



State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education

SACPIE Quarterly Meeting - Virtual
February 13, 2024
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Angie Frank, Laura Harney, Mark Sass, Chelsey Hall, Roxanne Aviles, Jess Welch, Kim Chatman, Chelsey Hall, Amy Pritchard, Nathan Hickman, Michelle Zeles-Hahn, Beth Donahue, Liz Wilson, Mary McNeill, Sherell Lang, Kristin Dalton, Twyla Esquibel, Jason Taylor, Heidi Haines, Kristine Greer,

Absences: Joseph McCarthy, Brooke Cote, Jenny Lerner

Guests: Darcy Hutchins, Jess Stroope, April Thompson, Lisa Medler, Jamie Madigan, Kate Garvin, Rhonda Solis

Meeting began at 9:00am

9:00 – 9:25am Introductions

9:25 Approval of meeting mins from November 2023 meeting.

Amy motioned to approve and Angie seconded the motion. November SACPIE mins were approved.

9:27 Chair and Vice Chair Elections

The nomination for chair is Jess Welch. Jess introduced herself and her current work Charter School Institute. Jess shared her previous experience as an educator and education experience as a parent.

The nomination for Vice Chair is Angie Frank. Angie shared about her experience in education as a parent, her involvement with the SAC in her district. Angie is also the co-chair of mental health initiatives with HCA.

Michelle motioned to approve the chair and vice chair elections. Kim seconded this motion, all were in favor and the nominations were approved.

Congratulations to the new SACPIE Chair and Vice Chair.

9:32am Updates from the State Board of Education (Rhonda Solis)

The State Board just had the annual retreat and Rhonda is excited for the work they are doing and continue to do to support our students and families in Colorado.

9:33am Colorado's Accountability System Presentation (Lisa Medler)

The Department of Education is staffing the 1241 Task Force which SACPIE member Mark Sass also holds a seat. Lisa checked in with the level of knowledge on the accountability system. The majority of members were between 3-4 on a scale of 0-5. SACPIE members were given the opportunity to ask questions to Lisa. Questions from SACPIE members:

- When will stakeholders have an opportunity to participate with the 1241 task force
- What are upcoming changes to the accountability system
- What do other states look like and how do we compare
- Why is this important and why should parents care about the accountability system
- Are you looking at empowering SAC/DACs to be able to do more or have more leverage
- What are the lessons learned from states that are moving away from standardized testing type systems
- How do we make the accountability system applicable for Special Service Providers
- Rural districts that are unable to fill positions with teacher shortages- Will the task force take this into account when it comes to accountability changes
- Services provided and the amount of additional special needs being seen in education – specifically during the transition from PreK to K.
- How does local control impact the outcome of the 1241 Task Force suggestions

Mark Sass added the role and “shall” statements from the 1241 task force to clarify the role and scope of the task force.

Lisa provided an overview of the current accountability system and an outline of the timeframes. Lisa explained that the State Board voted to pause some of the new measures that were expected this fall: On-Track Growth and High Bar measures. There will still be reports released but with the changes in assessments, data concerns, and the efforts of the task force the official inclusion of these measures have been put on hold. Reintroduction of measures that were previously part of frameworks such as Science will take place this fall. Informational reports with this data were provided to districts in January. Attendance and Truancy is also being re-introduced for the Alternative Education Campuses.

Lisa talked through local accountability and how that plays into the state system and the work of the 1241 Task Force. Lisa presented the theory of action based on the flow of evaluation to assessment of needs and planning, implementation, and intervening as necessary. Lisa was asked if the state intervenes based on predictions or leading indicators that could lead to poor performance or prior to the forced intervention. Lisa described the interest of the department to pursue this type of proactive system but struggles with the infrastructure and the grants and funding are based on the assignment of priority improvement and similar ratings.

Lisa explained the many layers of the accountability system and that it is more than just the performance ratings to include: public reporting, improvement planning, public engagement, supports and intervention, accreditation, and awards.

SACPIE question on how the scope of awards and the awareness of awards could be expanded and more schools with broader demographics could have more opportunities for awards. Lisa confirmed there are efforts to expand those and this is also something that the Task Force has considered. SACPIE member described being a school leader for a decade and isn't aware of the awards. Lisa agreed and that the comment highlighted the needed expansion with the awards. SACPIE member asked how awards can be created and assigned based on the response to the newcomers that are being integrated to our school systems. Lisa clarified that most awards are based on statute and that there are not currently awards that would address this. Lisa also suggested that some of the promising practices are being looked at as a way to highlight some of these bright spots. SACPIE member also commented that awards do not only have to come from the state and that some districts have awards and pro-active practices that can take place prior to schools arriving on the clock.

