

District Accountability (DAC) Newsletter



May 2022

UPCOMING DATES:

- **May 12, 2022**
6:00—8:00pm
Full DAC
meeting
Tesla, room
116 and via
Web Ex

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Welcome

The 2021-2022 academic year is almost at a close and we are just a few weeks away from graduations and summer break. In many ways this school year has been tougher than most, schools have had to re-engage students and deal with staffing shortages along with other challenges. There is hope, it's wonderful to have field trips, concerts, performances, and families back in schools. I continue to have a deep gratitude for our schools and everyone who works there. Please take time to thank teachers and staff at your school.

School Accountability Committees (SACs) should be looking at the results of the 5 Essentials Data for their schools this month. Have open conversations about what good things are happening and what opportunities there are for improvement at your school. How will your SAC be part of the One Plan development? Look for the Summer Bridge Program at your school. This program is to prepare students for next school year and provide additional learning experiences.

The District Accountability Committee (DAC) has continued our work through this school year. We are in the process of wrapping up our charges and responsibilities for the year. In the coming weeks, the DAC and its subcommittees will look at the membership roster for 2022-23 and prepare end of the year reports to the Board of Education (BOE). The DAC is actively seeking new volunteers (parents, community members, and staff) to serve on its committees.

During this past academic year, some of DAC's successful accomplishments include:

- Supported School Accountability Committees as needed.
- Hosted 4 SAC Training Sessions with relevant and insightful topics to better prepare SAC members to fulfill their charges at their respective schools.
- Studied and prepared a report on the mid-year Budget Modification Requests (BMRs).
- Studied and prepared a report on the FY 22/23 BMRs.
- Started looking at ESSER grant spending.
- Analyzed and tracked benchmark and Acadience results.
- Reviewed and gave feedback on the School Improvement Plans for priority improvement and turnaround schools.
- Reviewed the Life Skills Charter School application and provided a final report to the BOE.
- Participated on the Family School Community Partnership Collaborative (FSCP) with Colorado Department of Education (CDE).
- Supported Family Engagement Listening Tour.
- Participated on the new math curriculum committee.
- Published comprehensive monthly DAC newsletters.

I would like to thank all the volunteers across our district! So much valuable work would not be completed without you. You are appreciated. Thank you for working to empower all of our students.

On behalf of the DAC, I congratulate the 2022 graduates and wish you the very best in your next adventure. Your strong resiliency will help you in your future endeavors. We have learned and grown for the better this year. I hope we can take these lessons and continue to improve for all students. I wish the students, parents, and staff a wonderful summer!

Regards,

Velvet Stepanek
Chair – District Accountability Committee

News & Notes

D11 “One Plan” School Improvement Summer Symposiums (May-June 2022)

- Dr. David Khaliqi, Executive Director of Education Insights (EI), Natasha Crouse, Director, Student Improvement, and the EI team will conduct “One Plan” School Improvement Summer Symposiums with all D11 schools in the coming month.
- Elementary school sessions will be May 24-26 and middle and high school sessions will be May 27th, May 31st, and June 1st.
- The goal of the symposiums is to have the principal, key staff and SAC members from each school review their key challenges and successes of the past year in the context of their 2021-2022 One Plan/USIP and develop a draft One Plan/USIP for the 2022-2023 school year.
- Schools will participate at their local school site on the second and third day of the symposium with a combination of virtual and in-person sessions.
- SAC members will be invited to participate – check with your local principal.
- DAC has worked closely with Education Insights this past year to improve SAC participation in the One Plan development and monitoring process.
- **Please participate in your school’s Symposium sessions if at all possible.** For more details go to the April 7th 2022 SAC Training presentation by Natasha Crouse at [DAC / SAC Training Hand-Outs \(d11.org\)](#).

“Patience and perseverance have a magical effect before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish”

John Quincy Adams

COMING SOON

Low-to-no-cost after school enrichment programs will be coming to the following seven schools starting in August, saving families on after-school daycare costs:

Trailblazer, Adams, Audubon, Freedom, Midland/West, King, and Rudy Elementary Schools.

More information will be available soon!

News & Notes Continued

Summer Bridge 2022

This year's **Summer Bridge Program** will consist of two distinct blocks of student learning opportunities to support students in different ways and to serve different groups of students based on need.



- **Academic Block (Tentatively June 6-July 1) Emphasis on academics, enrichment, social emotional learning, and a range of subject areas**
- **Jump Start Block (Tentatively July 25-July 28 with the possibility for a second week beginning on August 1st) Emphasis on readiness to learn for incoming kindergarten, sixth and ninth grade students**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
<https://www.d11.org/summerbridge>

Unified Improvement Planning Resources (CDE)



COLORADO
Department of Education

- **UIP Handbook:** The Unified Improvement Planning Handbook and Quality Criteria rubrics have been updated for the 2022-23 school year. Districts are advised to reference these resources to inform their improvement planning and UIP development.
[Visit the UIP General Resources webpage for additional information.](#)
- **Unified Improvement Plan 101 video series:** [Watch the Unified Improvement Plan 101 video series for an introduction to the elements of the school UIP and the UIP online system.](#) The series consists of eight 5-10 minute videos.

For More Information, Contact:

Victoria Rilett

Phone: 720-545-6349

Email: rilett_v@cde.state.co.us

Final Family Engagement Listening Tour

The Final Family Engagement listening tour will take place on Tuesday, May 10, 2022, at 4:30pm at the Penrose Library (20 N. Cascade Ave)

Childcare and a light meal will be provided.

Building Trusting Relationships One Conversation at a Time!



