

## **DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE (DAC)**

### **ANNUAL REPORT**

#### **SCHOOL CALENDAR YEAR 2015-2016**

##### **ROSTER & ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

DAC's first meeting was held on September 8th, 2015. We started the year with 11 members. Mary Sonsino, Chair; Dick Vickery, Vice Chair; Dee Adams, Secretary; Other members are: Mary Lorenz, Julie Hanssen, Alexis Donaldson, Sam Wardell, Scott Eldred, and Sharon Lutes as administration. Mary Beth Sherrod attended the September meeting with interest in becoming a member and did join. Dr. Dave Mackenzie attended our meetings as an advisory member. We lost two staff members Sam Wardell who was replaced by Mary Jakupcak and Scott Eldred.

The roster created in September is attached.

##### **BY-LAWS**

No changes made

##### **CHARGES**

The charges given to DAC from the Board of Education for the year were Teacher and Principal Effectiveness Evaluation Model and Process (SB 191), Unified Improvement Plans (UIP) for Elementary, Secondary, and the District, Gifted and Talented (GT) Program Delivery, nutrition and wellness, and district budget changes for the 2016-2017 year. We decided as a group that since we are small we would all discuss each charge together at our meetings. We also decided to schedule each topic in our calendar year for discussion, like we did last year.

##### **SB191**

Dr Dave presented a power point with regards to:

###### **SB 191 – Teacher Evaluation**

- 5% District Accreditation Rating
- 15% School Accreditation Rating
- 10% Individual Standardized Assessment
- 20% Individual Local Assessment
- 50% Teacher Performance

- Group Star Testing – Teachers choose between Literacy or math.
- Teacher Ratings:

0-59

60-69 Partial Proficient

70-79 Proficient

80-89 Accomplished

90-100 Exemplary

90% of our teachers are Proficient or higher.

The question was asked “How do our teachers feel about this process?” Mary Jakupcak, MS English teacher responded that they feel it is as fair as it can be and that it is an interactive process.

#### **ACCREDITATION, TO INCLUDE UNIFORM (UNIFIED) IMPROVEMENT (PERFORMANCE) PLAN**

**“Uniform (Unified) Improvement (Performance) Plan (UPP) SB-09-163 The DAC’s charge was reviewed with the verbiage of SB 09-163, The Accountability Act, which reads, “The school’s DAC shall advise the local SQE concerning the contents of the District Improvement Plan. In advising and making its recommendations, the DAC shall take into account and incorporate any of the School Performance Plans, Improvement Plans, Priority Improvement Plans or Turnaround Plans that the Public Schools of the District submit to the DAC”.”**

The District will stay the same until the 2016-17 school year. The district is staying aligned with State core, and will continue the District assessment with STARS testing and review of prior year TCAP scores. There are some students progressing, along with some challenges; there is on-going training for teachers, students working on technology, and continuing to work with teachers on professional development.

#### **UIP 2016**

- Root Causes:
  - Deliver aligned curriculum.
  - Research-based instructional strategies.
  - Progress-monitor frequently to generate data to inform interventions & enrichment.
- GSD Imperatives
  - Stop the Elementary Accountability Clock
  - Deliver a PS-12 continuum of quality, first class education.
  - Change practice by teachers initiating second order change.

Math scores are still lower than they should be. There are intervention classes. We have switched the curriculum and there is no more Everyday Math. Basics skills are the problem and it is tough to get the parents involved to work with their child at home. Teachers send home lists in the summer specific to each child. Friday school is held and students can just show up. There is a schedule on the school website. If they need to take a test they need to communicate with their teacher. Teacher training is held to make sure curriculum is aligned with state. Montessori is reviewing and doing professional learning. Progress Monitoring is done with Star, MRX, NWEA and CMAS. Late Starts are used for data dialogue to identify kids, strategies to help and goals. They share and get/give feedback, PLC's and collaborating and teaming with other teachers. Mary J feels this is very supportive.

### **Gifted and Talented (GT) Program Delivery**

PS-12 Counselor Kirsten Goodlett gave the committee a report on Gifted and Talented (GT). Sunny Vincent is working with the elementary curriculum and with teachers to provide differentiated instruction for GT students. Sunny and Shelly Haich will be starting an Affective Group with GT students in elementary. Grades 5, 6, 7, and 9 are working with Brainology. Brainology helps students understand how the brain works and the brain's impact on learning. Teachers will be using higher-level thinking skills through the use of games and problem-solving challenges with middle school students to address affective needs. High school GT students are planning to do a social event with all HS students throughout the BOCES, possibly held at Clear Creek. Two GT students who are seniors have been contacted by Stanford and MIT, respectively. On November 30 students working in Mr. Newberg's social studies class come up with new flavor for Oohgies Popcorn. Goodlett told the committee that they did the paper processes last year and are working with teachers this year for support for differentiation in instruction for GT students.

