

District School Improvement and Accountability Council
Minutes from September 27, 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. Jesse Sutherland moved for approval of the August 30, 2011, minutes and Jorge Merida seconded the motion.

Board of Education Report: Andrea Merida visited with District SIAC members by conference call. She touched on the budget process, District SIAC compliance with State law, the Superintendent's Parent Forums, and the CSC Training on October 15. Sherry Eastlund thanked Andrea Merida for spending time with Council.

CSC Summit and District SIAC Recruiting: Michael Simmons and Flor Amaro invited a representative from District SIAC to speak at the CSC Training to be held on October 15 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon at Manual High School. Loralie Cole will represent District SIAC. Membership forms and the District SIAC new member letter will be made available at the Training. The District SIAC co-chairs, the President of the Board of Education, and the Superintendent have signed the letter inviting the DPS community to join District SIAC. The letter has been sent to school principals and the CSC at each school. Information about District SIAC will also go to the Superintendent's Parent Forum.

Unified Improvement Plans Update: Brandi VanHorn from the Department of Accountability, Research, and Evaluation will meet with the District SIAC executive committee to discuss the selection process for UIPs for review, the timeline for District SIAC to review the UIPs, and what happens following the review. It was suggested that the review be done in January, February, and March. The School Performance Framework (SPF) information is now available on the DPS web site.

Charter Schools Fall Cycle: The following applications have been received by District SIAC. The District SIAC subcommittee will present the recommendations to the Council at the October meeting. The District SIAC recommendations will go to the Board of Education on November 3. The public comment is scheduled for November 7, and the Board of Education vote will be on November 17.

- Four Winds Indigenous Charter School is for a 9-12 school located at 5th and Bannock. The application has been reviewed and the applicants interviewed. The application is incomplete in some areas. The District interview is scheduled for October 6.
- Monarch Montessori is seeking a charter for 6-week-old infants through grade 5. A private preschool currently exists for students through age 6. The school would give priority to children currently in the school. The school would be in the Stapleton area.
- Sims Fayola is resubmitting the application for a grade 6 through 12 school with an all boys program. They plan to have a pre-baccalaureate program and then an International Baccalaureate Program in grades 11 and 12. They will have a new leader of the school.

Charter School Renewals: There are nine schools listed below seeking renewal of their charters. The District SIAC recommendations go to the Board of Education on November 3. The public comment session before the Board of Education is scheduled for November 7. The Board of Education will vote on November 17.

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Charter School Renewals Continued:

- Cesar Chavez Academy Denver
- Colorado HS
- Highline Academy
- Justice HS
- KIPP Sunshine Peak
- KIPP HS
- Life Skills Center of Denver Public Schools
- Venture Prep (Denver Venture and Envision merged to form Venture Prep)
- West Denver Prep Harvey Park

Budget Review Update: Members of the executive committee met with David Hart, Chief Financial Officer, and Jennifer Walmer, Chief of Staff. The District SIAC budget format was emailed to David Hart and he will provide a new timeline. The membership of District SIAC came up during the meeting, and the District SIAC executive committee has provided information about the District SIAC membership recruitment letter.

DPS/District SIAC Strategic Plan for 2011-2012 Update: The executive committee is working on the plan.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 25, 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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