

Colorado Springs School District 11
DAC (District Accountability Committee) Accreditation Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 11, 2022 (5:00pm-6:30pm)
www.d11.org/Page/6992

Recording of meeting commenced at 4:55PM

Meeting Attendees:

Brenda Miller, Clara Hoellerbauer, Christy Feldman, David Khaliqi, Julie Ott, Lauren Nelson, Lyman Kaiser, Marion Clawson, Mary Coleman, Natasha Crouse, Nicole Girardin, Sandra Bankes, Sara Miller, Stacy Brisben, Trish Nixon, Velvet Stepanek

Agenda discussion: (some recorded audio difficulties with in person participants)

I. DIBELS update – Christy Feldman

READ Act- Colorado reading to ensure academic development. The Read act is a focus on literacy which targets those students that are reading well below their peers in lower grade levels. We are required to provide high quality core instruction. We are required to use approved resources that have intentional and explicit instruction. This year we are using Wonders 2020 and Amplify Reading. We are required to assess all of our students three times a year in foundational literacy skills. We use Acadience reading (DIBELS Next) for assessing all K-3 students. Testing timeframes: Beginning of Year (BOY) is typically before Labor Day. Middle of Year (MOY) is typically in December. End of Year (EOY) is typically end of April – beginning of May. Thanks to the Education Insights department’s support and funding, this year and next year we are also testing students in grades 4-5. READ Act requirement added this year: By August 1, 2022, 100% of our K-3 Teachers have to be trained in the science of teaching reading. This will affect about 600 staff members. 125 staff members have completed everything needed to fulfill this new requirement. K-3 Substitute teachers that have a long-term classroom assignment (more than two weeks) also have to fulfill this training requirement.

II. ELL Update – Nicole Girardin

How is the first year of co-teaching model going? Co-teaching is not a model we are able to support fully as not all teachers are CLD endorsed. We do have the implementation of the CLD endorsement portion for Wonders in elementary schools which has encouraged collaboration between the CLD endorsed teacher and the classroom teacher. The shift this year, at the high school level, was focused on the requirement that, for students to be earning high school credit, the teacher has to be highly qualified in the content area. In the past, that was not a focus.

Staffing structure? No changes

WIDA curriculum purchase? WIDA is a consortium (not a curriculum) for our Access test, which is our state assessment every year. We are shopping for a new curriculum. An RFP process will be moving forward once we have a new Facilitator in place.

Our state test results come back at the end of April. A lack of language development, due to the pandemic and due to a majority of our population struggling with access to Internet and Wi-Fi and we were unable to see many of our students online. We currently have a larger refugee population than in previous years. So, yes, it has been challenging and a struggle.

III. Loop Closure – Marion Clawson

How can Professional Development planning be better organized, structured and prioritized?

Dr. Khaliqi- there is talk of being able to do it in different ways, maybe asynchronous that lines up with changes in steps and lanes compensation... training that wouldn't necessarily require additional days or take up time that is already part of a more than packed schedule, that they can do in a more flexible time frame and schedule. The conversations taking place are early on in the discussion.

Clara Hoellerbauer- Continuous professional development would be far more effective than a one day event. It's like drinking from a firehose in some ways. We need to figure out a way to restructure the PD in a way where small chunks, or, little by little, the information is being provided. This would allow us to reflect and to try a new strategy over time, rather than a one or two time event.

Lyman Kaiser- with so many initiatives taking place at the same time, including a new math curriculum and a new assessment curriculum for teachers to learn, it would seem like more focused and in depth training across the board is needed. We need to determine how we can do it better and more efficiently, by integrating and planning our way through it better. We have major initiatives and they collapse because we don't train properly. We have to take a focused look at training.

Marion Clawson- There are so many different things taking place at the same time and it's difficult to see where it is all going. When that happens, it's hard to get people on board with things. If it all becomes more organized and there is a clear path, it would make a huge difference.

Natasha Crouse- The ambitious instruction piece is aligned across all One Plans. We have partnered with Curriculum and Instruction to build that ambitious instruction, major improvement strategy with linking in the specific supports that are available throughout the district to have that alignment. This way, schools have some autonomy around how they are going to enter into the best first instruction work. That work is a 3-5 year plan. There's significant work to be done and there is not really a one size fits all entry point for every school. I anticipate that the best first instruction model is going to be front and center in our district for years to come. Working through that piece, schools can have up to three major improvements strategies. Two or three strategies, to remain focused on these two to three areas and avoid becoming overwhelmed beyond those strategies.

Ideally, schools are working to infuse professional development throughout the year and to align with the One Plan identified elements. We are working to get everyone to a place where we are narrowing our focus to have that intentionality.

Lyman Kaiser- Any updates on Hoonuit data?

David Khaliqi- The error completion date has been moved again and the data is being evaluated. First priorities are discipline and attendance data. Next is enrollment demographic data. Some of the other data needed, we are working to pull from Performance Matters. It is definitely a work in progress.

Meeting adjourned at 6:43PM

DAC Accreditation meeting minutes can be found in the DAC Drop box:

<https://www.dropbox.com/login?cont=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dropbox.com%2Fh>

Meeting agenda and minutes can also be found on the D11 Accreditation website here:

<https://www.d11.org/Page/6992>