

COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 11
Dr. Terry N. Bishop, Superintendent
Division of Business Services
Glenn E. Gustafson, CPA, Deputy Superintendent/CFO

DAAC Budget Committee

Wendy Chiado, Chairman
John Gartin, Vice-Chairman

Minutes

April 8, 2008
6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Wendy Chiado, Katie Freidel, John Gartin, John Leary, Pete Lee, and Jim Mason

Ex Officio Members Present: Becky Kluck, Ken Wieck and Becky Moore

Guests: Jamie Cushenberry-Mitchell faculty; Brenda LeBrasse-Rtl/PBS coordinator; Food Services Staff: Rick Hughes-Director, Jeremy West-Assistant Director, Melanie Oddo- Business Manager

Wendy opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m. The minutes from the past two meetings were up for approval. Katie moved to approve both sets of minutes. John Gartin seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

The committee discussed an additional meeting to be held in May due to the workload. Tuesday, May 6 was added to the meeting schedule and will be the final meeting of the committee for this school year. Wendy asked the group to begin thinking about topics to propose for next year's committee charge, pointing out that the Grants Fund will be one item on the list for next year's charge.

Wendy asked the members to consider the recommendations that are to be included in the final report to the Board of Education in June. Wendy asked the committee about restating the IBR priorities in the final report, to which all agreed. There was some discussion about the school reutilization item on this week's board of education agenda.

The committee took a brief look at the Open Items list. Numbers 6 and 20 have been closed.

Rusty Moomey did not attend the meeting, therefore the East Middle School staffing agenda item was postponed to a later date.

Response to Intervention (Rtl) and Positive Behavior Support (PBS) Presentation

Brenda LeBrasse was introduced to the committee. She explained the Rtl intervention framework and discussed the three Rtl tiers shown in the handouts. She stressed that Tier Two and Tier Three are not implemented instead of regular instruction but in addition to regular instruction. She told the committee if Rtl/PBS is implemented correctly, most students would not come under the Special Education label. The Rtl program gets the students up to the level they are supposed to be. She explained the difference between Rtl and PBS noting that the district staff usually refers to the total program as just Rtl. Many schools prefer to begin implementation with the PBS portion feeling that teaching the students to behave well first will help teach them academically later. The program addresses behavior gaps and learning gaps and the focus is on retraining students in both areas.

Brenda discussed with the new state mandates for Rtl. The district must have a plan in place by August 2008. At this point, District 11 is ahead of many school districts in implementation of Rtl.

The use of grants funds for Rtl was addressed. These funds have been used for training, mentoring and coaching by paying extra duty pay to the teachers. Brenda reviewed how the Rtl budget has been spent this year. She explained how Rtl began as a SPED initiative but is now a general education initiative. Title funds were examined in regards to their use with this program. It was also explained that tutorial money goes directly to the school but Rtl money does not. Tutoring funds were reduced from the FY08 grant. Jamie asked for clarification as to the number of facilitators and that number is four.

Jim asked why the money is separate from the general education money. Brenda explained that this came about from before the program was in existence. Students were either SPED or general education. Rtl intervenes for both behavioral and academic needs for students who need help but not to the extreme of SPED.

John G asked about how Rtl is working with CQI. Brenda indicated that the problem solving processes and evaluation are based on the CQI model. A discussion was then initiated regarding educational materials used by the students. Jim had concerns about students using software at home in lieu of books. Brenda gave a comparison of students using books and/or computers for study.

Katie addressed overall funding and FTE concerns. She cited if Rtl students grow and SPED students decline won't Rtl need more FTE in the future? Brenda stated that she felt that this would happen in the future but at this time the program is not far enough along to determine how this will end up. The elementary schools struggle with time and how to work the program into the regular classroom. The middle schools are most successful implementing the program but the high schools struggle with academic credit issues. Jamie noted that the social workers currently work under SPED and will continue to be next year. However, in FY09-10 they will move to general education and could possibly work under Rtl.

Food and Nutrition Services, Fund 41 Presentation

The team from Food and Nutrition Services presented their fund next. In addition to their budget template, there were handouts for everyone. Pete asked how many D11 students were on Free and Reduced lunch and the number was 42%.

Rick discussed each line on his FY09 budget model. He pointed out the revenues and expenditures of his budget. He also described the price hike for next year and reasons why. With competition in the high schools due to students going to off campus, he is pressed to create a menu and environment to entice the students to stay on campus for lunch. His concept is to develop a lunch menu that will include the free and reduced lunch students "without pointing them out to the rest of the school" by having an enticing menu that fits the free and reduced guidelines. He anticipates elementary and middle school costs to rise by 5¢ and the high school by the same plus 30¢. Rick noted that the highest cost in his budget goes first to food and then payroll.

Rick also had slides demonstrating the rise in meal costs. Breakfast costs have gone up. Changes through the state now give reduced lunch students a free breakfast. As shown on another slide, due to the new safety training and practices in this program, workers comp claims have dramatically declined. Unfortunately, the rise in utility costs has taken up most of the savings.

John G pointed out that through volunteering at schools he finds the food to be excellent. A downside is that the elementary students have a hard time opening up some of the packages. Katie brought up the fact that there seems to be limited time for the students to eat and have recess and asked Rick if he had any say over the time allowed for lunch. Rick said that, although he is aware of the time crunch, he has no say in the time allotted for lunch. He told the committee of a study that was done that indicated recess before lunch may be more beneficial for students rather than afterwards and that several schools have implemented this method.

DAAC By-Laws

The DAAC by-laws were addressed next. John L had a handout with the proposed language changes for the Budget Subcommittee portion of the by-laws. Wendy reminded the committee that care must be taken in regards to the language to preserve the district's current status with the state rules. Section 3 is still a problem in regards to a quorum for voting. The committee then discussed placing as formal documentation in the minutes volunteers that resign and how to get new members approved in the middle of the year. A set number of missed meetings would warrant removal or resignation from the committee should be considered. The committee was asked to study the language and flow chart for any revisions or additions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. with plusses and deltas.

Next meeting is April 22, 2008 in the Administration Building Boardroom at 6:00 p.m.