



MINUTES OF MEETING

GROUP: District Accountability Committee

DATE: Wednesday, September 17, 2008

LOCATION: ESC Board Room

PRESENT:

Quincey Kippley	Jamie Driscoll
Annalee Collins	Greg Cogdal
Lydia Veeder	Julie Bank
Marit Smith	Larry Mathay
Jan Zieser	Michelle Kastner
Sharon Fons	Emily Fuchs
Mary Gottlieb	Paula Cox
Cifredo Montano	Alexandra Johnson
Scott LaBrash	Leslie Csikos
Dallas Jones	Greg Sumlin
Bill Hamilton	Tammy Harimon
Holly Biggers	Justin VanLandschoot
Holly Womack	Carrie Warren-Gully, Chair
Lynn Montgomery	Melissa Radulovich
Kathy woodward	Kelly Perez, Chair-elect
Korina Padilla	Connie Bouwman, Administrative liaison
Angie Barner	Renee Howell, Board liaison

OTHERS PRESENT:

Scott Murphy
Mike Porter
Sam Drury

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Carrie Warren-Gully, DAC chair, called the meeting to order. She gave an overview of the District Accountability Committee and reviewed meeting protocols, including signing the attendance list and completing the meeting evaluation form. Carrie asked everyone present to introduce themselves.

2. **Approval of Minutes**

Kelly Perez, DAC co-chair asked if there were any corrections to the April 16, 2008 minutes. There were none. The minutes were accepted as presented.

3. **Superintendent's Remarks**

Scott Murphy, LPS superintendent greeted the committee. He provided an overview of the work of the Facility Use Task Force and emphasized that no decisions about use of facilities have been made. He explained that the enrollment in LPS schools continues to decline due to the aging population in Littleton. The Task Force will hold its second community forum on Monday, September 22, at Heritage High School. The final report from the Task Force will be presented to the Board at its regular meeting on October 23, with a Board workshop scheduled on October 27 to further discuss facility use in LPS. Following the workshop, the Board will hold a special meeting on November 6 for continued discussion, with action by the Board scheduled for November 13. Mr. Murphy also discussed the district's budget and the impact of increased costs for fuel, health insurance, and utilities, as well as the impact of declining interest rates. He said the Colorado Supreme Court has agreed to

hear a case in which San Luis Valley parents and the area's school districts challenge state financing of public schools. Mr. Murphy stated that "every time we go through a hard time, we come out stronger."

4. **Board Liaison Report**

Renee Howell reviewed discussion items from the September 11 Board meeting, which included the annual report from the Gifted and Talented Advisory Council, a review of calendar values discussed at a June Board of Education workshop, and the preliminary enrollment count. She provided some information about the work of the Facility Use Task Force and the Financial Advisory Committee. Renee commented that three Board members attended the Technology In Education (TIE) Conference this summer. She also encouraged DAC members to take an online survey about 21st Century learning that is being conducted by the Colorado Department of Education. Renee thanked members for their willingness to volunteer their time to serve the district.

5. **DAC Roles/Responsibilities**

Connie Bouwman reviewed DAC member roles and responsibilities and members participated in a clicker activity to help reinforce the information. The responsibilities outlined in Colorado law include school improvement, recommendations concerning prioritization of expenses, reviewing information that impacts student achievement, reporting of information on educational performance, and safety issues related to school. LPS Board policy includes additional responsibilities such as conducting business according to adopted bylaws, providing advisory input to principals on key decisions, communicating among various school based groups, and providing annually information on educational effectiveness at the building level.

Connie also shared that this year's School Improvement Plan review will take a different format. DAC representatives and/or the school accountability chairperson will share orally a summary of the 2007-2008 school year in relationship to one of their School Improvement Plan goals. This will be explained in more detail at the October 15 meeting. The sharing will take place at the November 19, 2008 DAC meeting.

6. **Instructional Technology Equipment**

Mike Porter, instructional technology assistant director gave an overview of some of the district's instructional technology equipment, which includes document cameras, n-Computing, and Eee PC laptop computers. He highlighted the Writer's Workshop grant that uses the Eee PC laptop computers, and said that LPS teachers have remote access to their personal files stored on the district network. He also discussed Internet safety, and highlighted professional development offerings available to LPS teachers.

7. **Proposed 2008-2009 DAC Charge**

Carrie Warren-Gully reviewed the proposed 2008-09 DAC charge. The language of the bullet, "implementation of Professional Learning Communities" under No. 2 b was discussed, but it was determined that no change in wording was necessary. Members indicated a strong desire to continue to follow the work of PLCs through updates and discussions. No changes were made to the charge for the 2008-2009 school year. The proposed charge will be presented to the Board of Education for review on September 25 with action scheduled on October 9.

8. **Subcommittees, Meeting Schedule, and 2007-2008 Member Feedback**

Carrie Warren-Gully reviewed the subcommittees that are part of DAC for 2008-2009, which include Financial Advisory Committee, Legislative Subcommittee, Charter Schools Application Subcommittee, and the District Calendar Committee. She noted meeting frequency and time for each committee. The Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) is a standing district committee with representation from DAC to fulfill the statutory requirement that DAC is involved in the district's budget discussion and decision-making. Currently the FAC is meeting more frequently than its usual monthly meeting to discuss the LPS budget and prepare a plan for presentation to the Board of Education. The regular monthly schedule will resume in November. The Legislative Subcommittee will plan and host a meeting with local legislators to discuss education issues. The Charter Schools Application Subcommittee will be convened if a charter school application is received. The District Calendar Committee will prepare

proposed school year calendars to present to the Board of Education. Kelly Perez will represent DAC on this committee. Members were invited to sign up for a committee on a voluntary basis.

Carrie distributed copies of the DAC meeting schedule. Meetings will not be held in December or May. The meeting schedule will be sent to all members with the September minutes. Feedback from the 2007-2008 DAC meeting evaluations was also discussed.

7. **Meeting Evaluation and Closure**

Kelly Perez 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.

Wrap-up

The next DAC meeting is October 15, 2008.

Submitted by
Kerry Schaper