

Gilpin County School District Re-1  
District Accountability Committee (DAC) Meeting Minutes  
November 8, 2016

In Attendance:

Mary Sonsino, Chair	Present	
Dick Vickery, Vice Chair, Community Business Member		Absent
Dee Adams, Parent	Absent	
Julie Hanssen, Parent, Secretary	Present	
Mary Lorenz, Parent	Present	
Mary Beth Sherrod, Parent	Present	
Dr. David MacKenzie, Superintendent	Present	
Alexis Donaldson, Secondary Principal	Present	
Mary Farmer, Secondary Teacher	Present	
Sharon Lutes, Elementary Teacher	Present	
Heather Huntoon, Elementary Principal	Present	
Atidah Holbird, Parent	Present	
Katie Yocom, Monstrossri Teacher	Present	
Beth Worley, Traditional Pre-school Teacher		Present
Anne Lloyd-Taylor, Monstrossri Preschool Teacher		Present

**Call to Order:** 5:30 pm Julie motioned and Alexis second

**Meeting minutes:** Mary F. motioned Julie second

**New Business:**

- Directors of preschool, Beth Worley and Anne Lloyd-Taylor, came to give a presentation on the Colorado Preschool Program. The Colorado Preschool Program (CPP) is a state-funded early childhood education program administered by the Colorado Department of Education. CPP provides the opportunity for young children who are at risk for starting elementary school unprepared. They monitor speech, motor and cognitive skills for children birth to four years old. CPP is a great program which provides funding for families with children who have certain risk factors in their lives that are associated with later challenges in school. (For example: qualifying for free/reduced lunch) Gilpin offers seven half day slots. Family must agree to program and meet three times to address child's goals and ways to help child.
- The curriculum used in traditional preschool is "Creative Curriculum". "Getting to Know You" books come with different activities that includes, physical, language, and math. This curriculum matches up with teachers goals and it is easy to put in the information on each individual child.
- Anne is using traditional montessori curriculum aligned with teaching statistics, a goal in line with Colorado state standards. In montessori, kids are all working at their own level. Teaching strategies during school, Anne takes notes and pictures then documents the notes on each individual child's goals and objectives which all goes into a main system. Anne can then print out reports for parent/teacher conferences. In addition,

the class profile report is neat because it has every different questions (157 all together) which helps determine if small groups are needed and helps plan activities. The montessori preschool department developed an end of year check off to make sure all students are ready for kindergarten. Everything in the classroom has a purpose for kids to gain, and the teachers concentrate on things from the beginning to end. Stone Soup Feast is coming!

**Old Business:** None

**Public Input:** None

**Board Reports:**

- The school board had a retreat on October 30th where presentations included update on academics and a new strategic plan for the committee. Next week, the board will adopt the new plan for student achievement and growth for the next four years. GCMS and HS earned a Performance rating and Gilpin Elementary was rated as an Improvement school. Get the word out that we are a great school!
- Site improvement projects. Bids are due on December 3rd for parking lot pavement. The plan is to begin project in late spring, closing the parking lot from May 21st - June 30th. Pavement needs to be paid for and complete in this fiscal year. Plans have also been started on the new playground where Sunny Vincent is working with kids on a design. GCSD applied for lottery Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) fund. While most schools are eligible to apply, the majority of successful applicants have Free and Reduced Lunch rates above 40%. Dave is aiming to be ready by August. A request for proposal (RFP) to get companies to bid to blow up north side of football field and excavate started in April. The new Track and Field and bleacher areas is looking at about 1.2-1.4 million, and we will not have enough for all to be done in one shot, so most likely we'll need to space it all out. Stairs leading to upper parking lot can hopefully still get done with the excavation of field. Work to be done during the summer and fall. Roof is finished and paid for through the Mill Levy Override which are moneys earmarked for facilities, windows, and to replace portion of roof on elementary section of building.

**Administrative Reports:**

- Alexis reported the secondary staff went to a teacher training conference held by Colorado Association of Middle Level Education where they listened to ideas on how to transform the student experience through "Game It, Solve It, Share It". Staff walked away with some new and great ideas. Ms. Cobb, our new counselor, did full lesson on "upstandard behavior" which included role play situations for the 6th and 7th grade students. The kids really dug it and now Alexis and Ms. Cobb are looking for ways to implement into other grades.
- Heather was happy to announce the elementary parent-teacher conferences had a 94% attendance. Also, they have just finished another benchmark for second quarter. The PTA held their annual Halloween Carnival, which was a huge success. Teachers are going to begin starting new "next steps" to close learning gaps on an online learning guide called the Lexia program. "The program provides explicit, systematic, and adaptive learning, scaffolding students as they struggle and advancing them to higher levels as they demonstrate proficiency". They are looking to target 50 students. Intervention would be during school for 10-20 minutes (during specials), four days a week to enable students time to get on level and meet the needs of kids.
- Dr. Dave added the Lexia program is being paid for by a grant. A 1.5% sales tax for casinos, and GCSD uses those moneys to help students. The elementary has added a lot of teachers in order to make classroom sizes

more manageable. Teachers need kindergarten aged students here all day so they can be ready for 1st grade, so we have done away with half day tuition and lowered the cost of full day.

- **Next Meeting: December 13th**
- **Adjourn: 6:20 Mary L motioned Mary Beth Second**