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School Accountability Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2017

- Present:** David Rootes, Vice-Chair (Parent Committee Representative), Dawn Lima, Secretary (Parent-Elect in Lieu of a Community/Business Representative), Deirdre Morgenthaler, (Elected Parent), Jeromy Johnson, Administrator Representative and Head of School
- Not Present:** Cecilia Stewart, Chair; Denise Glenn, (Elected Teacher); Ben Williams, (Elected Parent)
- 4:38 pm** Dawn L., Secretary, called the meeting to order.
- 4:39 pm** January 2017 Meeting Minutes were approved. Dawn L. moved and Dave R. seconded the motion. The committee agreed unanimously.
- 4:40 pm** Discussed the formalization of UIP Goals
Reviewed growth scores from PARCC data
- Growth scores in middle school are good - we are “meeting” expected
 - Pretty typical to be approaching in lower elementary school performance
 - Science scores are high
 - Math is the lowest across all of the data
 - Heading into next year Jeromy would like to focus on math
 - Albanesi math is being piloted in a few upper elementary as a bridge to middle school text book based math so that the transition to middle school math can be made to be more similar to the k-6 transition
 - School is in second year of using “verticle teaming” and observation so that lower level teachers and upper level teachers can give feedback and prepare for the levels. Vertical Teaming provides feedback about standards at different locations
 - Writing has been the focus for the past year because Colorado’s national percentiles were in the 30th percentile.
 - It was discussed that centralization of student movement and achievement can be alleviated through bridge programs, like the Albanesi math program, and

may also reduce some of the stress of some of the teachers and the students in reaching the state standards

- Math Mammoth in particular is a centralizing factor because of the way that it is structured so Albanesi math provides a supplement to the repetitive nature of Math Mammoth

4:55 pm

Discussion around current UIP goals.

- Improve scores in writing
- Improving Montessori connections to the home.
- Reducing the number of students of READ plans. 65% of students that had READ plans. Currently less than 3% of students are below grade level
- Improving the RTI process - teachers try to naturally address student needs to special education but we have an opportunity to create a better scaffolded RTI process for our school.

5:15 pm

Parent Survey Data Review and Discussion

- On December 7, 2016 - Dawn, Ben, Denise, Dave, and Sheila (Administrator) reviewed the parent survey results at an informal meeting.
- Feedback on report cards were discussed and a goal around addressing the homework load. A homework Goal is discussed to keeping an eye on it for the next year because the numbers were so disproportionate and different. Not making this a goal for this year but makes sense to make it a goal next year when we have more time to look at next year's data.
- To address the academic growth issue we suggest a goal of implementing a formalized RTI process.
- Improving academic growth at the academic growth level such that it moves from "approaching" to "meets" through strengthening or optimizing the RTI process over a 2 year period of time

5:35 pm

Formalized Goals:

- a) Improving the total academic growth rating from "approaching" to "meets" at least in part through strengthening our RTI process over a two year period of time.
- b) Improving the vertical articulation of writing throughout the school
- c) Improving the elementary academic achievement math score from 61 to 70 and improving the elementary academic growth score from 43 to 50 within a two year time frame.

5:38 pm

Dawn L. motioned to approve the UIP Goals, Jermy J. seconded. The committee agreed unanimously.

5:40 pm

Head of School Report by Jeromy J.

- Finances are positive.

- Expecting the greenhouse next Monday and on site for 2 weeks and not a lot of down time.
- Primary playground should be coming soon and be done within the month of March.
- Summertime re-flooring the primary pods with new carpet.
- Safety audit - thefts of medications - triple locks and new protocols on accessing medications.
- \$7,000 student in DO CO

5:50 pm

Dave moved to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Dawn L. The committee agreed unanimously.

School Accountability Committee Meeting

April 27, 2017

In attendance: Cecilia Stewart, Dawn Lima, Denice Glenn, David Rootes, Kristina Baxter (for Jeromy Johnson)

Meeting called to Order at 4:40 PM

There was a question about whether any members had minutes from the Feb. 21st meeting however, no one in attendance had those minutes.

