

District Accountability (DAC) Newsletter



February 2022

UPCOMING DATES:

- February 17, 2022
6:00—8:00pm
Full DAC meeting
Tesla, Room 116
and via WebEx

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Welcome

Welcome to 2022! We hope everyone had a restful holiday season. We are thankful school is back in session. We appreciate all the hard work and flexibility of teachers, staff, and parents this school year working toward student success.

The Family School Community Partnership (FSCP) Collaborative is hosting a Family Engagement Listening Tour. The first session was scheduled for Thursday, February 3, at 5:30 p.m. at Hillside Community Center. Unfortunately, due to weather it was cancelled and will be rescheduled. The plan is to hold four more sessions in other community locations in D11. These dates and locations will be determined soon. We want to learn from the lived experiences of our D11 families. Please plan to attend when there is a session close to you.

We have to continue to plan for the future to empower the whole student to profoundly impact our world. The District is continuing to make changes with the Facilities Master Plan (FMP) and Academic Master Plan (AMP). Quality Neighborhood Schools are being defined so that every D11 student has access to what they need. Pathway schools at the elementary level are starting to apply. We all want what is best for our D11 students, please make sure you are informed and continue to let your voice be heard for your community as we learn more. The DAC will continue to keep SACs updated.

Parents have an opportunity again 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 16th. Schools can continue to improve if the parent voice is heard along with students and staff. Please work with your school to get families to participate in this survey.

The DAC and its Subcommittees are still hard at work.

- The DAC Budget Subcommittee provided its recommendations on the mid-year budget modification requests to the Board of Education (BOE) during the January 19th Board work session. The Budget Subcommittee members invested a considerable amount of time and energy in preparing these recommendations.
- The DAC Accreditation Subcommittee began looking at enrollment and growth data from the Aligned District Benchmark tests. The data was displayed additional ways using Performance Matters. The members of this subcommittee spend additional time reviewing data and asking tough questions.
- The Training and SAC Support Subcommittee held its third SAC Training Session on January 27, 2021. The training focused on knowing more about the data available to schools to help with conversations about One Plans.

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

NEWS & NOTES



The priority choice open enrollment window is still open through February 15, 2022 for school year 2022-2023. For additional information please go to: d11.org/choice

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



Enroll your student Fall 2022 kindergarten!

All District 11 elementary schools offer free full-day kindergarten

When: Registration for the 2022/2023 School Year will begin March 1st

Where: Your neighborhood school

- See [Our Schools](#) for the address and phone number of your school.
- [School Finder](#) will help you determine your neighborhood school based upon your street address.
- Students may attend any District 11 school on a space available basis: see the [Choice page](#) for more information.

News & Notes (Continued)



February is Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month:

The Board of Education passed a resolution at its Jan 26, 2022 meeting designating February 2022 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.

National Board Certification

Five Colorado Springs School District 11 Teachers Renew their National Board Certification

District 11 is pleased to announce the following teachers renewed their National Board Certification awarded by National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS):

- **Carol Chapman**, Library Technology Educator at Galileo School of Math & Science
- **Phillip Hutcherson**, K-12 Math and Science Instruction Specialist with Curriculum and Instruction
- **Erin Beth Ponsor**, Teaching and Learning Coach at Stratton Elementary
- **Leah Segura**, Principal at Mann Middle School
- **Virginia Stewart**, Kindergarten Teacher at Scott Elementary.

National Board Certification is a self-selected rigorous professional learning process designed for teachers to provide evidence-based data showing the positive impact they have on student learning. As a result of their deep and abiding understanding of students, content knowledge, pedagogical practice, ongoing assessment and reflection, and participation in learning communities, National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs) are identified as highly accomplished teachers and teacher leaders.

National Board Certification is the highest credential in the teaching profession. To those in Colorado who achieve the title of National Board Certified Teacher (NBCT), the Colorado Department of Education awards its top certification, the Colorado Master Teacher Certificate.



News & Notes (Continued)

PowerSchool Parent Portal FAQ Page

- Tom Hunt, D11 PowerSchool Project Lead, has added a new Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section to the D11 PowerSchool Parent Portal page (<https://www.d11.org/PowerSchool>). A link to an anonymous feedback form for asking questions or providing feedback on both PowerSchool and Schoology is at the top of the page. The new FAQ section is on the right half of the page. Be sure to check out the answers to FAQs regarding data transfers between PowerSchool Parent Portal and Schoology. This FAQ section will be a key location for answering parent/SAC questions and providing updates. Be sure to check it frequently.



