District Accountability Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2014

I. Call to order
Karen Porter called to order the regular meeting of the District Accountability Committee at 5:45 pm on Thursday, March 20, 2014 in Dr. Ed Lord and Patricia Lord Board Room (Educational Services Center, Peoria Building).

II. Roll call
The following persons were present: Lisa Escárcega, Ella Hart, Merrie Jones, Efren Ortiz, Karen Porter, Julie Rapone, Janna Youmans

Board of Education Liaison: Amber Drevon

Speaker(s): Amy J. Beruan – Title I Coordinator
Jesus Escárcega – Director, Grants & Federal Programs
Lisa Escárcega – Chief Accountability & Research Officer
Kendalyn Hansen (Cookie) – Family Liaison for Special Populations
Merrie Jones – DAC Parent

III. Welcome & Introductions
Karen Porter welcomed and gave an introduction to DAC members

IV. TIG Grant Input
Amy presented the Tiered Intervention Grant (TIG) item – A grant provided to increase academic student achievement.

The Tiered Intervention Grant is a competitive grant for schools identified with graduation rates less than 60% for all of the following: 2012 4-year, 2011 5-year, and 2010 6-year rates; and were identified if at 5% of lowest performing Title I or Title I eligible schools, and are required to perform one of four reform models

A. Transformation
B. Turn around
C. Restart
D. Closure

TIG eligible Title I Schools were also identified if they had 2013 Academic Achievement rating of does not meet in reading and mathematics on the 3-year SPF (School Performance Framework)

Aurora Central High School and Fulton Academy of Excellence were awarded the TIG Grant in the past. Aurora Central is in the first year of the grant and Fulton will conclude this award by the end of this year. Fulton used the allocated funding towards TE (Teacher Equivalency).
Amy explained that Crawford and Paris Elementary schools have submitted requests for proposals and will be selecting the transformation model as part of intervention/reform. $8.5 million is available for distribution to Schools – School districts may request no less than $50,000 or more than $2 million per year over the three year grant period for each participating school. Subsequent years funding (except in the case of closure) is contingent upon the Colorado Department of Education approval and continued fund allocations from the United States Department of Education. Actual allocations will be based on the intervention model chosen. Colorado Department of Education expects to fund approximately seven applications out of twenty-seven eligible applications submitted.

V. Family Liaison’s – How They Train
Cookie shared with DAC that a one year training plan began for Family Liaisons – 3 ½ hours long. There are Thirty-five family liaisons in the group, and about twenty-eight to thirty that train consistently. Cookie explained that Dale Cornelius and she teach the group. She described that we need two way communications, and if schools care about families the kids reap the rewards. Cookie handed out the family liaisons job description. She explained that the principals will sit with their liaison partner during the April meeting and discuss “conversation starters” from a handout list. All liaisons have been encouraged to work within the vision and mission of each school - To build a common language, and community liaisons to build partnerships in the community.

Mantra adopted:
1) What made the presentation meaningful for parents as it relates to student learning?
2) What will parents be able to do with this information?
3) What will students be able to do now that parents have this information?

VI. Volunteers
DAC parent, Merrie Jones presented the group with a PowerPoint presentation on training for volunteers (Format in English and Spanish).

VII. Parental Involvement Plan/UIP Review
Lisa Escarcega presented the Parent Involvement section of the district UIP. DAC provided suggested action steps to include in the plan.

VIII. Questions & Answers

**TiG Grant**

Q - *How do you check the improvement*
A - Benchmark data (upward movement).

Q - *Did Fulton meet benchmarks*
A - Fulton went from orange (Priority Improvement) to green (performance) and back to yellow (Improvement).

Q - *What model was written for Aurora Central*
A - Transformation model.

Q - *How are you monitoring*
A - This is a district effort – Checks throughout coaches, directors of P-20 education, etc.
Q - What’s the process of picking seven out of twenty-seven schools
A - Colorado Department of Education will use a rubric.

Q - When will we know the outcomes of the application process
A - April 30th is submission, so end of May 2014, and July 1 is when funding would begin.

Q - Is there a role for DAC to play with Grants/TIG Grants
A - It’s more designed for staff/leadership at this level.

Q - Is there a list of what can’t be spent with the TIG Grant funds
A - It’s more a list of allowable expenses.

Family Liaisons
Q - What’s occurring with liaisons that looks different
A - Rethink frame work - Based on what we are learning in professional development. Some adjustments also had to be made to impact student achievement.

Q - What’s the difference between community and family liaisons
A - Community liaisons build partnerships in the community and family liaisons work with students and parents.

Q - How can family liaisons show they care about parents
A - It starts from when the parent walks in the front door (Customer Service).

IX. Adjournment
Karen adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Our next meeting will be April 17, 2014.

__________________________              ATTEST_____________________
Chairperson                           Secretary