

**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**

March 18, 2008  
6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Wendy Chiado, Katie Freidel, and John Leary

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

Guest: Jamie Cushenberry, Mitchell faculty

Wendy opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m. She talked about how she plans to proceed in getting the DAAC's approval for the Budget Committee's final report before going to the Board of Education in June. Because the minutes of the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting had not yet been reviewed, approval of the minutes will take place at the next meeting. There was a lengthy dialog regarding meeting procedures. The committee has no knowledge of what kind of quorum must be present for voting or if there is an issue surrounding voting and committee members who are also D11 staff. The committee also discussed the number of members that should be on this committee. Some of the problems of the past with these issues were discussed. There is no directive in the by-laws. At this point, Wendy asked that the by-laws discussion take place at the next meeting.

After this discussion, Becky Kluck wanted to give the committee an update on the last board of education meeting and what happened with the IBR prioritization recommendations that the committee put forth. She also wanted to give a brief outline about East Middle School's new staffing. Becky indicated that the full time LRT at the school would be needed to help set up the library as well as carry out LRT duties. The Dean of Students will also be a teacher at the school (half time teacher and half time dean). Becky told the committee that Rusty Moomey, the principal of East, will address the committee on April 8. As for the SPED facilitator, the Board did not move it from priority two to priority three as the committee recommended. Also, the teacher substitute pay increase remained in priority 3. Becky discussed that some board members added another IBR to priority 3 by requesting 12 more high school teachers based on the notion that there was a new staffing formula forthcoming. The ESP substitute salary increase was voted in by the board as a priority two recommendation. Becky reiterated that the board was aware that the kindergarten aides were of the highest priority to the committee.

The committee resumed their previous discussion about the dynamics of the committee's composition and rules. Jamie was in favor of having both staff and community/parents. She said all three groups draw knowledge from each other, which better equips themselves to evaluate what is happening in the district. She thinks the citizens get a picture of the district's side of things. Voting privileges of committee members who are also D11 staff was again discussed. The committee needs to be a diverse group, according to Jamie, and volunteers are hard to come by. Katie stated that as long as the committee members are passionate about and interested in District 11 achieving success, then it shouldn't matter if members are staff or not.

Katie told the committee that she had discussed the Saturday Schools with the deans at Wasson. Wasson has had the Saturday School program for two years and has some data that could be shared with the committee if they wish to pursue it.

At this time, Becky Kluck reviewed the night school comparisons sheets. Graduation numbers can help the district but at the same time the drop out numbers can really hurt the district. There was discussion about the process of counting drop outs and whether can a student be counted more than once if the student drops out more than once. It was noted that drop out rates are measured annually but the graduation rate is based on a four-year cycle. It was shared with the committee that some of the schools feel that the night schools should come under the umbrella of Tesla. Overall, if the district moved to having one night school to one central location, the approximate savings would amount to around \$300,000. Becky said she would provide the committee with a revised comparison sheet based on some of the staffing recommendations by the committee. The committee thought that an aggressive study of the idea of one night school should be undertaken and will await the updated presentation from John Keane on this subject.

Katie would like the committee to be able to make a recommendation without having more information. Perhaps the recommendation could state that this is a concern and that the committee would like to address the same issue in the following year after it can obtain more information. One item that could be reviewed further in the coming year is if a centrally located, single school could still meet the needs of the students and save the district money or perhaps bring in more struggling students from outside the district. The committee would like to have the district look into it. One of the disadvantages of having two small night schools is that the teachers are more isolated from their peers and do not have the bigger environment to share in and collaborate with. Also the number of offerings is smaller. The committee is very interested in hearing from John Keane next month and what his committees are doing concerning the alternative schools.

Open items list was briefly discussed as well as the pilot projects board of education policy and its connection with the 9<sup>th</sup> grade academies.

Becky reviewed the latest information on legislative activity in the state with the committee. She told the committee that currently the kindergarten is funded at .5 PPR and that the state is considering bumping that figure up to .62 or .65 PPR. If the FTE number is increased, it could give the district as much as \$1.5 million. The committee was reminded that there is no insurance premium increase for the coming year. Also discussed was possible changes in mill levy override procedures.

The committee briefly touched on the topic of next years charge. The grants fund and subsequently its board of education approved policies may be moved to next year as an item of charge.

The committee was asked to read over the Rtl information given out to facilitate the presentation by Brenda LeBrasse at the next scheduled meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. with plusses and deltas.

**The next meeting is April 8, 2008 in the administration building boardroom at 6:00 p.m. It is anticipated that this meeting will run longer than the scheduled 90 minutes as there will be three guest presentations and/or discussions. (Rusty Moomey-East, Brenda LeBrasse-Rtl, and Rick Hughes-Food Services)**