

D'Evelyn Accountability Committee Meeting
September 11, 2018
MINUTES

Welcome and Introductions

Opened meeting at 5:30 pm

Approval of May 2018 Minutes

- Approved

Student Council Update - Brady Sullivan

- Homecoming spirit week is this week - Homecoming is this Saturday. Powder Puff game is Friday.
- Student Council is looking at the atmosphere at D'Evelyn as a main project this year to address student's concerns/comments about their experience while here

Principal's Report - Josh Griffin

- The First 18 Days - positive start to the year
- Celebration of 25 years of excellence in liberal arts education:
 - Celebrate great success and strength of the program
 - Work to ensure that the program stays strong for the next 25 years
- This is a great school - off to a great start, students are working hard, teachers are showing their passion for students & content; positive vibe to start this year
- Fall sports and activities are underway for both JRHS and HS student.
- Good News:
 - Highest PSAT 9, 10, and SAT 11 in Colorado, public, non-charter school.
 - Lowest remediation rate - Class of 2016
 - 90% pass rate across all AP tests administered at D'Evelyn
 - 2017-2018 Steinmark Award Winners
 - Positive Media Coverage - 9News, 7News, Columbine Courier
 - Communication:
 - Familiarize yourself with the D'Evelyn website.
 - Jaguar Tracks online newsletter
 - Social media platforms: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
 - A very successful D'Evelyn Dash
 - New Administration: Dan Wille and Tim Schmeckpeper
 - Next month: Introduce new teachers and administrators
 - Homecoming Week:
 - Game @ Trailblazer Stadium - 7 pm, Friday 9/14
 - Dance for HS Students @ D'Evelyn - 7 pm, Saturday 9/15
 - No bonfire due to fire restrictions

- Upcoming Events:
 - 1st Parent Information Night - Thursday, September 27th
 - PTC - October 3 & 4 (5-7:30; 3-5:30 pm)
 - D'Evelyn Dinner Auction - November 9th

District Transition - Dan Cohan (Achievement Director)

- Website for District 6th Grade Transition:
http://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/family_portal/6th_grade_transition
- Year before last the Board of Education determined that all community middle schools would change to grades 6-8. Since D'Evelyn is an option school this decision does not directly apply.
- Considerations: Increased elective offerings, increased work with kids around pathways, expanded offerings for math, better opportunities for staff to become connected to kids and responsive to their needs (social/emotional learning and supports), providing interventions and extensions, mentoring programs, career exploration, more STEM programming at middle school, more clubs
- Choice enrollment challenges
- Educational resources (curriculum) tend to follow a K-5 and 6-8 program
- Middle schools in Jeffco are historically under capacity. This transition would better utilize facilities
- Timeline: some articulations have already transitioned, this year 10 articulation areas made the transition (including Manning MS, another option program), next year 3 more articulation areas will transition

District Transition Specific to D'Evelyn - Josh Griffin

- Fall 2017, D'Evelyn S/C formed a K-5 / 6-8 Transition Sub-Committee to explore:
 - Impact of district 6th grade transition
 - Possible responses from Dennison/D'Evelyn Community
- This sub-committee included teachers, parents, & administrators from both school communities; it also includes the District Achievement Directors for both schools
- Last year - discussed existing data and possible responses for the two schools, including:
 - Do nothing
 - Increase size of 6th grade at Dennison – various possible methods
 - Create a 6th grade program at D'Evelyn, while keeping 6th grade program at Dennison
 - Move 6th grade to D'Evelyn, creating a comprehensive 6-12 program
- No decisions were made by the sub-committee – it was simply a brainstorming process

- Data:
 - Dennison has seen an increase of students transferring out after 5th grade since the transition began
 - D'Evelyn has seen a downward trend in applications for 7th grade enrollment in the last five years - we believe that has been complicated by this transition, and that the impact will only grow as the transition begins to reach more schools
- District Support: We have the support of the district to make:
 - Important, needed repairs & upgrades to Dennison Elementary
 - Building expansion to D'Evelyn to accommodate possible growth
- Next Steps:
 - Dennison/D'Evelyn 6th Grade Subcommittee will re-convene after tonight's A/C meeting and Dennison A/C meeting on Thursday 9/13
 - Community Survey - both schools, details to be communicated in the near future
 - Earliest D'Evelyn would see a change would be the 2020-2021 school year
 - Steering Committee has to approve any final decisions
- Public Comments/Questions: shared sibling priority between Dennison and D'Evelyn, surveying larger community, concerns with 6th graders being with 12th graders, needs to follow founding documents

Steering Committee Report - Donna Li

Here is a link to my [slide show](#) from the tonight's Accountability Meeting.

- Vision of Steering Committee and collaboration with A/C
 - A/C serves in an advisory role to the Steering Committee
 - Looking for more parents to become involved
 - Focused on common goals between Steering and A/C
 - Vision of A/C: Educate community, encourage more parents to participate, provide a forum for gathering and sharing data, communicate values, goals, policy and regulation of school committees (hiring, textbook selection and curriculum review)
 - Agenda for Steering presentations at A/C: October (program overview); November (textbook selection); December (hiring); January or February (curriculum review)
 - During A/C meetings: avoid using student's names, not a place to gossip or bring complaints about a specific person, be open-minded

- Steering has identified 3 issues for consideration this year: 1. Technology, 2. Post-graduate success, 3. Honoring students and valuing academic achievement. Surveys were distributed to attendees to prioritize these issues and add any additional issues as appropriate. Other possible issues are supporting student academic achievement, how 7th hour is utilized by the school, teacher retention, hiring quality teachers, social/emotional support
- Standing Committees and Contact Person
 - 6th grade issue - Josh Griffin
 - Achievement - Steve Kosten
 - Surveys - Angie Volheim

Meeting adjourned at 7:00

Attendees: Josh Griffin, Dana Miller, Steve Kosten, Carrie Kollar, Angie Volheim, Mettet Karpinski, Gina Coco, Donna Li, Jennifer Hastert, Kerry Williams, Dristi Gulley, Julie Vanek, Valerie Reed, Karol Steeves, Lisa Cushnie, Ari Sheridan, Annie Young, Pamela Yoder, Sherry Odegard, Chris Schlicht, Valerie Johnston, Kam Befielt, Marika Padilla, Sarah Sellar, Marnie Mckissack, Christy Truong, Aimee Woolley, Diane Bishop, Heather Strietelmein, Jennifer Faucett, Bobbie Lutz, Lisa DiSaverio, Heather Cordova, Joel Pankow, Linda Tatalaski, Susan Thomsen, Sam Sothy, Valerie Jahr, Lindsey Hodges, Melissa Campe, Colleen Royal, Lisa Rukstales, Jennifer Pekarek

NEXT MEETING: OCTOBER 9, 2018 @ 5:30-6:30 PM - LIBRARY