PowerSchool Hoonuit module update:

- As you are probably aware, PowerSchool (the company) purchased the Hoonuit application D11 was using in 2021 to provide data analytics on attendance, discipline, academic risk analysis (Early Warning System) and much more.
- Thus far, they have been unable to execute on their commitment to integrate Hoonuit into PowerSchool. They are currently integrating the PowerSchool Student Information System (SIS) with the legacy D11 Hoonuit application to provide most or all of the legacy (2021) capabilities by the end of Feb 2022.
- Significant vetting and data cleaning by the D11 data teams will be required to ensure the Hoonuit application is fully functional and trustworthy. Education Insights has indicated that with the spring testing workload this vetting process may take until early May 2022. Stay tuned for updates going forward.

United States Space Force Child and Youth Education Services

On Jan 20, 2022 Victoria Henderson, School Liaison to D11 (also a member of the D11 DAC) for the US Space Force Child and Youth Education Services (CYES), briefed the DAC on the mission and services provided by the CYES and the School Liaison.

The School Liaison is committed to outreach, advocacy, and partnership initiatives that generate real time solutions for military connected students in grades pre-k through grade 12 as they face global education challenges and transitions. If your school enrolls students of military families you need to review this excellent briefing on the services provided by CYES and the Department of Defense to support those students and their school. Here is the link to Victoria's briefing,

<https://www.d11.org/cms/lib/CO02201641/Centricity/Domain/538/Child%20Youth%20Education%20Services%20Briefing.pdf>

News & Notes (Continued)

PowerSchool Performance Matters module Update

- The Performance Matters module of PowerSchool is the key component for providing data analytics and reports on how students did on District Benchmark tests and related academic tests.
- Results are available in the “Baseball Card” report for the school in summary form, by grade level, by class/teacher, by demographics, etc.
- Teachers can view reports for their classes and drill down easily to the individual student results to determine areas of academic weakness.
- The Performance Matters module also provides teachers the capability to generate Common Interim Assessments (CIAs) (typically 5-15 questions) from an item bank of 300,000 questions aligned to Colorado Standards to determine how students are doing in “weak” areas and inform instruction going forward.
- Principals will be getting training on the use of Performance Matters in Feb. Teacher training on the use of CIAs and other Performance Matters tools is being scheduled for later this year – stay tuned on this also.
- To see the District Benchmark data, including fall to winter growth data for the District as displayed in the Baseball Card reports check out the briefing by Dr Khaliqi, EI, to DAC on Jan 20th at <https://www.d11.org/cms/lib/CO02201641/Centricity/Domain/538/Fall%20to%20Winter%20Data%20Presentation.pdf> . Ask your principal for your school’s data. Also, check out the video recording of the Jan 27th SAC Training Session (see below) for a detailed presentation on the Performance Matters components.

<https://cssd11.webex.com/recording/service/sites/cssd11/recording/playback/cbe0c1716203103ab56e005056815ee6>

Password: rJu5K2MV

The Crystal Apple Awards Program



- ◆ 2021-2022 The Crystal Apple Awards Program wishes to honor all District 11 teachers for their efforts to provide meaningful education to students in District 11 during the global pandemic.
- ◆ Administrators/Parents/Students, share your Teacher’s story or video your story (in written form or video) to CrystalApple@d11.org.
- ◆ The District 11 Media Services will create a program featuring some of the stories to air during National Teacher Appreciation Week in May. All stories and videos will be available to the community on a 2022 Crystal Apple Awards website. Please submit your stories by March 18, 2022.

SAC News



“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

SAC Training/Information Session Information and Updates:

SAC Training/Information Session Jan 27th, 2022 6 – 8 PM at Tesla and via WebEx. :

The video recording of this session is available at <https://cssd11.webex.com/recording/service/sites/cssd11/recording/playback/cbe0c1716203103ab56e005056815ee6>

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- In the session Velvet Stepanek, DAC Chair, provided an update on Academic Master Plan (AMP) and Facilities Master Plan (FMP) status, Chicago 5E parents’ survey status, and a Family, School, Community Partnership Collaborative update.
- Dr David Khaliqi, Director, Education Insights, and Ashley Byers provided a detailed discussion on the features of the Performance Matters component of PowerSchool and plans for future principal and teacher training on this component.
- This data is key to One Plan execution and academic success. If you missed the session, checking out the video recording is a must!

SAVE THE DATE:

The next SAC Training/Information Session will be held April 7, 2022, 6:00 – 8:00PM at Tesla and probably via WebEx. Fliers on presentations and discussion topics will be sent out by early-mid March 2022.

