

District Accountability (DAC) Newsletter



February 2021

UPCOMING DATES:

- February 18, 2021
6:00—8:00pm
Full DAC meeting
via WebEx

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- News & Notes 2
- SAC News 4
- Good Things 6

Welcome

Welcome to 2021! We hope everyone had a restful holiday season. There is a feeling of hope for this year as we see a glimmer of light. There is still work we all have to do to keep everyone safe as vaccinations are becoming available to more and more people. We are thankful school is back in session. We appreciate all the hard work and flexibility of teachers, staff, and parents this school year toward student success.

We have to continue to plan for the future to empower the whole student to profoundly impact our world. The District is pressing ahead with the Facilities Master Plan (FMP) and Academic Master Plan (AMP). The FMP and AMP have included input from the community. Information is available at www.d11.org/rebuilding. These plans will be going to the Board of Education in February and early March. We want what is best for all of our D11 students, please make sure you are informed and continue to let your voice be heard.

The next Beyond the Mask Trust Building and Listening Tour session is on February 9 with the topic: Emerging Stronger than Before COVID: Schools at the Center of a Community Ecosystem. This is another opportunity for parents and community to communicate with the district.

Parents have an exciting opportunity this year to be part of the 5Essentials Survey. The 5Essentials is a research-based school improvement system that defines, measures, and utilizes the most important organizational conditions, including aspects of a school's culture and climate, to improve student outcomes. This survey is open for parents until February 19th. Schools can continue to improve if the parent voice is heard. Please participate in this survey.

The DAC and its Subcommittees are still hard at work in the virtual environment.

- The DAC Budget Subcommittee provided its recommendations on the mid-year budget modification requests to the Board of Education (BOE) during the January 13th Board meeting. Michael Reyes and members of the Budget Subcommittee invested a considerable amount of time and energy in preparing these recommendations.
- The DAC Accreditation Subcommittee began looking at growth data at the elementary level from the Aligned District Benchmark tests.
- The Training and SAC Support Subcommittee held its third SAC Training Session on January 28, 2021. The training focused on Family Engagement, Career and Tech Education, Concurrent/Dual Enrollment, and Trauma Informed Care.

The DAC is helping evaluate a new tool from the district to help parents with school choice and enrollment. We are continuing to focus on student success.

The DAC wants to help support schools. We encourage schools and SAC members to use all the DAC resources to effectively communicate to parents and community. We welcome any questions, comments, and suggestions from you. We are always willing to meet with you individually or attend one of your meetings to support you.

Happy Valentine's Day from everyone at the DAC!

Velvet Stepanek

Chair – District Accountability Committee

NEWS & NOTES

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted”
Aesop

News & Notes



The priority choice open enrollment window is still open through February 15, 2021 for school year 2021-2022. For additional information please go to:



Next Meeting: February 9, 2021 at 6:00pm via Facebook Live.

Topic: *Schools at the Center of a Community Ecosystem: Diving Deeper into the Work of Equity in Schools*

Please submit your questions/thoughts/concerns regarding equity in the pandemic era and beyond at D11.org/BeyondTheMask

Parent 5E Survey Invitation

- Beginning January 26, 2021, teachers, parents, and students across the District will have an opportunity to participate in the 5Essentials Survey.
- The 5Essentials Survey will be open **January 26 – February 19, 2021**. To take the survey please visit <https://survey.5-essentials.org/sd11/survey/parent/>
- This survey is designed to generate a detailed picture of the inner workings of your child’s school. As a parent, this opportunity will allow you to share your thoughts on the important elements of school effectiveness in a survey about your child’s school.

News & Notes (Continued)



February is Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month:

The Board of Education passed a resolution at its Jan 27, 2021 meeting designating February 2021 as Career and Technical Education Month and urged all members of our community to become familiar with the services and benefits offered by the career and technical education programs and to support and participate in these programs to enhance their individual skills and productivity. In support of this resolution here are some of the efforts/actions in D11 in Jan – Mar 2021;

- At the Jan 28th SAC Training Session Duane Roberson, Director of Career and Technical Education in D11, and Melissa Smith, Work Based Learning Coordinator in D11 presented an outstanding briefing on the Status of CTE in D11 with a focus on work based learning. In a parallel presentation, Kristen Miller, Concurrent Enrollment Coordinator for D11 provided an excellent update on the status of Concurrent Enrollment offerings in D11. See their slides/handouts in <https://www.d11.org/cms/lib/CO02201641/Centricity/Domain/538/SAC%20Training%20Handouts%201-28-21.pdf>
- At its Jan 22nd meeting, the D11 Policy Committee, approved updates and revisions to Policy IH-CDA, Postsecondary Enrollment, and its associated regulations. This package will go to the Board of Education for approval in late Feb or March 2021 for approval.
- Duane Roberson is leading a Planning Team to research and develop proposals for updating and expanding D11 offerings in CTE as a part of the Academic Master Plan (AMP) effort. The Planning Team's report and recommendations will be presented to the AMP Steering Team the week of Feb 15th. The AMP Steering Team is scheduled to present its final recommendations to the Board of Education for non-action at the March 10th Board meeting, and for action at a special March 17th Board meeting.

