

District School Improvement and Accountability Council
Minutes from January 10, 2012

Sherry Eastlund, Co-Chairperson, Rita Montero, Co-Chairperson,
Paula Ortlieb, Co-Chairperson, Jesse Sutherland, Vice Chairperson,
Dorolyn Griebenaw, Secretary

Welcome, Introductions, and Approval of Minutes: Sherry Eastlund called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and introductions were made.

Board of Education Report: Andrea Merida was unable to attend because of a death in her family.

School Choice Process for 2012-2013: Shannon Fitzgerald, Director of Choice and Enrollment Services, presented information on the new choice process which is a unified process. The deadline for parents to complete the form indicating their top five choices (or they can choose just one) is January 31, 2012. Every student is receiving a cover letter with the enrollment guide and the form to complete. Every student will be guaranteed his/her neighborhood school or choice school. DPS will be attempting to get each student their first choice. Denver Public Schools is the first district in the country to put this plan in place and to include charter schools. Paula Ortlieb added that the information has been emailed to District SIAC members. She thanked Shannon Fitzgerald for attending the meeting and clarifying the process for the Council.

DPS Budget Presentation: David Hart, DPS Chief Financial Officer, presented information on "School Finance 101." He suggested that members look at the Colorado Department of Education web site for budget information. He shared that the budget cycle is on the DPS web site from the December 12 Board of Education meeting. The intent this year is to have the budget adopted in May. Information from the Board of Education Finance and Audit Committee is on the DPS web site. On January 17, at the Board of Education Work Session, there will be a presentation from ERS. On February 2, the budget plan for the 2012-2013 year will be presented at the Board of Education Work Session. Sherry Eastlund thanked Mr. Hart for attending the meeting and provided Council members with information on the budget process as well as resources.

District SIAC Budget Subcommittee: Sherry Eastlund asked interested members to sign up for the budget subcommittee. The first meeting of the group was set for 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 24.

Northwest Community Committee Recommendations: Copies of the recommendations to the Board of Education from the Northwest Community Committee were distributed to Council members.

District Unified Improvement Plan Update: Paula Ortlieb explained that in the past the Council had been charged with reviewing the individual school improvement plans. This year the Council will review the District's Unified Improvement Plan. Copies will be made available to Council members

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes from November 29, 2011, were read. Jesse Sutherland moved for approval and Yamile Reina-Ayadi seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 31, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. in room 108 of the DPS Administration Building.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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