



## MINUTES OF MEETING

**GROUP:** District Accountability Committee

**DATE:** Wednesday, November 16, 2016

**LOCATION:** ESC Board Room

**PRESENT:**

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Amy Stivers    | Emma Kasahara                          |
| Leslie Csikos  | Jill Rickard                           |
| Gretchen Smith | Christine King                         |
| Olivier Martin | Rachel Bryan                           |
| Laura Mutton   | Lindsey Friedman                       |
| Ashley Miller  | Nevine White                           |
| Jennifer Proal | Denise Kelso                           |
| Victor Rosales | Michele Hanna                          |
| Erin Weaver    | Karen Johnson, Chair                   |
| Ashley Festoso | Connie Bouwman, Administrative liaison |
| Jeff Honke     | Carrie Warren-Gully, Board liaison     |

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Michell Ansley  
Patti Turner

1. **Welcome, DAC Business**

Karen Johnson, DAC chair, welcomed those present. The October 19, 2016 minutes were accepted as presented.

Members discussed the following question in table groups: State testing (CMAS) has been controversial the past few years. The Legislature has made some changes to address parent concerns. How do you think the current testing program is going? Do the parent reports contain useful information?

2. **Focus on PLC Work**

Michell Ansley, director of educator effectiveness, provided an update on professional learning communities (PLC) work in LPS. She explained that PLCs help teachers focus on the district goal, which states that 100% of LPS students will graduate prepared for meaningful post-secondary opportunities. She explained that this is a promise to all LPS students. PLC work provides a framework for teachers to check up on their students regularly through data analysis, and offer all students the supports they need to reach the LPS goal.

Michell said 27% of LPS educators have received PLC training, and there are 170 PLC facilitators, which represents about 20% of teachers. All principals are using PLCs as an improvement strategy to increase student achievement in their schools. She said PLCs are a strategy to reach the achievement goal and include tactical components, which is the road map to reach the goal.

A PLC steering committee provides ongoing guidance and input about the district's direction for PLCs. Michell said it is important to stay focused, build and align systems, and provide ongoing support. She said an outside evaluator will conduct an audit in spring 2017, which will be evidence-based. Michelle distributed a document containing theory of action statements designed to promote clarity and ensure system-wide understanding of PLC work.

Members discussed PLC work in table groups. The PowerPoint presentation is attached.

3. **Assessment and Accountability Update**

Patti Turner, director of learning services, said the district is accredited with distinction for 2016, which marks the sixth consecutive year the district has received this accreditation rating. LPS is the only metro area district to receive this rank, and Academy 20 is the only other district of similar size to have the same accreditation rating.

Patti reviewed the 2016 district performance framework. She noted the low participation rating and explained that districts are not penalized at the state level when parents choose to opt their students out of state assessments. She said it is important to document this parent choice. Patti also cautioned that data might not be a good representation of student performance if the participation rate is low. She said participation rates were highest at the elementary level and lowest at the high school level. Patti explained that the federal and state accreditation rules may not align concerning participation rate, and the federal rules are still under consideration.

Patti reviewed the district growth report, noting the significant gains in English language arts and especially in math. She noted that even high performing students can show growth. The handouts Patti shared are attached.

#### 4. **Board Liaison Report**

Karen asked Carrie Warren-Gully, Board liaison to share some of the recent activities she has been involved in, noting Board members give a report at each meeting with this information. Carrie said she is very involved with the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB), which is a state organization for Colorado school board members. Carrie will be president of CASB in 2017. She commented that many Colorado school districts have fewer than 1,000 students, and the challenges they face are different than large districts along the front range. Carrie said Board member reports typically include school visits and participation at various events around the district.

The Board is hearing reports from various district committees, has accepted the district's annual financial audit report, and recently met with the Safety and Mental Health Advisory Committee (SMHAC) in a workshop to discuss the committee's interim report. Final recommendations from the committee will be presented to the Board on December 15. The Board received a report about the elementary summer school program held in 2016, noting that the program accomplished its goals of minimizing summer loss and maintaining academic achievement. An elementary summer school program will be held in 2017. Carrie said the Board continues to review its policies. She highlighted a new policy, JLCDB, Administration of Medical Marijuana to Qualified Students, noting that currently there are no LPS students who would qualify under this policy. She said it is important to be prepared should an LPS student meet the criteria outlined in this policy, which follows state statute. Information about Board meetings can be found at <http://www.boarddocs.com/co/lpsco/Board.nsf/Public> or via the link on the LPS website.

#### 6. **Meeting Evaluation and Closure**

Karen distributed the meeting evaluation survey and explained that the information gathered each month helps in planning future DAC meetings and evaluating the overall success of DAC that becomes part of its annual report to the Board.

#### **Wrap-up**

The next DAC meeting is January 18, 2017.

Submitted by  
Kerry Schaper