SAC News

SAC Agenda Planning – February (Theme: Mid-year USIP progress review)

Every month we intend to provide a reasonable flow of SAC agenda topics that meet the broad responsibilities of School District 11 SACs. This is just a reference tool and individual SACs should tailor agendas appropriate to their school needs and emphasis. The following are some of the agenda topics that are recommended for February meetings:

- Review/discuss topics from the D11 SAC Handbook, Agenda Planning Guide for previous months which have not yet been addressed.
- Review/discuss relevant 1st semester achievement data including 2nd quarter Universal Screener test results, or similar test results; middle of the year Acadience Reading test results (for READ Act), Achieve 3000 test results, ACCESS for ELLs test results, etc.
- Review/discuss the school's progress in reading, writing, math, social studies and science.
- Review/discuss progress on MTSS and associated achievement gap and/or social emotional learning (SEL) strategies. What strategies is the school using to assist students who are struggling the most, and are they working?
- Review/discuss progress on parent engagement for student learning. Has your school implemented any new initiatives with a parent engagement focus this school year? [Note: Consider reviewing the CDE guidance/rubric (available in the Jan 28th SAC Training Session Handouts) for evaluating the success of your family engagement strategies and programs.]

SAC Training/Information Session Jan 28th, 2021 6 – 8 PM via WebEx. :

- The agenda and extensive handouts for this session are available at <https://www.d11.org/cms/lib/CO02201641/Centricity/Domain/538/SAC%20Training%20Handouts%201-28-21.pdf>.
- This was an information packed session with 48 attendees, including presenters. The session included presentations on Family-School-Community Partnerships (including CDE resources), historical D11 efforts toward family engagement, and the Multi-tiered System of Supports (MTSS) Family Engagement Guidebook and Trauma Informed Care – Part II, as well as the updates on Career and Technical Education and Concurrent Enrollment mentioned earlier. If you missed the session, checking out the handouts is a must!

SAVE THE DATE:

The next SAC Training/Information Session will be held April 8, 2021, 6:00 – 8:00PM probably via WebEx. Fliers on presentations and discussion topics will be sent out by early-mid March 2021.

SAC News (Continued)



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead

Upcoming deadlines of interest to SACs:

- Cognitive Abilities Test CogAT: For all second graders – mid January – Feb 26th.
- ACCESS: The state test for English Language Learner (ELL) students (all eligible kindergarten – 12th grade students), is being given Jan 11 – Mar 12th.
- With the development of the Strategic Plan in 2018, D11 embarked on a journey towards a brighter future. As you may know, two key plans for future district actions have been in the development phases: The Academic Master Plan (AMP) and the Facilities Master Plan (FMP). Both are separate plans, yet parallel each other in the work of the District, preparing D11 to become the premier choice district in our region. These plans will shape the future of our district schools and academic programs. Please find the timeline for the two plans below:
 - ◆ D11 Facilities Master Plan (FMP):
 - ◇ The Cooperative Strategies FMP Report, with recommendations, will go to the Board of Education for non-action on February 17, 2021
 - ◇ Scheduled for action at the Board meeting on March 10, 2021. Look for notifications about presentations to community and school groups between Feb 17th and Mar 10th
 - ◆ D11 Academic Master Plan (AMP):
 - ◇ The AMP final report and recommendations will go to the Board of Education for non-action on Wed. March 10, 2021
 - ◇ Scheduled for Action at the Board meeting on March 17, 2021
- ◆ You may always view the regular Board of Education meetings at www.d11.org/tv or Comcast Channel 16.
- ◆ To see the times for each meeting, the agenda items, and other board information, you may view BoardDocs by navigating to www.d11.org and clicking on the Board of Education. There is a link to BoardDocs on the left side of this web page.
- ◆ For detailed information on both the AMP and the FMP, please visit www.d11.org/rebuilding

Good Things Happening in the District

Coronado HS—

- Elle Gray from Coronado High School was a finalist in the Rocky Mountain Field Institute Nature Photo contest. See <https://www.rmfi.org/photocontest>
- Senior Judith (Joie) Kellner has attained semi-finalist standing for the Beottcher Scholarship. This scholarship offers recipients a full-ride to one of 18 four-year colleges and universities that partner with Boettcher
- Coronado High School has earned the College Board AP[®] Computer Science Female Diversity Award for achieving high female representation in AP Computer Science A and AP Computer Science Principles. Schools honored with the AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award have expanded girls' access in AP Computer Science courses.

King ES—

- This amazing mural at King ES was finished just in time to honor the birthday of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Beautiful work by Ms Sawyer, King Students and Concrete Couch.



Queen Palmer ES—

- On January 29th, KOAA and the Scripps Howard Foundation went to Queen Palmer for the "If You Give a Child a Book" Initiative. The Scripps Howard Foundation is committed to "putting books into the hands of children in need across the country". Every student at Queen Palmer will get four books to keep!

Odyssey ECCO—

- Je'Nia Manning from Odyssey ECCO is a finalist for the Daniels Scholarship. The Daniels Scholarship Program provides the opportunity for highly motivated students to earn a bachelor's degree that helps them build a successful career and rewarding life. Daniels Scholars[®] demonstrate exceptional character, leadership, and a commitment to serving their communities.

West Campus—

West Campus held a Portrait Recreation Competition. There were a lot of excellent entries for this 1st semester competition. The winner was Ali—for her Vincent Van Gogh—self portrait. Runner ups included recreations of Jacques-Louis David, The Emperor Napoleon in his Study at the Tuileries, Charles Burton Barber, Suspense, Johannes Vermeer, Girl with a Pearl Earring, and Frida Kahlo, Self-Portrait with Thorn Necklace and Hummingbird. To see all this amazing work, go to the school's website: <https://www.d11.org/Domain/36>

