

Dear Parents and Guardians

THE BOE RECAP

The Elizabeth School Board of Education met this past Monday, November 12. Here are the highlights.

District Accountability Committee (DAC) Parent Survey

Every spring DAC implements a district-wide parent survey. This survey provides parents the opportunity to share opinions on what is working well at the school your child attends and it provides the opportunity to provide constructive feedback on areas for improvement. After the **Spring 2012 DAC Parent Survey** results were finalized, DAC shared their recommendations on areas to focus for improvement in school year 2012-2013. **The recommendations are as follows:**

- Identify ways to improve individualized instruction, technology, and curriculum choices in all schools.
- Identify strategies to improve parent satisfaction.
- Develop school specific communication plan.

The Board of Education asked the principals to present their response plan to the BOE at this meeting. All of the principals indicated they were making a **concerted effort to improve**. Please visit the [DAC page](#) of the District Website and view the schools responses. The principals asked that **parents contact them directly** regarding opinions on the response plan. We encourage you to provide ongoing feedback to the principals throughout the year. Acknowledge to them where they have improved and where you may still have concerns. The ongoing open and honest communications is greatly appreciated.

DAC Membership

Cathryn Reiber from DAC, shared with the Board of Education the new membership to DAC for school year 2012-2013. Cathryn indicated that DAC is looking for a teacher representative from Legacy Academy and a parent representative from Running Creek Elementary to complete the membership. It was also announced that **Rebekah Anderson** will be the new chair for DAC this year and **Cathryn Reiber** will be co-chair. We welcome Rebekah as the new chair for DAC and would like to extend our appreciation to Cathryn Reiber for the years she has dedicated to DAC as chair. Please visit the [DAC page](#) to view the membership and to learn more about the DAC charter. If you have any questions regarding DAC or membership of DAC please contact Cathryn at [email](#) and Rebekah at [email](#)

Chief Financial Officer

Every year an audit is performed by an independent 3rd party CPA firm. The primary purpose is to validate the **schools financial statements and internal controls**. Ron Patera, Director of Finance, introduced Wendy Swanhorst, from Swanhorst & Company LLC, who performed the audit this year. Wendy Swanhorst stated that the audit went really well she indicated no deficiency in controls, the finance department does a good job and just gets better and better each year.

Superintendent Update

Douglas Bissonette, Superintendent, announced a number of awards for **this fall athletic teams including coaches and individual athletes.**

- Coaches of the Year from the League included: Summer Katzoff-Softball, Chris Cline-Football, and Russ Haman - Volleyball
- Gymnastics Team State 4A Champions
- Cross Country and Soccer had a good season, with soccer having their best record ever
- Cheer Team 2nd place Colorado 7 League with Regionals and State still to go
- Colorado 7 League Champions: Golf, Softball, Football, Volleyball

See the full listing of [Individual Athletic Awards](#)

Marching Band took 6th place at the state competition. **A Midsummer Nights Dream** play received rave reviews in the news. See [full article](#) here. **Congratulations** to EHS on all these outstanding accomplishments.

There are a number of **fundraising activities** occurring at our schools this year. The superintendent thanked parents, the schools, the committees for their support and work in coordinating these fundraisers that assist our schools in so many ways. The full list of [fundraisers](#) are posted on the District Website.

Infrastructure Assessment Committee (IAC)

The IAC has been in place for approximately one month and are having meetings weekly. They are in the process of conducting interviews and surveys with employees, first responders, and students. Their site visits will begin in December. They will visit the schools during the day and in the evening, as well as visiting them during various weather conditions. They will be assessing traffic at the schools, especially during the drop off and pick up times. High importance was discussed in ensuring the assessment of transportation. IAC will also be assessing technology from the standpoint of enhancing student learning. The board **complimented IAC** in getting this project off the ground. The IAC will be providing a preliminary analysis report at the January board meeting with a final report in March. The [IAC](#) web page has a listing of the meetings, meeting notes, and updates.

BOE Update

Director Deb Spencely attended the **EMS play** last week and complimented the staff and directors on their performance. Deb thanked the entire school district for the work that went into preparing for the Election Day voting at RCE and SHE. The county and the school district worked together to coordinate these facilities and to provide for the smooth and safe functioning of school, while also supporting an efficient voting process for community members.

Director Dee Lindsey commented on the number of **teachers working offline hours** to assist our students. The Elizabeth School Board of Education would like to extend their thanks to these teachers for their hard work and for keeping our students at the heart of everything they do.

President Chuck Williams met with Legacy Academy school board president. Chuck extended his appreciation to **Legacy Academy** for the significant amount of time they gave to Elizabeth

Schools to share their experience and knowledge in utilizing **IPADs in the classroom**. Legacy also complimented EHS for the welcome extended to the Legacy 8th graders entering the high school.

The Elizabeth School Board will be attending the **CASB Annual Convention**. In addition, two students from EHS and one student from FHS will be attending the **Student Leadership Session** at the convention. Representing EHS are Lexi Biller and Tanner Minch, and representing FHS is Tyler Ackerman. This is a unique opportunity for them to learn, to meet other student leaders from around the state, and to make additional contributions to Elizabeth High School. Sarah Bonds from EHS was selected to display her art work at the CASB Convention Student Art Exhibit. Please join us in congratulating these students.

Next Board Meeting

December 10 is the next scheduled Board Meeting. Topics on the agenda include:

- Class Size
- DAC calendar for 2012-2013
- Approval of District Calendar for 2013-2014

You can follow the Elizabeth School District: [twitter@esdk12](https://twitter.com/esdk12) for regular updates. I welcome your feedback on the various communications from the District Office.

Happy Thanksgiving.

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Dated 11/15/12