SACPIE members asked how they can advocate and push for improvement with some of these practices. Lisa explained that the Task Force is working hard and they are working getting to the recommendation phase but are not there quite yet. Their goal is that they will seek stakeholder feedback in the coming months. Mark Sass agreed that in the coming months the Task Force will be seeking input from students, parents, superintendents etc. Mark suggested going to the 1241 website to make sure that individuals understand where the task force is and what has been covered. It is important to know what is in the purview of the task force and what is not. The task force will be looking for feedback on the mid term report coming out in March. The task force is also looking at what other states are doing and have considered those comparisons. SACPIE member asked how to push into specific items such as ECE with the Task Force. Mark suggested to connect with individuals on the task force and that the voice of this groups is important to support the bigger picture view versus the details. Lisa and Mark also suggested working on connections with other groups that may have input with the task force.

Lisa addressed the question of why accountability is important. Mark described the key thought of "What do we want to be true of public education in Colorado" and the idea of coming up with a system that may influence the federal system and the re-do of ESSA while balancing both of those ideas with scope of the legislation.

Darcy and Lisa requested that the SAC/DAC representatives on SACPIE submit promising practices to ensure those are captured.

10:30 – 10:45 am Break

10:45 District Profile Reports Feedback (Jewell Sale)

Jewell is from the Office of Student Engagement and Dropout Prevention at CDE.

Jewell provided an outline on recent discipline bills that have passed in legislature to include HB 23-1291, SB 23-029 and HB 22-1376. HB 22-1376 is the bill we will be focusing on today with requires the district profile reports. This bill also provided guidance and supported consistency on data reporting to CDE. The bill requires disaggregated data by student groups on gender, grade, disability, ell, FRL, and homelessness. Jewell reviewed the 10 required measures mandated in the reports ie chronic absenteeism, suspensions, school related arrests, physical restraints, climate surveys etc.

SACPIE member asked the question on the purpose of this data collection. Jewell explained that the monitor of the data varies district by district and the overall goal is to have the data all in one place to

drive improved learning environments.

Jewell provided the timeline on how the new discipline collection will be provided. The bill mandates that in August of 2024 the reports will be published.

SACPIE member asked the question of how student privacy is protected. Jewell stated that suppression rules will still apply to this data and student privacy was highly considered when this bill was introduced.

Jewell shared a JamBoard in which SACPIE members can share feedback on the visuals and presentation of the discipline data profile reports as they will appear on the website. Specific questions were presented to consider with feedback ie what was helpful, what descriptors are necessary etc.

SACPIE members voiced concern with districts having different behavior matrix's on what behaviors are labeled bullying in one district may be detrimental in another. Jewell stated this is a concern they have heard previously and are looking at ways to address and understand what is within the state's purview to mandate.

SACPIE members broke into small groups to review the dashboard and provide feedback via the JamBoard.

11:38am: SACPIE Resource Sharing and Updates

Angie shared her work with the DAC in Douglas County. Angie has shared the importance of family engagement and how it impacts students with Douglas County and the DAC. SACPIE members asked how to get the presentations and learn from Angie's work. Angie offered to facilitate a meeting with those who also represent SAC/DACs.

Twyla shared an update from the department of higher ed. They have been heavily involved with FASFA which launched 12/31. There have been some bumps with FASFA and there have been some delays through mid-March. CDHE reaching out to train educators on FAFSA. Hosting a CAFSA/FAFSA block party this weekend – need more students to come, can get help filling out the CAFSA/FAFSA. Having another one on March 16th in Pueblo. CAFSA/FAFSA lunch and learns are the third Weds of each month – give updates and record.

Beth shared on the Parents Encouraging Parents conference in Grand Junction in May – this conference is currently on a waitlist. There is also one on April 4th which is specifically set up for Spanish speakers. There will be translation available. Beth explained the audience for PEP is mainly for parents of students with disabilities or those supporting students with disabilities.

Mary is doing a day long training with Jalisa Soto, Power of Culture Validation and Working with Newcomers and Refugees. Provides clinics for undocumented families.

Mark requested someone presents to SACPIE on the School Finance Report and funding changes in our May meeting.

Ami – PTA has a lot going on at the legislature, presented on 22 bills. Recently had a webinar on electric school buses along with Mountain Mamas because there are federal grants right now to get electric

school buses into districts. Annual convention is in April and they have a lot of exhibitor space if any SACPIE members would like to have an exhibition. PTA has been monitoring the Accountability Taskforce.

Jess Welch shared that she does a training specific for SACs on understanding what a UIP is using family-friendly language. She created an assessment resource to help SACs with guiding questions to ask.

Laura has a free, virtual training available through CEI (partnering with CDE) on meaningful career conversations – anyone can attend.

