

## **District School Improvement and Accountability Council**

### **Minutes from February 25, 2014**

Kristen Tourangeau and Roger Kilgore, Co-Chairpersons  
Jesse Sutherland, Vice Chairperson, and Dorolyn Griebenaw, Secretary

**Welcome, Introductions, and Approval of Minutes:** Kristen Tourangeau called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

**Approval of the Minutes:** The minutes from January 28, 2014, were read. Sherry Eastlund moved for approval as amended and Lynn Otto seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

**Discussion of Meeting Norms:** Roger Kilgore shared with Kristen Tourangeau some meeting norms from another organization. Kristen Tourangeau introduced the meeting norms and Council members discussed them. The Council settled on the following:

- We will respect each other and our visitors.
- We will respect each other's time, coming prepared to all meetings, and addressing issues succinctly.
- We will listen and speak with respect creating a safe environment for full participation, assuming good intent, being open to others' perspectives and opinions, and avoiding side conversations.
- We will adhere to the agenda.

**DPS Board of Education:** Kristen Tourangeau introduced Arturo Jimenez and Council members introduced themselves. Arturo Jimenez reviewed the activities of the Board of Education as the Board works to develop the new, proposed Denver Plan. The Board of Education has had full-day retreats and the Superintendent has held two Parent Forums. Each BOE member is holding meetings in their area to discuss the proposed Denver Plan. The previous Board of Education worked with the Panasonic Foundation. They are no longer involved and the Board of Education is working with Kathy Mincberg of the Center for Reform of School Systems.

District SIAC members raised several issues including co-location, the DPS choice system, re-segregation of the schools, the concern that charters are at the heart of re-segregation, and the Common Core. There were also questions about the change from the Panasonic Foundation to the Center for Reform of School Systems. Arturo Jimenez shared that choice equals district-wide lottery. He added that the School Performance Framework does not present a clear view of what is happening educationally in a school. Senate Bill 191, Amendment 66, and the DPS proposed budget were also discussed. Arturo Jimenez said that the budget update at the Board of Education will be held in May or June. Student based budgeting is a huge policy issue.

Arturo Jimenez shared that he is trying to get a commitment for DPS to be a dual language district at least at the elementary level. He added that the District is under the new modified consent decree. The monitor is not in Denver but does review the DPS documents. The Congress of Hispanic Educators is watching the District. The Transitional Native Language Instruction Model is required by the court agreement.

Kristen Tourangeau thanked Arturo Jimenez on behalf of the Council for sharing information and his time with the members.

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**Committee Reports:**

- Budget and Finance - - Lynn Otto reported that she is still working on obtaining the final CAFR (Comprehensive Annual Financial Report). She will receive seven copies when it is presented. Lynn Otto added that she is working with Kate Kotaska, the Executive Director of Budget for DPS, and is waiting for answers to the email questions. The next meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee will be held on Thursday, February 27, at 6:30 p.m.
- UIP (Unified Improvement Plan) - - Kristen Tourangeau said the UIP Committee will meet on Monday, March 3, at 6:30 p.m. The District SIAC members who have volunteered to serve on the committee are Loralie Cole, Sherry Eastlund, Val Flores, Dorolyn Griebenaw, Don Griebenaw, Roger Kilgore, Ray McAllister, Jesse Sutherland, and Kristen Tourangeau.
- Charter School Applications - - Kristen Tourangeau shared that the District has received 15 letters of intent for charters and 8 for innovation schools. She explained the process and that applications are due to the District on March 14. Copies should be available for District SIAC on March 17. There was discussion about reviewing the innovation applications. Karl Luce moved that District SIAC form a subcommittee to review the innovation applications. Val Flores seconded the motion and it was approved. Members who volunteered for the innovation schools subcommittee are Roger Armstrong, Val Flores, and Meg Schomp.

**New Business:**

- Rocky Mountain Prep, PK-5, - - This is a new charter at Hampden Heights. It is believed that the school currently has 294 students. Discussion followed about promises of a neighborhood school to the neighborhood.
- Magnet Schools - - A question was asked about the support currently being given to magnet schools and what BOE policies are in place. There was concern expressed about whether the District will continue to support the IB program at George Washington.

**Miscellaneous - - Announcements and Comments:**

- Ed News is now Chalkbeat Colorado
- Conflicts of Interest Suggested as Agenda Item for Future Meeting

**Next Meeting:** The next District SIAC meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 25, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. in room 108 of the DPS Administration Building.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.