

ELIZABETH SCHOOL DISTRICT
District Accountability Committee (DAC)
November 13, 2019
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Board of Education Room

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE:

- 2019-2020 Parents/Community Members:
 - **Nicky Quinby (Secretary) – Running Creek Elementary School**
 - **Wendy Church – Singing Hills Elementary School**
 - **Traci Slade (Chair) – Elizabeth Middle School**
- 2019-2020 Staff:
 - **Danielle Gregory – Running Creek Elementary School**
 - **Natalie Meadows – Singing Hills Elementary School**
 - **Kelly Martyniak – Elizabeth Middle School**
 - **Catherine Wheeler – Frontier High School**
 - **Tanya McCrea/Kim Blakeslee – Legacy Academy**
 - **Douglas Bissonette – District Administration**

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Approve Agenda
 - a. **Agenda was approved.**
2. Approve Minutes 9.25.19
 - a. **Minutes were approved.**
3. 2019-2020 DAC Schedule
 - a. **DAC will meet again on January 22nd and April 22nd. The January meeting will focus on sending out a district survey and the April meeting will focus on MLO oversight and the budget.**
4. MLO Update
 - a. **CFO, Ron Patera provided an MLO update at the previous meeting.**
 - b. **The district has a new SRO, Kurt Hulce. He is the longest employed member of the Elizabeth Police Department.**
 - i. **His salary costs a little more than anticipated because of his experience. The EPD pays 3/12 of his salary ESD pays the other 9/12.**
 - c. **The district has also hired a behavior support specialist.**
 - d. **The one-time retention stipend will be paid out soon but ESD is appealing PERA's decision to take retirement out, i.e. whether or not the stipends are PERA-includable.**
 - e. **The stipend will be more than anticipated, due to staff turnover.**
 - f. **Legacy Academy had retention stipends planned. Even with a new principal, what was planned for their portion of the MLO funds should remain the same.**
5. Accrediation
 - a. **Superintendent Douglas Bissonette showed the DAC the preliminary state accreditation information.**
 - b. **State accreditation is derived from state and federal laws and guidelines; the CDE rates schools and districts annually using a points system.**

- c. **The points system set up by the Colorado Department of Education is very test-driven and doesn't take into account financial resources, community, tax base, etc**
 - i. **We have a rating of 64.8/100 with low participation but once test opt-outs are accounted for we have above a 95% participation rate.**
 - d. **Elizabeth Middle Schools (Legacy Academy middle school data is included) is the 17th highest rated in the state, above all but one middle school in Douglas County, all but one in Cherry Creek.**
 - e. **The State Board of Education voted on October 10 to make changes to the point scale; in essence more schools will be classified as 'Improvement' schools.**
 - i. **The stated reason for these changes is that there is a disconnect between student scores and school scores.**
 - ii. **These changes shift the emphasis more to achievement instead of focusing on growth.**
 - iii. **The adjustments will be reflected for points in the 2021 performance frameworks.**
 - f. **Some are advocating to make this accountability system more useful and meaningful to parents.**
 - g. **Colorado Succeeds**
 - i. **By May, ESD has to create/implement a plan.**
 - h. **Colorado Education Initiative**
 - i. **How to help students become more successful in the work force.**
6. **Other**
- a. **The new survey will need to have some of the same questions as the last survey to create trend data.**
 - b. **The last survey was sent out in the Spring of 2017.**