### **Nutrition**

Guest Speaker Jane Yerkman, Food Services Director, Presented the DAC with an update on the school cafeteria since her presentation to the Committee during the 2014-2015 school year. She informed us that the district website now contains information regarding a summer food program through the state where families can get assistance with meals during the summer months. With the implementation last school year of a new menu – which is 51% whole grain per state requirements. It has been a challenge to find ala carte items through the district's current food distributors to offer out students, but has been accomplished. Her and her staff took a field trip to Bell MS and Golden HS, in the Jeffco school district, to see what they are selling in their ala carte that meet the new guidelines. The people at the two schools were very helpful and generous with ideas and suggestions. Jane was able to get two new

distributors willing to deliver to Black Hawk at least once a month. Who can provide several new items that are either whole grain rich or have a reduced fat content, to add to the current ala carte items we offer. She brought samples of the new snack items she will be selling which include Doritos (three flavors), cheetos (four varieties), two kinds of Chex mix, rice krispie treats, cheez its, frozen yogurt, granola bars, beef jerky and pop tarts. All of which are whole grain, reduced fat and meet the state requirements. She will also be able to offer pineapple and apple juice, sobe, life water and ice tea, which are all Pepsi products, to the high schoolers. All of these beverages meet the Colorado Healthy Beverage Act requirements. In one weeks time she increased her ala carte sales from \$107 a day to \$236 a day. Health Inspection was held on November 9<sup>th</sup>. This is done twice a year. For the first time in 5 years there were no violations. The cafeteria is now using decomposable trays. Curt Halsted as made arrangements with a gentleman in Nederland to pick up the decomposable items. Infinite Campus can now accept point of sale. You can add money to lunch accounts, pay lunch account balances and check on your kid's cafeteria balances. There is a \$5 service fee that offsets the cost to the district of bank charges for the service. Lunch - We currently have approximately 30% free & reduced. Before the whole grain switch was made an average of 240 lunches were served a day. November of 2014 they dropped to 205 and November of 2015 they were back up to 227. Thanksgiving of 2015 359 lunches were served 40 of them to senior citizens. This is up 8 from 2014. The current charges are \$2.80 for MS & HS and \$2.55 for Elementary lunches. Suggestion was made to increase each by \$.20 for next school year. Breakfast – 3 days a week it is served hot as preparation can be done the afternoon before. Monday is always cold cereal, Tuesday is whole grain pancakes w/sugar free syrup, Wednesday is a whole grain cinnamon roll, and Thursday is scrambled eggs w/cheese and a whole grain English muffin. . August and September 23 – 28 were served a day. October – December 50 – 63 were served a day. Jane's goal is to increase the breakfast numbers. After meeting with the DAC and suggestions were made to offer snacks for snow dodgers. It was implemented with success. Also, the great progress Jane has made puts her in line to win some awards, such as a Healthy School Champion award.

Schools Current Wellness Policy is up to date and compliant with laws if any changes are required HACCP committee will inform district.

## **Wellness**

Aaron Moran presented the program for the DAC meeting. He explained that the Presidential Fitness Award program ended in 2013 and was replaced. The replacement program has a high cost for participation and awards. He is going to produce his own program, create recognition boards, and provide wrist bands for individual student accomplishments. He will have two boards for recognition. One board for boys and one for girls. Students have already been participating and a number of students have surpassed the national average. Student flexibility is a challenge for some students and an area to concentrate for overall improvement. This will be the first time to put a formalized program in place with data tracking. Moran is very exciting to get

this program in place and into practice. Committee discussion with Moran determined that the data boards will be moved over to his office area adjacent to the old gym.

## **Budget**

*The DAC is responsible for recommending to it's local BOE priorities for spending school district moneys.*

- Terry Scharg, Gilpin County School Business Manager presented the committee with general information regarding the school district's budget.
  - Terry gave us a hand out showing where the income comes from.
    - The main funding the District receives is based on student count and divided between the State and the County property taxes using a formula. We do not receive any funding for preschool and receive ½ for kindergarteners. Because the state is in financial difficulty they have what is called the "Negative Factor". Approximately 830 million spread across all districts in the state. Our current PPOR (Per Pupil Operating Revenue) is \$10,086 and when you factor in Gilpin's portion of the Negative Factor it brings it down to \$8,862. In 2010 our PPOR was \$9,804.
    - If our student count drops below 409 next year the state will average our last five year counts and use that number for our funding.
    - The district currently charges tuition for Preschool – regular and Montessori. Nothing is charged for full time Kindergarten.
  - Terry gave us a hand out for the current year budget for period February 1 – 29, 2016. Showing revenue and expenditures. There are three constitutional amendments that play a part in spending – Tabor, Amendment 23 and Gallagher.
    - Every line item has an assigned number of 22 digits. The first two digits specify the fund and if there is a number in the last column of 4 this means it is related to a grant. The rest relate to the department, school, class, etc.
    - For every salary line there are corresponding lines for the taxes and benefits.
    - The General Fund (10) transfers money into the Kitchen Fund (21), Transportation Fund (25), and Capital Projects fund (43) as needed. Capital projects are for items that cost more than \$5,000 and have a life expectancy of more than one year. Any Kitchen repairs are put through the General Fund.
    - The Pupil Activity Fund (74) has a completely separate bank account and software program. Only the total is listed in the budget – for budget purposes only. This fund is where the money is that the classes & clubs raise.

In May Terry Scharg presented to us the proposed budget for 2016-2017. She also gave us a list of additions and deletions to the expense side of the budget. The committee moved through parliamentary consensus regarding the proposed budget.

**Other items**

Superintendent Dave Mackenzie, Secondary Principal Alexis Donaldson, and Scott Eldred Elementary Principal kept DAC members informed of ongoing events throughout the year.

Respectfully Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Mary Sonsino

District Accountability Committee Chair