election and budget reductions. The Financial Advisory Committee will present recommendations to the Board in November with action on budget balancing strategies scheduled for December.

5. **Facility Use Task Force Update**

Pat Wojahn, co-chair of the Facility Use Task Force, presented background information about the formation of the task force in December 2007, noting it aligned with the Strategic Plan focus area that states, "Optimize the use of district resources and facilities to meet student learning needs while operating the district most efficiently." She reviewed the charge from the Board of Education and commented on the vast amount of information and data the task force reviewed. She highlighted the LPS enrollment history and explained that current demographic data indicate that student enrollment will continue to decline. Pat reviewed the 16 facility utilization ideas generated by the task force and the district values that drive decision-making. Pat presented the criteria the group used to develop ideas about facility use, and presented possible scenarios for facility usage. Pat noted that information from task force meetings, as well as the information presented this evening is available on the district web site. The task force will meet on October 20 to finalize its report to the Board, which will be on October 23.

6. **School Improvement Update**

Connie Bouwman, assistant superintendent of learning services, gave an overview of the school improvement plan update review process that will take place at the November 19 DAC meeting. Each school should have a representative to provide information about the 2007-2008 update during the DAC meeting. Discussion groups will be randomly assigned at the meeting. Connie presented the outline for the presentation each school representative will give. These include: 1) Select one of the school's cornerstone goals; 2) Explain the action priorities (activities) the school used to meet the goal; 3) Share progress made toward the goal and data used to measure the goal; 4) Discuss any adjustments made to the goal for 2008-2009. Connie also asked school representatives to respond to the question, "Is school improvement a clear priority in your school? If yes, how do you know? If no, what suggestion do you have to make it a clear priority?" Connie said each school representative will have about 10-15 minutes to present and discuss school improvement information. She emphasized that formal presentations and handouts are not expected.

7. **Meeting Evaluation and Closure**

Carrie Warren-Gully distributed the meeting evaluation survey and explained that the information gathered each month helps in planning future DAC meetings and evaluating the overall success of DAC that becomes part of its annual report to the Board. Carrie said copies of the 2008-2009 DAC meeting schedule and the Board-approved DAC charge are available.

Wrap-up

The next DAC meeting is November 19, 2008.

Submitted by
Kerry Schaper