

District Accountability Committee

Tuesday October 4, 2022
Dos Rios Restaurant 6:00pm

Call to Order

On Tuesday, October 4, 2022, the DAC held a meeting at Dos Rios Restaurant in Monte Vista, CO. President of DAC Theresa Kaiser-Griffin called the meeting to order at 6:14pm.

Present at the meeting: Amanda Andrews, Lacie Paulson, Joni Hemmerling, Jo Rice, Trish Slater, Rocio Urbina, Theresa Kaiser-Griffin, Michele Petson, Terry W. VanBibber, Brian Crowther, Michelle Burkhart, Terri Paulson, Nicole Rockey, Jamie Behil, Christa K. Davis, and Kyler J. Brown.

Theresa Kaiser-Griffin started the meeting stating that we are all there to make the school district better, and our behavior should be respectful to each other and other's opinions. Some basic DAC guidelines were discussed to be followed by attendees: to stay on task by following the agenda, requesting that everyone present be respectful of opinions shared, active listening is preferred, cell phones on silent with no texting during meetings. Amanda Lewis moved to approve the basic guidelines and Rocio Urbina seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Approval of Agenda/Minutes of previous meetings

Theresa said some of the agenda changed, Danielle Price was out of town, so she couldn't speak on the Dream Team, and the calendar was added to the Directives, also the Election of officers was added to the agenda. Nicole Rockey moved to approve the amended agenda and Michelle Peterson seconded the motion and the motion carried. Christa moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting and Nicole seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Principals/Superintendent Updates

Elementary Principal Joni Hemmerling was present to give the elementary update. The 3-6th graders were participating in swimming lessons at Hooper, Kindergarten-2nd grade will attend lessons in the spring. The teachers, principal, and superintendent worked on RANDA, identifying the three tiers of behavior, math alignment, discussion of student growth, identified ways to improve math fact fluency, and how to supplement math among elementary students. Jamie Behil and Nicole Rockey said it was very beneficial to come together as a team and work towards the same goals. There was an early release of students September 28, 2022 for teachers to have professional learning development, and there will also be one in the Spring. Joni also provided a packet explaining Sargent Educational Acronyms which will be updated to Sargent website, also will be attached with the minutes.

Highschool/Junior High Principal Shelley David was unable to attend, but sent notes with Theresa Kaiser-Griffin to read the highlights to DAC. Katelyn Buetow is the new High school Science teacher. There was an In-service on 9/28 to work in teams to analyze data that will drive instruction on how generational gaps affect teaching and learning. Counselor Deanna Floriani attended the Gifted and Talented New Coordinator training on September 23, 2022. Mr. Larson is working on his principalship through Western Colorado University. Math coach

working with our district math teachers. End of 1st Quarter October 13, 2022. Staff work day will be October 14, 2022 to finalize grades. Parent Teacher Conference will be held from 4:30-7:30pm Monday, October 17, 2022. Officer Dave Lanford will be going into Farmer Time classrooms during the month of October to do drug abuse and prevention presentations. Red Ribbon week will be October 24-27 2022. Monday: Pajama Day, Tuesday: 70s Disco Day, Wednesday: Career Day, Thursday: Black and Gold Day/Spirit Day. Trick or Treat Street will be hosted by High school STUCO. The pre-school and elementary are welcome to come walk through our "trick or treat street" hallways to get candy on October 31st. Congratulations: Parker Mitchell was named a member of the Top 300 Masters in the Broadcom masters national middle school science competition; Homecoming King Mr. Mitchell Plane, homecoming Queen Ms. Stephanie Johnson; Homecoming Court: Seniors- Ms. Megan Peterson, Ms. Alexis Urbina, Mr. Vinnie Vitalie, and Mr. Wyatt Cross; Juniors- Ms. Azzy Lister and Mr. Corbyn Wright. Sophomores- Ms. Rusch Pepper and Mr. Fernando Venzor; Freshman: Ms. Reagan Curtis and Mr. Cadyn Wright. Farmer Football with picture of High school football boys in CHSAA NOW titled: "Agricultural lifestyle a key component of Sargent Farmers football culture". Group of Sargent FFA students participated in the first ever District IV Rangeland Judging Workshop and Competition hosted by Sangre FFA; team came back with a first place win and with two individual placings: Jayce C, Mitchell P. (silver category), Cadyn W, Wyatt C., and Trenton P. (1st place, gold category).

