

Minutes of November 12th, 2019
District Accountability Committee Meeting

Sargent School District

On Tuesday November 12th, 2019, the DAC held a meeting at Dos Rios Restaurant in Monte Vista, Colorado. President, Theresa Kaiser-Griffin, called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM. Present at the meeting, constituting a quorum, were the following: Theresa Kaiser-Griffin, Christa Davis, Lacie Paulson, Michelle Roepke, Nicole Rockey, Melanie Squire and Annette Troncoso. Also present at the meeting were Superintendent Brian Crowther, Principals Joni Hemmerling and Shelley David, and School Board Member Michele Peterson.

Christa Davis made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting and Nicole Rockey seconded and the minutes were approved.

At this meeting the following discussions were held regarding the agenda items:

Principals / Superintendent Updates:

Joni Hemmerling updated our group on upcoming Elementary events. The Christmas concert is December 16th at 6:00 PM. They will be hosting the first Father Daughter Dance February 13th from 6:30-8:00 PM. Ski days for 5th/6th are January 16th and March 5th. Ski days for 3rd/4th are February 20th and March 12th. Swimming for K-2nd grade is scheduled for April 20, 21, 22 and 27th. Kindergarten Round-Up is scheduled for April 2nd from 5:30 - 6:30 PM. Based on conversations with the Early Learning Center, it looks like the incoming Kindergarten class will be small. Fourth grade Rendezvous is scheduled for April 30th. The CMAS testing window for 3rd-6th grades is April 6-24th. The Bike-A-Thon has been scheduled for May 7th and the Mystery AR Trip on May 14th. May 20th at 8:30 PM is 6th Grade Promotion and Kindergarten Graduation is at 2:30. The Veteran's Day program was a success yesterday. Attendance was down slightly, but many of the Veterans who once attended are getting older and some have passed away. Teachers are working on more project-based learning at the Elementary school. Teachers have been encouraged to begin implementing more project based and STEM learning opportunities for their students. Joni plans on highlighting these for the School Board this Spring.

Shelley David shared High School activities with the DAC. She was excited to share that they are in the early stages of implementing an aeronautics program allowing students to graduate with their pilot's license. Stephanie Klecker attended the High School Aviation Stem Symposium on November 12th. This will be an elective program and Jay Sarason has agreed to help teach/train students. The AOPA High School Aviation Initiative is part of AOPA's You Can Fly program, which was created to bring

more people into aviation. Ashlyn Rockey attended the FFA Conference. Shelley has prepared monthly newsletters and they are available on the school website. Transportation director, Rebecca Sykes, is doing a fundraiser called "Stuff the Bus" to raise donations for people in need this holiday season. Their Leader In Me Coach will be at the school for training November 5th and spent half the day with High School students and staff and the other half day with the Elementary students and staff. The staff Christmas party is scheduled for December 12th. Candice Allen, director of nursing at Rio Grande Hospital, is conducting a vape education session on December 9th. The students will also continue their training on bus safety. Homecoming was successful. Val and the food service staff will host a community Thanksgiving dinner on November 20th.

Superintendent Mr. Crowther discussed district priorities, starting with the Leadership in Me Program. This program allows for great social emotional and leadership opportunities for students and he feels that the district is doing a great job of implementing the program. At the last Board of Education Meeting, students proposed a trap shooting team or club. The Board is currently discussing this proposal. High School students have also requested more time for lunch and/or passing periods. They have determined that they can give the students an extra 5 minutes without disrupting the current schedule. Mr. Crowther asked other superintendents at the last Superintendent Advisory Committee how they handle passing periods and if they count them for contact hours. All other school districts in the San Luis Valley count passing periods as contact hours. Passing periods account for 18-20 minutes of each day. Mr. Crowther is attending a workshop focused on 5th day instruction and Friday school.

Open Issues:

- a) Friday School Application - we reviewed the first draft of the application and after group discussion, we decided to add an administrator's signature, the cost per student and we will attach a cover letter that explains the details of the Friday School guidelines. With these changes and additions Christa Davis moved to approve the application and Michelle Roepke seconded. Our group also suggested a notice be sent to the community via School Reach and that the application be available on the school website.
- b) Personnel Performance Evaluation Committee - Mr. Crowther explained the current State Model Evaluation System so our group had a better understanding of how teachers are currently being evaluated. Currently, 50% of a teacher's evaluation is tied to Measures of Student Learning (student growth) and the other 50% is based on Professional Practices (rubrics the State provides). The School Board asked our group to consider if this is a fair and accurate measure of teacher performance. Shelley, Joni and Mr. Crowther suggested having the teachers and staff weigh in on their evaluations and how much should be the collective piece and how much the individual piece. All staff gathered for a meeting earlier today to vote on how they think they should be evaluated. The meeting went very well and the teachers decided on the following evaluation equation for the 50% component Measures of Student Learning: individual assessments will account for 25%, collaborative/district assessments 20%, and the state framework/rating will make up 5%. The other 50%

will remain the Professional Practices piece. Teachers, administrators and the DAC thought this would allow teachers to take responsibility for their own teaching. The DAC agreed with this evaluation and Melanie Squire moved to approve the new performance evaluation and Lacie Paulson seconded.

New Business:

Review remaining directives: discuss ideas for a possible mill levy for the 2020 election and continue to review and look at the calendar and budget.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 14th at 6:00 PM at Tequila Star Restaurant.

Adjournment: Christa Davis motioned to adjourn the meeting and Melanie Squire 2nd. The meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.

