

District School Improvement and Accountability Council Minutes from May 27, 2014

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

Welcome, Introductions, and Approval of Minutes: Roger Kilgore called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.
Approval of the Minutes: The minutes from April 29, 2014, were reviewed. Roger Armstrong moved for approval and Kristen Tourangeau seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Board of Education Update - - Barbara O'Brien from the Board of Education was introduced. She shared that being on the Board of Education is a different world from campaigning for the position. She has been involved with the Colorado Children's Campaign, and as an advocate for children is concerned about what is happening around expelled DPS students. She would like to see more data based information and trend lines go to the Board of Education. She went on to discuss the Denver Plan and the effort to organize under "a great school in every neighborhood." She added that she has been receiving wonderful reactions to the new draft. There was discussion on the following items:

- Efforts to make George Washington into one school and maintain the IB program.
- The tentative plans around East High and Manual High, which had been delayed for one year.
- Importance of every third grader learning to read.
- Parents wanting their children to be able to walk to a school in their neighborhood.
- "Tug of war" between charters and neighborhood schools.
- Testing and the school performance framework.
- The DPS process for community engagement.

Roger Kilgore offered the assistance of the District School Improvement and Accountability Council to the Board of Education and thanked Barbara O'Brien for taking her time to attend the District SIAC meeting. He added that Rosemary Rodriquez is scheduled to attend the next District SIAC meeting on June 24.

Charter School Recommendations Report: Sherry Eastlund presented the following list of schools which were reviewed and the District SIAC recommendations:

- Banneker Jemison STEM Academy (K-5) - - approved for the 2015-2016 school year
- KIPP Colorado Elementary (ECE-4) - - approved for the 2015-2016 school year
- KIPP Montbello Collegiate High School (9-12) - - approved for the 2015-2016 school year
- Near Northeast Community Engagement Center (6-8) - - denied for the 2015-2016 school year
- REACH (ECE-5) - - approved for the 2015-2016 school year
- Rocky Mountain Prep at Hampden Heights (ECE-5) - - denied for the 2015-2016 school year
- Roots (K-5) - - approved for the 2015-2016 school year
- SEED High School (9-12) - - denied for the 2015-2016 school year
- Southwest Denver Community School (6-12) - - approved only for grades 6-8 for the 2015-2016 school year
- STRIVE Prep Far Northeast Elementary School (K-5) - - approved for the 2015-2016 school year
- STRIVE Prep Far Northeast High School (9-12) - - approved for the 2015-2016 school year
- STRIVE Prep Southwest Middle School (6-8) - - approved for the 2015-2016 school year
- Westside Academy (K-5) - - denied for the 2015-2016 school year
- Youth Build Charter School of Denver (9-12) - - approved if the District and the applicants can agree upon reasonable educational outcomes by which this alternative school can be measured

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Charter School Recommendations Report Continued: Sherry Eastlund reported that District SIAC recommended approval for four schools for the far northeast, three schools for the near northeast, one school for southwest, two schools for southeast, and one school for the northwest. The second half of the report, "The Promise of Charter Schools," was then reviewed. Members strongly suggested that the second half of the report be presented first at the meeting of the Board of Education. Discussion followed and focused on the effect the new charters will have on neighboring schools. There was also concern that the practice of co-locating and providing a building for a charter takes the community support requirement out of the picture. There was, again, the discussion that charters were intended to encourage the development of innovative practices that could be replicated in neighborhood schools.

Roger Kilgore asked for approval to present the report with minor editorial changes to the Board of Education on June 2 at noon. The report was approved. Roger Armstrong moved that the presenters be directed to focus on the "Other Recommendations" section of the report at the beginning of the presentation. The listing of schools approved and denied should be at the end of the report. The motion was seconded by Karl Luce and was approved by the Council. Roger Kilgore said that Sherry Eastlund, Dorolyn Griebenaw, Jesse Sutherland and Kristen Tourangeau will attend the Board of Education meeting.

Committee Reports:

- Budget and Finance - - Lynn Otto shared that the committee needs to do planning for next year and will meet in June. David Hart, the Chief Financial Officer, who worked with the committee this year has resigned from the District.
- UIP (Unified Improvement Plan) - - No report.

Draft Denver Plan: There was discussion about the Draft Denver Plan and the UIP for the District. Roger Armstrong moved that the UIP Committee become the UIP/Denver Plan Committee. Kristen Tourangeau seconded the motion and it was approved.

New Business: Jenny Brundin, the education reporter for Colorado Public Radio, and Kate Schimel with Chalkbeat were mentioned as media contacts for District SIAC reports. Lynn Otto will be talking with Jenny Brundin and will try to arrange a coffee with Kristen Tourangeau and Roger Kilgore.

Miscellaneous - - Announcements and Comments: Suggestions for the June agenda include assault and discipline problems and learning environment.

Next Meeting: The next District SIAC meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 24, 2014, in room 108 of the DPS Administration Building.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.