

**District Accountability Committee
Meeting Notes
January 6, 2009**

Subcommittee Meetings - 6:00-7:30

Meeting Called to Order – DAC Chair, Peter Ruh

Welcome & Introductions

Updates from Subcommittee Chair Persons

SIP Best Practices Group - Chitra Seshan—Paired down recommendations to 6 schools overall that everyone will read and rank. They want the report and the interview to have been successful not just one or the other. As well as showing good achievement – walk to go with the talk.

Bylaw Review – Jeff Anderson – Reviewing Colorado Statues – DAC and SIT – to tighten up DAC bylaws and board policies.

Metrics and Destratification – Barry Eakins – They have decided on 6 areas to look at and different metrics used.

New School Report Card – Charles Tucker — deciding what information needs to be included – related to SAR – separate or united? Homework for committee—draft an ideal report card. Question to destratification committee - How does the destrat info need to be reported?

Community Involvement – Megan Princehouse – have decided on a possible plan of action – not sure if we have a good basis for movement – finding out from Patti what the board wants.

Updates from DAC Exec –Peter Ruh

New subcommittee groups – he read the bylaws and technically the standing committees are still standing, just not meeting. Budget subcommittee is up in the air, may end up meeting outside of regular meeting. Ultimately we have met the requirements of the bylaws.

Michael Moran – resignation. Chair Elect responsibilities including becoming the Chair the following year. Run exec committee and create agenda for the exec committee. Will take volunteers and complete nominations at February meeting.

Upcoming Meetings - May meeting will include award presentation from Best Practices group. Also for May meeting – invite greater community to hear about successful examples of SIPs.

Site Reviews – Jonathan speaks about upcoming site reviews in need of DAC representation and tries to get people to commit to participating. Everyone to fill out form either to commit, consider or not participate.

Board Report

Ken Roberge – Looking at specific things that will help us do our jobs better. Colorado Association of School Boards – look at best practices. At highest level the board’s job is to set high level goals for the district.

How?

- Through high level policies and programs, the ways we treat people and the processes for doing work.
- Legislators to some extent through laws that they set for the district.
- High level and high quality goals – through the budget process define our values and our priorities.
- Performance evaluation process for the Superintendent on an annual basis and overall performance of the district.
- Compliance with board policy and state statutes.
- Prudent and Ethical behavior – board is always reviewing.

How do we know the values of the community?

- 7 board members - elected from the community at large – through diverse background and activities – interaction with the community on many levels.
- Board members are very visible within the community and all come from different areas and municipalities and are at different stages in their lives.
- Goal to get closer and more involved in the community.

Board does not – get involved in the day to day operation of the district. Help public navigate the system – (i.e. a parent upset with a teacher or the landscape maintenance of the school) get them in touch with the right person. When they get calls they may not deal with it directly but can look at whether it is a symptom of a larger problem that may have to do with policy and may be an issue for the board to address.

Board does - Solve conflicting public values. “Boardsmanship” – trust and open communication – board and superintendent work together and share the vision.

Patti Smith – updating and referring to policy in decision making. Infrastructure to review and reflect on policies. (Policy Governance)

Community Outreach Consultant hired to find out how can we reach more of our community? Board outreach may differ from superintendent and schools individually. Will discuss this more at upcoming meetings.

Adequate Yearly Progress – Jonathan Dings and Brigitte Mutter – PowerPoint presentation.