Student Survey and Plan

All members in attendance expressed satisfaction with the Survey with the exception of question 6: "I feel safe at my school." A discussion was held about the advisability of breaking out the 7th and 8th grade responses to see if that was a building specific problem.

A motion was made by Cecilia to keep all questions in the survey the same but have responses broken out from middle school students. Dave seconded, unanimously approved.

Alumni Survey and Plan

Kristina asked whether the committee wanted to just send this survey out every three years. A discussion ensued. Cecilia expressed the opinion that it is better to keep the survey going out every year because otherwise some grades might be skipped. Denise expressed a similar opinion noting that some years might contain "flash points" that could be missed. Cecilia made a motion that the every year survey pattern be retained. Denise seconded. Unanimously approved.

An additional discussion was held concerning the content of the alumni survey. Cecilia expressed the opinion that if questions 14 and 16 were removed more respondents might answer question 17 favorably. A motion was made by Cecilia to eliminate questions 14 and 16 and to make question 17 more concise with only a yes or no response solicited. Dawn seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Finances, Full Budget Review

A discussion was held concerning the importance of Douglas County passing a mill levy in the next local election. Kristina indicated she would discuss with Head of School Jeromy Johnson, the permissible avenues of SAC support for the Mill levy question and the date of the election.

Adjournment

Dave made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:17, Cecilia seconded, unanimously approved.

SAC Meeting
September 20, 2017

4:35pm: Meeting called to order

Committee Members Present:

Cecilia Stewart (Committee Chair) , Craig Blumengold (Vice Chair), Kirk Gray (DAC Representative) , Denise Glenn (Teacher Representative), Jeromy Johnson (Administrative/Principal)

Committee Members Not Present

Dawn Lima, Dee Morgenthaler

What is SAC?

Jeromy provides a brief explanation of the origin and goals of SAC.

Roles and Responsibilities

Discussion to elect positions of the committee.

Chair- Cecilia Stewart

Vice Chair- Craig Blumengold

DAC Rep- Kirk Gray

Motion to approve roles is made by Jeromy Johnson, Seconded by Cecilia Stewart, No questions or discussion, Approval by unanimous vote

Discussion to approve reviewed bylaws to be done annually.

Motion of approval of bylaws without changes by Craig Blumengold, Second by Kirk Gray, No questions, Approval of motion to maintain current bylaws by unanimous vote

UIP Process and Discussion

Writing goals completed and implemented in the 2016/2017 school year

Mathematics curricula improvement is goal for 2017/2018

We will look at statistics at next meeting in Oct.

Nov/Dec parent survey will be considered and approved (the Board will participate as this is a dual task in regard to administration) For SAC it will be used for goal planning.

PARC results two years ago showed writing in Colorado to be below national norms for States participating. Writing therefore became the goal for UIP. Our school demonstrates stats at or above norm, however, the opportunity to set goals both horizontally and vertically was implemented. \$17,804.49 was delegated to materials support from pre-k thru middle school to support improvements Pre-K thru Middle School.

RTI model was adjusted to allow for routine conversations. Routine conversations broaden strategies and supports for teachers and students. This supports overall staff and program development resulting in universal student growth. Growth will be measured over time.

Mathematics curricula in previous years resulted in a Math Mammoth workbook for self directed Math work. Long term results show further work needed. Curriculum was adjusted to a more materials based practice. This plan is to be implemented in lower el this year. Results from this latest approach will be several years out. Middle school has focused on math for the prior 2 years.

Current Data for Discussion

PARC brings significant change to Math in particular for DCSM. Scores across the State have evened out in general. Discrepancy in 4th year results compared to general results for DCSM are considered normal. The three year cycle is catalyst to cyclical growth spikes. Students experience peaks of increased positive results due to opportunities for goal setting, analysis and deliberate effort. Middle school students plan and analyse results on a 5 to 6 week cycle.

HOS Report on School and Finances

Overall funding is tight due to complications in paying staff well given funding received from the state for this year. Revised funds statement due out in October. Student Count window occurs Sep 14-28. Students are counted and must attend one day during count window, one day prior and/or one day after.

SAC Calendar

Review of general agenda for SAC this year outlined by Jeromy Johnson.