Upcoming deadlines of interest to SACs

- Cognitive Abilities Test CogAT: For all second graders – Jan 24th – Feb 11th
- ACCESS: The state test for English Language Learner (ELL) students (all eligible kindergarten – 12th grade students), is being given Jan 10th – Feb 11th
- Spring District Benchmark test (3rd – 11th grade): Feb 28th – Mar 18th
- PowerSchool Training Opportunity – Data for Administrators: Feb 15th or 23rd 8:30 – 11:30 AM (virtual) or Feb 17th 12:30 – 3:30 PM (virtual). Calendar invites have been sent to principals.
- PowerSchool Training Opportunity – Data in Performance Matters (for other users): Feb 16th or Feb 24th 8:30 – 11:30 AM (virtual)

SAC News (Continued)

SAC Agenda Planning – February (Theme: Mid-year One Plan/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 relevant 1st semester achievement data including 2nd quarter District Benchmark test results (including growth), middle of the year Acadience Reading test results (for READ Act), ACCESS for ELLs test results, etc. and compare against One Plan/USIP goals
- Review/discuss the school's progress in reading, writing, math, social studies and science as appropriate. How are the teacher teams utilizing the data from District Benchmarks to support student growth?
- What strategies is the school using to assist students who are struggling the most, and are they working? Are PLCs/teams using CIAs from Performance Matters? If so, are they helping to guide teaching?
- Review/discuss progress on parent engagement for student learning. Has your school implemented any new initiatives with a parent engagement focus this school year?
- How is your school doing on PowerSchool implementation and use? Do all parents have access and are they using the system? Are all teachers efficiently using the system? Does your SAC monitor usage metrics with the principal monthly? Are they improving?

Good Things Happening in the District



The District—

Adult & Family Education—

- **Congratulations to Melissa Burkhardt-Shields, Director of Adult & Family Education,** who was recently nominated and selected to serve on the Board of Directors for Pikes Peak United Way.
 - ◆ She will serve in this role from 2022-2024 representing School District 11.
 - ◆ The mission of Pikes Peak United Way is to enhance youth success and family stability in the Pikes Peak Region by leading and lifting the most vulnerable in our community with mentorship, life resources and real job opportunities. Their signature programs and partner agencies intently focus on connecting youth and their families to resources at the beginning of their life journey to ensure access to fundamental needs of food, shelter and learning resources for all.

Buena Vista ES—



We are very excited to introduce you to a new staff member... Simon the therapy dog. Simon is a certified therapy dog that will be working with Miss Carrie in a variety of ways to support our BV family. Simon is an almost 3-year-old Sheepdog/poodle mix (Sheep-a-doodle) that has been working toward his therapy dog certification since he arrived in Miss Carrie's home at 8 weeks old. Simon will be at BV several mornings each week to support students with social skills, emotional regulation, academics, and much more. Concerned about allergies or your child's fear of dogs? Please contact Miss Carrie (carrie.delius@d11.org) to discuss accommodations for your child.

Coronado HS—

- Coronado HS is leading the way in preparing students for high-paying aerospace careers. The Coronado Cougars have a Drone Soccer Team!
- Drone Soccer is a full-contact educational esport played with flying drones. U.S. Drone Soccer is launching national academic leagues to immerse students in aviation skills with new leagues on Colorado, Ohio, and New York.
- To learn more about this program go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gh-I9qe4-0c>



Good Things Happening in the District

Doherty HS—

- The El Paso Council PTA Reflections Ceremony took place on January 18, 2022. Two students from Doherty HS won awards; Laura Fajardo won 1st place in photography and Marley Tafoya won 1st place for Visual Arts. Congratulations!

Mann MS—

- Congratulations to Deavon Orta! Deavon's art was featured on the label of the **Chailaxing Pumlatte drink**, and Mann was awarded \$500 for his work!
- Mann MS was honored to host Isaac Newton Farris Jr. , the nephew of Martin Luther King, Jr. to celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. One message he shared with the students was: "To be great like my uncle, it starts with you!"



Mitchell HS—

- Stephen M.R. Covey visited Mitchell HS
- Stephen M. R. Covey is the New York Times and #1 Wall Street Journal bestselling author of *The SPEED of Trust: The One Thing that Changes Everything*, which has been translated into over 20 languages worldwide. He is co-author of the #1 Amazon bestseller *Smart Trust: The Defining Skill that Transforms Managers into Leaders*.
- Stephen joined the Mitchell High School staff Monday, January 24th to speak to the importance of trust and how it aligns with their turnaround work. He provided an inspirational speech, along with inviting each participant to create their own action plan with next steps. Attendees included MHS staff, D-11 Leadership, and parents and community members.



Please share good things that are happening at your school—send to Trudy.Tool@d11.org