

Board of Education

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Board Work Session Minutes

June 7, 2016

Work Session Minutes

A - Doug Levinson
 B - Paul Pitton
 C - John Williams
 D - Tom Parrish
 E - Greg Mikolai

Board of Education
Mesa County Valley School District 51
 Work Session Meeting Minutes: June 7, 2016
 Adopted: August 16, 2016

		A	B	C	D	E		
							AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
Present	x	x	x	x	x	x	<u>ROLL CALL</u>	6:00 p.m.
Absent								
							<u>BUDGET HEARING</u>	
							I. Call to Order	
							➤ Mr. Williams called the Budget Hearing to order. He asked for budget comments on the 2016-2017 budget. There were no comments.	
Motion						x	II. Adjourn 6:03 p.m.	
Second			x					
Aye	x	x	x	x	x	x		
No								
							<u>WORK SESSION</u>	
							A. Success of Pathways	
							➤ Mrs. Cathy Ebel, Preventions Services Coordinator and Mr. Cody Rorke, an assistant with the program, presented a PowerPoint presentation to the Board. The coordinator for the program, Ms. Amy Ashcraft, was unable to attend the meeting.	
							➤ Mrs. Ebel reviewed how the Pathways program was developed as an on-site program to look at the issues behind substance use and to help students make better decisions. She explained the grants put in place to fund the programs, and the need to develop a second program, Pathways II. Pathways is a five day program housed at the Basil T. Knight Center for middle and high school students who violate the District's alcohol use/drug abuse policy. The Pathways II Program was initiated this year for students who attended the Pathways Program and reoffended. The Pathways II Program follows a three day suspension and requires students to sign a contract agreeing to submit to random urinalysis, maintain good attendance at school, join a monitored pro-social activity and fulfill law enforcement requirements, if applicable.	
							➤ Mr. Rorke shared how the structure of the programs were developed and gave an overview of the daily curriculum presented to students during the Pathways five day program, and supports offered in the Pathways II Program. The programs are designed to help students make changes in their lives, make better choices and learn coping skills.	
							➤ Mrs. Ebel and Mr. Rorke answered questions from the Board concerning the number of students served over the past two years, the number of repeat offenders and speculation on future funding for the programs.	
							B. District Accountability Committee (DAC)	
							➤ Mr. Tony Giurado, Chief Academic Officer, Mrs. Jess Mulvey, DAC Co-chair, Mr. Andy Nikkari, DAC Co-chair and Mrs. Susana Wittrock, Executive Director of Advocate/Outreach were present. Mr. Giurado briefed the Board on the five areas of major improvement in which schools are working on, based on information gathered from the Unified Improvement Plan Review. The five areas are:	

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AGENDA ITEMS **ACTION**

- ❖ Responsive Instruction – The way teachers anticipate and respond to the classroom needs, teacher training, developing structures to work together and the leveraging of resources in the building.
- ❖ Alignment – Alignment of curriculum within the schools and at the district level, having all schools aligned with state standards, and making sure progression is aligned with resources.
- ❖ Learning Communities – The ongoing process of educators working to achieve better results through educator trainings, having time for teachers to collaborate and problem solve to improve instructional practices.
- ❖ Systemic Practices – Focusing on training to develop teacher skills and implementing effective instructional practices.
- ❖ Social and Emotional Learnings – Acquire and effectively apply knowledge, attitude and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve goals, maintain positive relationships and make responsible decisions.

- Mr. Nikkari and Mrs. Mulvey reviewed the recommendations proposed by DAC. Recommendations included making parents and the community aware of the need to go from letter grades to social and emotional learning and receive the communities support to continue with, and expand, Performance Based Learning. DAC recommended the school District seek additional revenue through a bond issue to get the needed resources to build 21st century classrooms.
- Discussion took place with the Board concerning the need for community support, the need to keep alternative programs available, add additional alternative programs for the middle school level students and recruit greater parent involvement. Suggestions were made for letters to be written to the State Board of Education requesting flexibility in testing, requesting the Mesa County library choose “Habits of Mind” as the next One Book One Mesa County, find better ways to communicate the District’s needs to staff and the community, and make parents feel accountable, as a partner in their student’s education.
- Mrs. Wittrock reported on the DAC Parent Involvement Subcommittee’s work. The subcommittee surveyed parents at two elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. The survey showed generally parents were happy. She shared the subcommittee’s thoughts on forming a separate committee, in order to expand a survey to include not only parents but also community members.
- DAC members answered questions from the Board concerning a second committee, the need to continue with the DAC Parent Involvement subcommittee, as it is a requirement of DAC, and looking at what other districts have in place which would be beneficial in engaging parents and the community.

[Mr. Williams called for a break at 7:55 p.m. Meeting resumed at 7:58 p.m.]

C. Graduation Certification of Bi-literacy

- Mrs. Irene Almond, ELL Coordinator, Mr. Matt Diers, Executive Director of High Schools, and Mr. Jim Butterfield, Principal Bookcliff Middle School were present.
- Mrs. Almond handed out a brochure and support material to the Board for a

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					<p>Certificate of Bi-literacy Program which would certify students, at the end of their fifth, eighth and twelve grades years, for attaining proficiency in English and one other language. To receive the certification students would have to preform high on assessments, and perform community service using both languages, equally. Mrs. Almond explain the history of the program, which is currently being implemented in Eagle, Adams and Denver Public School Districts. District 51 staff worked to create the criteria and testing to customize a program for District 51 students who could receive certification using Spanish, French or American Sign Language as their second language. The certification would be an additional endorsement for students when applying for a job, scholarship or on a college application. The Board asked for the committee to bring forward a resolution to implement the program.</p> <p>D. Adjournment: 8:20 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: right; margin-right: 100px;"> <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> Bridget Story, Assistant Secretary Board of Education </p>	<p>Meeting Adjourned</p>