October Meeting Date

October 16-18 window TBD

Jeromy Jeromy Johnson will send out data for review prior to meeting

Cecilia volunteers to set up 2017-2018 SAC meeting calendar.

5:34 pm: Meeting is motioned to adjourn by Cecilia Stewart, Seconded by Denise Glenn;
Adjournment is approved by unanimous vote

SAC October 16, 2017

4:34 pm: Meeting called to order

Committee Members Present

Cecilia Stewart, Craig Blumengold, Kirk Gray, Denise Glenn, Jeromy Johnson, Dawn Lima

Committee Members Not Present

Dee Morgenthaler

Data Review

PARC data result differences are greatly attributed to change in test. DCSM would like to see growth in Mathematics overall, despite trends and changes in testing from year to year. There is relationship between three year cycles of growth and test results. DCSM prioritises results at 8th grade level as indicator of students preparation for continued education. PARC testing will be phased out Statewide and new testing is not determined at this time. Individual student support with curriculum at the RTI level is relevant and dependent on planning and training on an as needed basis. MAP scores in the area of Mathematics indicate no change in data. Math Improvement is the focus for this year at DCSM regardless of PARC results.

Goals Discussion for UIP development

Motion to maintain UIP goals as they are written by Cecilia, Seconded by Dawn Lima, Motion is approved unanimously

Parent Survey-Middle School Questions

Survey data is compared year to year to determine areas of concern and growth. DCSM has data related to leadership/choice as it is a specific element of the curriculum. Parent and Student Survey results show majority of response to be strongly agree/agree in most areas. Research demonstrates that experience with work outside of school from 0-6yrs shows detriment later. 6-8yrs has benefit, not in high school, at the college level. The exception is in the Language area when speaking, writing and reading is beneficial. Majority of dissatisfaction indicated in the survey, by grade level, is in lower elementary. Homework routinely demonstrates a broader spectrum of response at the lower elementary level. Parent opportunities and ideas for increasing participation are up for discussion.

HOS report, highlights on Finances and Safety

Revenue is lower. Budgeting is in progress. No major concerns. Fundraising monies are allocated according to rotating schedule and determined by HOS and need. Increased use of SCRIPT Program would benefit funds. Teacher training scholarship is ongoing. No safety issues.

November Meeting is set for Tuesday, November 14, 2017

5:50 pm: Meeting is motioned to adjourn by Jeromy Johnson, Seconded by Craig Blumengold, Adjournment is approved by unanimous vote.

Craig second.

SAC November 14, 2017

4:30 pm: Meeting called to order

Committee Members Present

Cecilia Stewart, Craig Blumengold, Denise Glenn, Jeromy Johnson, Dawn Lima

Committee Members Not Present

Kirk Gray, Dee Morgenthaler

Guest

Miguel Gonzalez

September/October Minutes Review

Motion to approve September minutes by Craig Blumengold, second by Dawn Lima
minutes approved by unanimous vote

Motion to approve October minutes by Cecilia Stewart, second by Craig Blumengold
Minutes approved by unanimous vote

Parent Satisfaction Survey Middle School Questions and Reformat

Only changes to survey are on SSP.

- Plarel added to question 3 to acknowledge multiple teachers
- Assistants specific questions excluded to acknowledge that there are none at M.S. level
- Middle School is looked at globally on question 4 because it does not function as an individual classroom
- Question 5 exchanges the word classroom to instruction or curriculum
- Question 15 is designed to gain specific feedback on aspects of growth and to gage current experience in area outside of core curriculum. A high response of "Don't Know" may indicate need for parent education.
- Question 16 specifically addresses understanding of the major shift in Planes of Development.

Items for consideration

Eliminating "1st grade and up" questions from view for Primary students may be useful.
Discussion to add "auxiliary" to question 15's heading may eliminate confusion about whole curriculum.

Parent Survey Plan Approval

Motion to accept change of survey with discussed considerations by Craig Blumengold,
seconded by Dawn Lima, approved by unanimous vote

January Meeting is set for Tuesday January 23, 2018

5:10 pm: Meeting is motioned to adjourn by Dawn Lima, Seconded by Craig Blumengold,
Adjournment is approved by unanimous vote.