District Accountability Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2016, 2016

I. Call to order
Dennis Loerzel called to order the regular meeting of the District Accountability Committee at 6:00 pm on Monday, September 19th in Suite 112 Conference Room (Educational Services Center #1 Building).

II. Roll call
The following persons were present: Billie Day, Jeanette Carmany, Ella Hart, Dennis Loerzel, Merrie Jones, Dan Wright, Julie Rapone, Donna Jordan-Prueitt, Karen Porter

Board of Education Liaison: Cathy Wildman

Speaker(s):
- Jesús Escárcega — Grant Director
- Erin Brophy — Director, Educator Effectiveness
- William Stuart – Chairman, Aurora Citizens for Excellent Schools

III. Welcome & Introductions
Dennis welcomed and gave an introduction to DAC members and guests

IV. Grants, Fletcher TIG Application
Jesus Escarcega voiced that the Tier intervention grant is for struggling low performing schools – generally in the low 5%. He voiced that the Tiered Intervention Grant for Fletcher will help with the transformation and closing out the school. The school will transition into a charter named Rocky Mountain Preparatory starting in the fall of this year for grades K-5. The grant will provide funding over a two year period, and will offer professional development incentives to keep teachers during the transition. Aurora Public Schools is the first in the state to take advantage of the grant to close out a school; because of this both Aurora Public Schools and the Colorado Department of Education are learning the steps to make this process a success.

Questions - TIG
Q. Who decides the professional development
A. The principal

Q. On average how much money is awarded
A. Boston K-8 and Paris received over one million each and Central HS received 2.5 m

V. Teacher Evaluation Process
Erin presented DAC members with an overview regarding the teacher evaluation process. She shared In 2010 Colorado state legislature passed senate bill 10-191 changing the makeup of educator evaluations.

The new evaluation requirements include opportunities for reflection, review, professional development and growth. Changes include:
• Annual evaluations required for all teachers, principals and specialized service professionals
• Development of statewide Quality Standards defining what it means to be an effective educator; the professional practice Quality Standards will account for half of an educator’s annual evaluation
• The other half of an educator’s annual evaluation will be based on the Quality Standard that measures student learning (for teachers and principals) or student outcomes (for specialized service professionals)
• Non-probationary status will be earned after three consecutive years of demonstrated effectiveness
• Non-probationary status will be lost after two consecutive years of ineffective ratings

The rubric for evaluating Colorado teachers can be found by clicking on the following link https://www.cde.state.co.us/educatoreffectiveness/rubric-for-colorado-teachers

Erin voiced that there are some redundancies – So Colorado Department of Education will overhaul the rubric

Questions – Teacher Evaluation Process
Q. As it’s eliminated are there any subjectivity
A. Teachers look so different in every classroom – Trying to be sensitive to a wide array of different classrooms is key

Q. Do standardized tests effect individual teachers
A. Only in a small way (counts as 10%)

VI. 2016 Bond Proposal
William Stuart, Chairman – Aurora Citizens for Excellent Schools, presented a video and a PowerPoint presentation to DAC regarding the 3C school bond. He handed out the 2016 Bond Proposal Facts sheet and a flyer paid for by the Aurora Citizens for Excellent Schools. William also spoke to three goals:

Goal 1 – A plan for his or her future

Goal 2 – A set of skills to implement that plan

Goal 3 – Students will leave us with credentials that will open doors

William shared with DAC that Aurora Public Schools is extremely diverse (134 language learners, 67.8% free and reduced lunches)

He voiced the importance of passing the bond and addressed pressing needs throughout Aurora Public Schools, including:

- Repairs and improvements to every school
- New computer technology at all schools
- Roof repair or replacement district-wide
- HVAC and mechanical repairs district-wide
- Added classroom space at overcrowded schools
- New facilities: P-8 schools in east aurora, 6th – 12th grade school in northwest Aurora, new Lyn Knoll Elementary School and new Mrachek Middle School
- New security systems to increase student safety
New building to lease to CSU Global to provide APS students with scholarships

Questions – 2016 Bond Proposal

Q. Is the bond also going to charter schools
A. Yes, for technology and security

Q. How would explain to tax payers spending more to have pretty buildings when kids are failing
A. It’s a learning environment and modifications to buildings helps students to learn

Q. Is the bond going of the new values of homes
A. Yes

Q. What is the “Admin and Contingences” line item for 21 Million
A. William voiced that he will find out

Q. What are support sites
A. Examples of support sites are Information technology, School bus facility, and Finance

Q. Competitive Tech what are you defining that as
A. Current applications, tablets, Chromebooks, and student’s facing technology

VII. DAC Calendar
The group added additional items to the calendar – As follows:

November - 2016

• Result of recruiting efforts – Damon Smith
• Kelly Educational Services

February - 2017

• Medicaid Clinics
• Director of Learning
• Aurora Mental Health with Antoinette Dow’s

VIII. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

______________________________  ________________________________
Chairperson  ATTEST  Secretary