District Accountability Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2016

I. Call to order
Lisa Escarcega called to order the regular meeting of the District Accountability Committee at 6:13 pm on Thursday, May 19 in the Dr. Ed Lord and Patricia Lord Board Room (Educational Services Center, Peoria Building).

II. Roll call
The following persons were present: Merrie Jones, Valerie Nesbitt, Dan Wright, Billie Day, Wendy Sullivan, Jeanette Carmany, and Lisa Escárcega

Board of Education Liaison: Cathy Wieldman

Speaker(s):
- Aaron J. Oberg — Budget Director, Stan Rodriquez —
- Wendy Sullivan — Charter Schools Coordinator

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

IV. Preliminary Budget 2016-17
State statute required discussion of the APS budget, and what DAAC would like to present to the Board regarding the budget. Summary: revenue is decreasing $5.5 million (1.6%), potentially a 2% decline in traditional student enrollment. Environment of less revenue and higher expenditures. Discussion of the concerns with the fluctuation in the Medicaid funding. Proposed budget will be presented at the June 7th Board meeting (informational) and the 21st (consent). Opened for discussion, given the information from Financial what is the recommendation from DAAC on the priority for district spending (or areas where DAAC would discourage cuts).

Recommendations:
- Specials: Do not reduce Arts/Music/PE
- Reduce our contributions to TABER to avoid cuts elsewhere.
- Prioritize ESS funds and supports
- Increase math intervention (math equivalent of Read Plans)

Handout(s):
- Proposed Budget: 2016-17

V. Charter School Application
Michael (former Superintendent of Harrison and Dallas school district), Elgin Tucker, and, Dr. Shirley Miles (former Superintendent Tempe and Department of Defense Schools).

- Academy of Advanced Learning
- Personalized learning model (individual student learning plan (SLP)),
- Curriculum:
  - 2025 knowledge/skills (problem solving, critical thinking, technology),
    Read by Three (end of third grade), and Competency-based advancement
- Staffing (need-based hiring, compensation based on curriculum/need)

**Questions - Charter School Applications**

Q. How many students?
A. 60/grade, 420 total (targeting APS students but will be open enrollment)

Q. Number of letters of intent?
A. 300-350 intent to enroll forms.

Q. Do you have a building?
A. Yes/No. Building is contingent on getting Charter authorization

Q. Why did you choose Aurora?
A. Focus on where he could serve his best. Aurora has a population with great need.

Q. How do you plan funding (specifically highly paid staff)?
A. The distribution of Learning Coaches and highly paid teachers evens across the entire budget. Currently fundraising to have staff on board before school opens

Q. Requesting authorization to suspend/remove/deny students with district approval?
A. Focus on equity, but wanting to protect their students and best serve their population (likely to be removed as it is not something APS can grant)

Q. Has your curriculum worked?
A. Yes and no. Carmel in Harrison implemented a similar curriculum emphasizing critical thinking and personalized learning, granted Grants funding in personalized learning. The no, this specific combination is unique to this school.

Q. Who is at fault for student failure/retention?
A. The fault is with “us” (the school).

Q. How many Board Members
A. 5 currently. 7 total, which the last 2 will be voted on by the parents of the students

**VI. Debrief**
Great experience and great start with community involvement. School hours alone should recruit some families given the longer hours and flexible start and end times (split schedule). $300 committed funds (Gates funding, and others) with an additional $350k in softer commitment. Authentic leader and presentation. Second language learning family. The DAAC all voted yes for a recommendation.
VII. **Executive Committee Elections**
Previously suggested that the committee rotate positions – Must be a Non-APS employee/Non-Board Member, Chair/Vice-Chair/Chair Elect. Chair: **Merrie Jones** and Chair Elect: **Billie Day**.

VIII. **Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

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Chairperson                   Secretary

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ATTEST  ____________________