News & Notes (Continued)

Colorado Stories of Promising Practices

- This is a CDE series of videos and stories that highlight schools and districts that have implemented new strategies to improve student outcomes, developed exemplary practices and validated their results through data and other verifiable demonstrations of student performance. Featuring work in four key areas, these stories highlight the innovative practices in schools and districts across the state:
 1. Third graders will meet or exceed expectations in English Language Arts
 2. Schools needing support and academic improvement will raise and maintain their performance
 3. Students will earn a postsecondary credential, degree or certificate after high school
 4. Underserved students will achieve academic expectations

For informative and valuable information, check out the series at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/promisingpractices>



Congratulations 2022 High School Graduates



High School Graduation Dates

5/ 17 Mitchell HS 9am, Palmer HS 3pm - World Arena

5/ 18 Doherty HS 9am, Coronado HS 3pm - World Arena

Alternative High Schools - Roy J Wasson Campus:

5/19 Achieve 9am, Tesla 1pm

5/20 Odyssey ECCO 9am, Achieve 12pm

6/2 Adult and Family Education - RJWAC Auditorium 7pm

CONGRATULATIONS

SAC News

Upcoming deadlines of interest to SACs:



- **Acadience Reading (READ Act) EOY (end of year) tests K-3:** Scheduled April 25th – May 13th
- **District Benchmark EOY tests grades 3 – 11(optional):** Scheduled April 25th – May 13th
- **Election of New SAC Officers and early DAC support:** If not already done in April, May is the month to elect, or be thinking about election of officers for the coming school year as outlined in Regulation AE-R-2, School Accountability Committees. If you are a new SAC Chair and would like some early training/support over the summer please contact Trudy Tool at Trudy.Tool@d11.org and she will connect you with the appropriate DAC resources.

SAC Training Sessions

- **SAC Training Session Recordings:** The recordings for the main presentations provided for the SAC Training Sessions on Sep 24, 2021, Nov 4, 2021, and April 7, 2022 are available on the DAC Meeting Recordings page at <https://www.d11.org/page/17241>.
- Just scroll down to the bottom of the page to find the recordings of the SAC Training Sessions.



Agenda Planning Guide for May (If meeting - Theme: Assessment/planning for next school year)

- Review/discuss instructional focus and One Plan/ USIP goals for next year.
- Review results of winter Chicago 5E school surveys and progress on SEL successes/challenges
- Plan to participate in District One Plan Summer Symposium for school development of 22-23 One Plan/USIP

Good Things Happening in the District

District—

- Elementary Battle of the Books competition for the Pikes Peak Region. Thank you to Manitou Springs School District for graciously allowing us to use your Elementary School for our Battle this year! Teams worked hard this year to read all 40 books so that they would be able to answer questions at the Regional Battle Saturday, April 16th, 2022. Congratulations to all of the teams on a job well done! 112 teams from across the region registered for the competition. D11 had many elementary schools participate.



Chipita ES—

- Congratulations to Chipeta Elementary who received the Community in Action Award from Andre Phillips, Phillips Painting LLC

Coronado HS—

- Coronado High School received a relic from the USS Arizona battleship dedicated by the family of Donald Stratton, Pearl Harbor USS Arizona survivor. His granddaughters Nikki and Jessika are Coronado HS alumni.



Doherty HS—

- Congratulations to Sydney Pavetti-Hankey, Doherty High School senior, who was presented with The Gazette's Best & Brightest scholarship award!
- Congratulations to Will Pado and Tyler Huff, Doherty High School seniors, who were recipients of the Daniels Fund Scholarship!



Holmes MS—

Holmes FCCLA members attended the 2022 Colorado FCCLA State Conference. Ten members qualified for the National Leadership Conference to be held in San Diego, CA June 29—July 3, 2022. Check out the club website for details. <https://fcclainc.org/attend/national-leadership-conference>

Keller ES—

- **Celebrating 50 years!** Congratulations to Keller ES who are celebrating 50 years of innovative education full S.T.E.A.M. ahead!



Good Things Happening in the District (Continued)

North MS—

- Congratulations to the North MS Marching band, led by Ms. Kemp, who swept first place at the Canon City Blossom Festival Parade. First for color guard, first for percussion, first overall!



Mitchell HS—

- Congratulations to Mitchell Air Force JROTC as they received an "Excellent" Rating in their 2022 Inspection!
- Mitchell HS received the Excellence in Inclusive Education Award presented by the S.E.A.C. on May 2, 2022. This award goes to schools that provide a culture of inclusion where students are active, engaged, and valued leaders in their school community. Congratulations!



Odyssey ECCO—

- Odyssey ECCO FCCLA Chapter Brings Home the GOLD!
- Congratulations to the Odyssey ECCO FCCLA Chapter members (comprised of students from Odyssey ECCO, Coronado, Palmer, Achieve, and Bijou) who competed at the Colorado FCCLA State Leadership Conference on April 14-16, 2022.
- Six of our students placed first and one placed second in their events, automatically qualifying for the National FCCLA Leadership Conference in San Diego, California this summer.

Palmer HS—

- Palmer awarded Gold award for Best of the Springs—see website below:
https://thebestofthesprings.com/gaz_entry/high-school-10/

Queen Palmer ES—

Thank you to Kids on Bikes, Governor Polis, Jennifer Harris, Devra Ashby and esteemed board members Julie Ott, Lauren Nelson, Dr. Bankes, and Dr. Melpakam for helping us launch the Kids on Bikes program at Queen Palmer.

What an incredible opportunity for our Panda friends to learn to ride a Strider bike for balance, strength, and coordination. This will help build self-confidence and pride.

