DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 20, 2017
6:00 – 7:15 PM
Accountability and Research Conference Room
of Education Service Center 1

A G E N D A

6:00 – 6:30  Equity in Learning
            (John Youngquist, Chief Academic Officer)

6:30 – 7:15  Charter School Applications
            (Mackenzie Stauffer, Charter Coordinator)

7:15        Closing
I. Call to order:
DJ Loerzel called to order the regular meeting of the District Accountability Advisory Committee at 6:00 pm on Monday, March 20th in the Accountability Conference Room (Educational Services Center #1)

II. Roll Call
The following individuals were present: Lori Stack, Ella Hart, Billie Day, Cathy Wildman (BOE Liaison) Dan Wright, Jeanette Carmany, Cassie Harrelson, Valerie Nesbit, and DJ Loerzel.

Speaker(s):
- John Youngquist, Chief Accountability Officer
- Mackenzie Stauffer, Charter Coordinator

III. Welcome and Introductions
DJ introduced the agenda and speakers for the evening

IV. 2016 – 17: Equity in Learning Update
The academic division restructured about three years ago. The theory of action behind this division is that every student shapes a successful future. The focus has been on supporting a higher level of engagement and achievement across all APS students.

Statement of purpose - We ensure that every student is engaged in rigorous learning experiences that equip them with the knowledge and skills necessary to shape a successful future.

Values driving our work together:
- Student first
- Trust
- Respect
- Collaboration
- Perseverance
- Equity
- Joy

Focus on Equity: Dr. Yemi Stembridge – Excellence in equity – Shift resources ensuring every student receives success.
Educational equity is the principle of promoting practices and perspectives that interrupt the patterns of underperformance among vulnerable student groups.

Seeing improvements in the data:
- Discipline rate show increase engagement –
  - 2013-14 – suspensions 5,291 and Expulsions 130
  - 2015-16 (through Jan 5) suspensions 1,580 and Expulsions: 18

What kind of support is given in order to keep expulsions down?
  - Looking at the big picture with the individual student MTTS. AWARE – social emotional learning program.

Decrease in Dropout Rates - 2012 6.2%, 2015 4.4%
Graduation rates – 65% (4 year grad rate) 2016
  - 69.6% - graduation rate with ASCENT 2016

Focus on data-driven decision-making. John, specifically, logs into Tableau on a daily basis to review schools and students across the district. Tableau Data includes Attendance systems at chronically absent, suspensions, grades, expulsions, CMAS College and Career Ready, on-track to graduation, Count of courses (full schedules for 9th and 10th graders).

Advancing Teacher Leadership in Aurora Schools (ATLAS) – Teacher and school leaders will strengthen their knowledge and skills to ensure the delivery of rigorous content through an equity framework
  - Teacher leadership system (partnership with Leading Educators [http://www.leadingeducators.org/](http://www.leadingeducators.org/)). John confirmed that this work is teacher driven. The overall goal of helping schools develop, sustain, and retain high quality educators
  - APS will select 8-10 schools to participate in the first cohort
  - Participating schools will select teacher leaders to lead their vertical content teams in job-embedded, content-focused cycles of professional learning

Equity in Learning is focusing on a continuous quality improvement cycle to ensure there are focused on the development, implementation, and evaluation of programs and projects to ensure constant improvement.

Professional learning in the district is shifting to the use of more localized learning (support learning teachers at school sites) as opposed to large, centralized district initiatives.
  - DAAC question/comment: have teachers create professional learning experience and engage teachers more in the development of programs as opposed to always looking externally.
V. **2016 – 17: Charter School Application Update**

APS is increasing their focus on the charter review process and their review. As quoted from NACSA: “Thus, the quality of a charter school sector is largely dependent on how well authorizers, backed by sound state policy, fulfill this gatekeeping role.”

Multiple groups will be engaged in the review of charter applications:
- APS Office of Autonomous Schools
- DAAC
- Charter School Advisory Committee (CSAC)
- APS Internal Review Committee (IRC)

These groups will focus on all aspects of the application, grouped into the following categories: Educational, Operational, and Financial.

**Application timeline:**
- February – Charter submits letter of intent
- March – Formal applications accepted
  - District confirms application is complete
- April – CSAC review
  - DAAC review
- April/May – Applicant interviews
- June – Applicants present to APS Board of Education

One application for review this year, DSST (Denver School of Science and Technology)

- Applying for two identical campuses
  - Grade Levels: 6-12 (starting with 6th grade, followed by one grade per year until reaching full capacity)
  - Anticipated Opening: 2019 (1st campus); 2021 (2nd campus)
  - Enrollment Projections (per campus):
    - Y1 – 148, Y2 – 300, Y3 – 457, Y4 - 607, Y5 – 752, Y6 – 877, Y7 – 982
  - Charter Management Organization: DSST Public Schools

DAAC next steps, we will reserve a larger room for the next meeting (April 17th) to accommodate DSST staff (Nutrition Conference Room).

I. **Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm

**Handouts:**

- DAAC 3.20.17.pptx
- DAAC Pres 3.20.17.pptx