Superintendent, Brian Crowther said a qualified and experienced Director of Maintenance was hired. Kelly has also been helping and might take on some of the clerical aspects of the maintenance. Students are asked to help with some maintenance tasks, throwing trash and sweeping the gyms. There is also opportunity for fundraising for clubs to lighten the load for the maintenance. Sargent is looking at new heat pumps for the classrooms, each one heats about two or three classrooms. The water temperature is improving. Sargent is still advertising for a Director of Transportation; Sue Plane is filling in now. Kyler Brown asked if Sargent has reached out to surrounding schools to possibly share a Director of Transportation among the different schools, and Sargent has, but with no success yet.

Open issues

2022-2023 Budget update and priorities

With inflation being a big factor and the election year, it is too early to tell what the budget is going to do. The student count is at 325 right now, about 4 lower than the start of the year; schools average the attendance of five years.

2022-2023 Directives

Standardize meeting minutes

Amanda proposed a school board meeting minutes guideline to get more details in the minutes, because she said the information on the minutes are minimal, none of the discussion is recorded. At least get the title and not necessarily the policy recorded in the minutes.

Michelle Peterson said before a proposal is sent to the board, the DAC needs to go to the actual school board policy and see what is stated in the policy on minutes. It was discussed to have

Stephanie put out a google doc including the guidelines on school board minutes where DAC members can add their inputs on what the guidelines on the minutes need.

Performance Evaluations

Mr. Crowther passed out slides on the 1338 Council performance evaluations for teachers. The slides explain in detail how the teachers are evaluated, with 50% of their evaluation is professional practices and 50% is the measures of student learning/outcomes. Through this evaluation process, tenure is no longer available. There is a two-year probationary status for teachers who fall below the standards. The teachers have a self-assessment where they set goals at the beginning of the year. Then they're evaluated in the fall, mid-year and Spring, and have ongoing benchmarks to meet. There is training and observations: formal observations and informal observations. There are evaluations done by the principal and superintendent. There is an end of year final evaluation with the teacher's year rating and their goals are made for the following year. Mr. Crowther said the process for this program has been streamlined and very detailed. Theresa says it allows for teacher's personal growth and student's growth, that it's a tool to grow and get better. Nicole said the teachers can work collectively to grow and to hold each other accountable by encouraging each other. The principal comes in and helps with coaching teachers but is different than the evaluator. Jo moved to pass the teacher's evaluation onto the school board, and Amanda seconded the motion, all approved the motion.

Landscape Project

Jay Sarason's picture of the Sargent property is up at the elementary and high school. We need more sheets of the property for people's ideas and have them email Jay. Maybe we can blend Theresa's sister's landscape plans with the final landscape project decision. When considering the project, we also need to keep in mind the future of Sargent with the future plans of a new Elementary School. Jay might have Stephanie send out a school reach for more community participation.

Calendar Suggestion

This was added to the agenda. Some parents want one week of break before Christmas, and one week of break after Christmas. Instead of last year with Christmas break starting a day or two before Christmas. Teachers enjoyed the break right before Christmas so they could get some rest after the holiday instead of getting right back to school. The way the days fall in December doesn't always end up like this but it was how the calendar year ended up last year and this year, so it only happens every couple of years. Nicole and Terry Paulson will mention the suggestion to the calendar committee next time they meet for the 2023-2024 school year.

New Business

Election of Officers was added to the agenda

Trish Slater nominated Michelle Brookhart to be the DAC president, and Nicole Rockey seconded the motion. Terry VanBibber moved that all the nominations cease, and a unanimous ballot be cast, and Jamie seconded the motion. Nicole Rockey nominated Amanda Andrews as vice president and Trish Slater seconded the motion; Terry VanBibber moved that all the nominations cease, and a unanimous ballot be cast, and Nicole Rockey seconded the motion. Jo

Rice said she would like to be secretary, so Trish seconded the motion, Terry VanBibber moved that all nominations cease, and a unanimous ballot be cast, and Amanda seconded the motion.

Meeting Frequency/Change of Venue

DAC will be held the second Tuesday of the month, and the venue will stay the same at Dos Rios. In January DAC's meetings will resume the same schedule with the ending meetings being held in March, and late April. A suggestion for the Landscape Project to be renamed to Zoning and Building Project was brought up. Terry VanBibber said a new location for the bonfire needs to be found, perhaps by the bus garage. Mr. Crowther said Kelly is at a safety conference.

Adjournment

Because of the election being held on the second Tuesday of November, the next DAC will be held on the third Tuesday of the month: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 6:00pm at Dos Rios.

Theresa adjourned the meeting at 7:41pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lacie Paulson