

District School Improvement and Accountability Council
Minutes from August 30, 2011

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. Sherry introduced Andrea Merida, member of the DPS Board of Education, and District SIAC participants introduced themselves. Jesse Sutherland moved for approval of the June 28, 2011, minutes and Loralie Cole seconded the motion. Rita Montero moved for approval of the July 23, 2011, minutes and Mary Franza seconded the motion. The two sets of minutes were approved.

Board of Education Report: Andrea Merida reported to District SIAC that she and Jeannie Kaplan will serve as representatives from the Board of Education to District SIAC. She touched on the charter applications and charter reviews, the ELL program and ELL-E and ELL-S and noted that she has school-by-school data. There was also discussion on moving the beginning of school to after Labor Day (56 schools do not have air conditioning), the Teach for American teachers, the information that DPS is on priority improvement, and the special education programs. Sherry Eastlund thanked Andrea for attending the meeting.

DPS/District SIAC Plan for 2011-2012: Rita Montero distributed materials from the July 23 planning meeting. The members of District SIAC reviewed the materials and focused on items that need immediate attention.

Proposed School Board Candidate Coffee: Jacqui Shumway noted that there is a need to educate candidates as well as others about the purpose and role of the District School Improvement and Accountability Council. A coffee would be one vehicle to provide information. Jacqui added that the Arts Resource Council is looking at presenting a forum for school board candidates and perhaps District SIAC could be involved.

Development of Budget Timeline for 2011-2012: The draft of a budget timeline was distributed to Council members. Members of the Executive Committee will meet with David Hart, Chief Financial Officer, to discuss the budget process for next year. Jacqui Shumway moved for approval of the draft and Paula Ortlieb seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Develop a District SIAC Brochure and Recruiting Materials: Several points were discussed regarding recruiting materials. A joint letter from the Board of Education and District SIAC will be drafted which will be sent to the schools asking for school/parent representation to District SIAC. It was also suggested that District SIAC, DPS, and DCTA could plan a conference at a future time to educate members of the school community about the accountability process. Paula Ortlieb said that District SIAC agendas and minutes are currently in place on the DPS web site. The information is in the Board of Education section under District SIAC.

Charter Schools Fall Cycle and Renewals: Sherry Eastlund presented the plan for putting together the two charter processes with suggested meeting times. The first meeting of the subcommittee is September 6 with recommendations due the end of October.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 27, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. in room 108 of the DPS Administration Building.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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