Liz shared that she has spoken with a lot of the DACs in her region and has been surprised by the number of people who don't understand what a SAC or a DAC is supposed to do. Would like this information to inform SACPIE's conversation on goals for next year.

12:00 – 12:45pm Lunch

Discuss with the people around you what goals you'd like to achieve (individually and/or collectively) as a SACPIE member in 2024.

12:45pm Statewide Family Engagement Center Updates

As of today and moving forward we will have updates at SACPIE from both of the grants that fund the two Colorado Family Engagement Centers

Kate Garbin, with the Keystone Policy Center gave an update on the grant award in Oct 2023. They are bringing together a group of national experts to dive into community engagement in Colorado. They are working with numerous partners in Colorado to be able to support districts, schools and families. In the next quarter a website will be launched for engagement for statewide resources. This will continue to be built out over time as this is a five-year grant. This will also provide more resources directly to families. Kate is looking to SACPIE for support and advice on district recruitment to help and support high impact family engagement policies and practice within a community. Specifically, they are looking for communities that are ready and mainly rural districts. They will be starting the nomination process the last week of February and making calls to districts in March. The grant did call out schools in the turn around network. They are also creating a project steering committee to give input and feedback into the statewide resource bank.

Laura Harney provided an update on the grant funding the second statewide family engagement center. This grant from Colorado Education Initiative was awarded eight months prior to the new grant. CEI is working on developing capacity with families and school districts. CEI is focused on the staff side and is partnering with agencies to work on the district side. They are working with Alamosa, Greeley, Mesa, and Denver. They are convening district conference style to build capacities. They are looking at a convening in Aurora and Yampah Valley with a focus on home visits in the Yampah valley. They are also considering a virtual convening modeled after the Ohio engagement center that had great success with a statewide virtual convening. This grant also required a website which is in the works – there will be two Colorado family engagement center websites. This will be less of a resource hub and more of a point to for other resources.

Darcy is working to pull together both grants quarterly to ensure they are not duplicative and can work together.

1:10pm CDE Update (Darcy Hutchins and Jess Stroope)

The SACPIE annual report is available online and the link was shared with SACPIE members.

Darcy shared on the recent FSCP Leadership Think Tank that took place in January. This was an event with direct invites to districts that are currently working with the FSCP office and working through the rubrics. There were 13 districts in attendance and 25 people. The feedback received has been really positive on the collaborative time and the ability to learn from other districts both big and small.

Darcy described the 3 learning cohorts that are being supported by the FSCP office. The high school learning cohort is in the process of learning to write and implement a plan. This is the second year of this cohort and it is going really well. The highly mobile youth learning cohort is being supported along with other offices working with foster and similar population youth. Jess is excited to learn from this group and how to use the ideas stemming from this group and the populations they focus on. The principal learning cohort just started and Darcy will share more as that cohort continues to work together.

Darcy presented at an all-staff PD in Trinidad last week.

Promising Partnership Practices is a rolling submission and is a great resource.

Darcy and Jess gave SACPIE a huge thank you on their recent support on the survey for parents and teachers.

NAFSCE has recommended Colorado to be the future piece on an EdWeek article on Family Engagement. They will shadow DPS a bit to display home visits and resource hubs. They will also be looking to interview SACPIE. Darcy will provide more information as it become available.

Darcy shared on the ongoing reauthorization process for SACPIE. DORA has recommended the reauthorization for SACPIE. Mark Sass continues to keep an eye on when it will be in committee and when it will be available for people to testify on behalf of the work. The State Board of Education has two members who serve on the legislative contact committee. They have both stated they would monitor the reauthorization of SACPIE. In 2009 the bill for SACPIE included an FSCP grant program. This has not been funded to this point. This is not likely to happen with the current reauthorization but it could be something to look at in the future. This is HB24-1255 for the reauthorization so that people can choose to follow the bill. If SACPIE is reauthorized this year it is not up for sunset again but is approved on an permanent basis.

1:40pm – SACPIE Goals for 2024

SACPIE members shared goals on the JamBoard both individually and collectively to include:

- Authorizing SACPIE without a sunset in the legislature
- How do parent representatives reach out to DACs in the school districts within their congressional district.
 - Developing tools on family engagement to bring to these committees.
 - Elevating parent voice within those committees
 - Meeting as a SACPIE sub-committee of parents
- SACPIE be the go-to organization for parent stakeholder engagement in the state
- Develop specific asks and specific things to bring to the State Board.

- Formalized sub-committee format for SACPIE to push work between formal meetings.

1:55pm Closing

Reminder that members must attend at least three meetings per year. The upcoming meetings are:

May 7, 2024

August 13, 2024

November 19, 2024

February 11, 2025

2:00pm Meeting Adjourned