

**DAC / District Accountability Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Date: December 9, 2014

Wilcox Building, Board of Education Room
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Barb Cousins, Vice-Chair/Parent Member
Sandra Brownrigg, Recorder/ Parent Member
Michael Holmes, Parent Member
Jean Medberry, Parent Member
Mark Harrell, Franktown Elementary school principal
Ron Booth, Voting Community Member
Sandra Brownrigg, Parent Member
Kim Kibort, Parent Member
Jerry Hargrave, Parent Member
Brian Wetterling, Parent Member
Amy Pfister, Parent Member
Judi Reynolds, DCSD Board of Education Representative
Ted Knight, DCSD Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Education
Steve Cook, DCSD Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education
Absent
Chris Cingrani, Chair/Parent Member
Brandy Nath, Voting Teacher Member
Deborah Lynch, Voting Teacher Member

General Meeting:

1. Roll call by recorder and confirmation of quorum. The October 2014 meeting minutes were approved with no changes. They will get posted onto the DCSD DAC website page by Dorinda within a day or two of the meeting.
2. In the absence of Chris Cingrani, Barb Cousins conducted the meeting. She introduced and welcomed new DAC members Kim Kibort, Jerry Hargrave, Amy Pfister, and Deborah Lynch.
3. A two part presentation on school security took place. The speakers were Carly Posey, founder of A Sandy Hook-Columbine Cooperative and Rich Payne, director of safety and security and emergency management for DCSD.
4. Mrs. Posey, who has four children in the District, vividly and movingly described her family's experience during and after the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in 2012. She and her family moved to Parker from Newtown, Connecticut the day after the Newtown school shooting at Sandy Hook. That day, her son Richen, who saw his teacher

and a friend fatally shot, escaped as the shooter reloaded. Her other children were huddled in their classrooms at Sandy Hook and at the intermediate school – the older children, for five hours.

5. The experience and its aftermath motivated her to team with parents of Columbine victims to form the [Sandy Hook/Columbine Cooperative](http://sandyhookcolumbine.org) (sandyhookcolumbine.org) to ensure schools make security an ongoing priority. She also spoke of the need to educate teachers and administrators about trauma sensitivity, so they can, at minimum, help the 25% of all students who've been affected by severe trauma.
6. Other resources Mrs. Posey referenced included
 - www.traumasensitiveschools.org
 - www.safe2tell.org
7. Mrs. Posey stated that schools needed to “Anticipating the Unthinkable.” Therefore, threat assessments, policy reviews and security education needed to be ongoing efforts in every school district. She stated that, though there is always room to improve, that DCSD was doing an excellent job on these fronts.

8. ***Questions & comments included:***

Q: “What are three things that school did not do from a preventative perspective? What are opportunities that you still see for DCSD based on your knowledge?”

A:

1. They did not think it could happen to us so there were no preventative measures. They did drills but they did not take them seriously.
2. DCSDS has a good balance of things they are doing that are not visible.
3. There are new things coming all the time and whenever I see something I pass it on to Rich Payne.

Q: “Is there anything specifically we should be doing?”

A: “Principals need more training on how they use their staff , particularly what they do with their security staff. She has seen security staff putting away lunch tables. There are better uses for these resources. “

Q: “Where does security in schools rank now in our schools?”

A: “**Number one.** Kids cannot learn if they don't feel physically or mentally safe. “

Q: “What would be the talking points you recommend the SAC members take back to their teams and the questions to their principals?”

A: “So many things. Know your school. Know your population. Become aware of existing issues and address them. Put safety as the number one issue in your meetings. It should be the umbrella in all of your discussions.”

Q: “Is there public info for when Mrs. Posey speaks? “

A: “School districts don't like to publish when she is speaking. Emailing her is the best way.”

9. Mr. Payne presented four areas that are the focus of the DCSD security effort:
 - The standard response protocol, as outlined by iloveguys.org: lockout, lockdown, evacuation and shelter. Mr. Payne outlined issues we've encountered with each and the solutions the security staff has implemented.

- Emergency management plans, including drills and reporting;
 - Communication and security protocol;
 - ZONAR
10. Every year, each school is required to have two lockdown drills. Schools are also required to have an evacuation fire drill within the first ten days of school and conduct ten per year. Schools also conduct one lockout and two shelter in place drills per year. There have been 352 drills thus far this year.
 11. There are two types of evacuation drills: those the police oversee and those the District personnel oversee. If the police come in and we do an evacuation, the school system has no say in what transpires though we provide transportation. It is a crime scene. In evacuations like gas leaks, where the school personnel do have control, they have a process, from how they load the buses so they stay with their teacher to how the kids are accounted for and returned to their parents.
 12. There is a website for each schools with their emergency management plan, including drills. The school updates the page whenever they perform the drills. Mr. Payne demonstrated the way drills are documented.
 13. Mr. Payne stated that information about the [standard response protocol](https://www.dcsdk12.org/safety-and-security/lockout-lockdown-shelter-evacuate) could be found on the District website: <https://www.dcsdk12.org/safety-and-security/lockout-lockdown-shelter-evacuate>.
 14. One issue that was identified was that there was no consistent communication protocol. So, they developed a simplified communication protocol. Mr. Payne walked us through the protocol for an incident.
 15. Another issue: how to track at risk students and disseminate information. Security now reaches out to the coordinator of intervention and support, principals, and mental health services, based on patterns they identify through ongoing screening for a specific child, sibling or family as they progress through the school system.
 16. They've implemented an action tab in the online system. When a kid comes to a school, the personnel can check the action tab to see if there is anything listed there so they can contact Security to provide them with information. If they determine this is a security/safety issue, they can share this with another school district. The pilot program is rolling out in January.
 17. ZONAR is a system for ground traffic control for busses. With ZONAR, we can see when a student boards a bus and when he departs, using his school pass. School busses were viewed as a "soft target," but with GPS-enhanced ZONAR, the District personnel can see precisely where each bus is and how fast it is going. So, the risk has been reduced and the ability to respond to an emergency is enhanced.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:05 pm.

Sandra Brownrigg Recorder.

Handouts at meeting:

- ✓ Agenda

- ✓ Minutes
- ✓ PowerPoint by Carly Posey (not paper version)
- ✓ PowerPoint by Rich Payne (not paper version)

1/11/15