District Accountability/Accreditation Committee Meeting Notes
January 9, 2012
Peakview School Cafeteria
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

I. Budget Update

a. The district budget must be finalized by 1/31/12 and will go to the school board on the 24th of January, 2012.
b. Any comments, suggestions, or questions concerning the budget should be directed to Jackie at the district office either by phone or e-mail.
c. Jackie was repeatedly commended for her hard work and outstanding job creating a balanced and conservative budget.

II. UIP Update (Unified Improvement Plan)

a. The TDIP grant required a "scrubbed UIP" (a UIP without any indentifying information) and this was distributed to the DAAC.
b. The first section of the UIP is "pre-populated" and these are similar to a school report card.
    i. Are we meeting sate and federal expectations and in what areas are we falling short.
c. The data starting on page 6 of the UIP was complied using student achievement, root causes and CADI visits.
d. Page 22 of the UIP is the Action Plan section. This outlines what we must do in order to meet future achievement goals.
e. Page 34 of the UIP is the Major Improvement Strategies section. For this we will work closely with the TDIP team to "calendar out" trainings designed to improve student achievement.
f. Does the UIP address the need to prepare students for college/life after high school?
    i. The UIP shows that we have been improving with our overall drop-out rate.

ii. As a district we need to take a closer look at our ACT scores to see where we need to improve.

III. School Accountability Committee Reports (SAAC)

a. Peakview School:
   i. SAAC meeting will be held Thursday (1/12/12)
   ii. The SAAC will address student moral, school spirit, and bullying issues.
b. Gardner School:
   i. A PTSA (parent/teacher/student/association) meeting is held the last Wednesday of every month.
   ii. Gardner is currently working on their "Voices of the Past" interviews which have proven to be an effective method of getting parents, students and the community involved.
c. John Mall High School:
   i. SAAC meeting will be held 1/18/12.
   ii. JMHS has added the 21st Century Grant to their group, including career exploration.

IV. Strategic Plan

a. A subcommittee has been formed to work on updating and revising the "Huerfano School District Re-1 Strategic Plan."
b. A copy of the plan was distributed to the DAAC and members are encouraged to give their thoughts and suggestions to the school board president.
c. The original plan took 18 months to complete, but "fell between the cracks" for a variety of reasons:
   i. The departure of Mr. Gray and Mrs. Vader.
   ii. The original document was a "working copy" and never taken before the school board.
   iii. There was not access to a network server at the time, so the original was kept by certain people.

V. TDIP Updates

a. The work with TDIP is a process of change and we are at a critical point with the state of Colorado.

b. An all staff meeting was held on Monday, January 2nd and the school board met later that same night where a copy of the letter from the Colorado Department of Education was provided to all in attendance.
c. TDIP committee meetings and DAAC meetings are currently being held to ensure that action steps are clearer and followed through with.
d. CDE is concerned with staff participation in the TDIP trainings. Overall staff participation has ranged from 31%-85% depending on how you count potential participants. (Some staff members are part time or on a limited day PERA/retirement contract.)
    i. Trainings are held on Friday's, they are not mandatory, and teachers that attend are provided a stipend.
e. An online survey has been distributed by Teresa England in an effort to see when training times will be the most convenient and what type of training content will most benefit teachers.
    i. This survey data will be analyzed on Thursday, January 12th.
f. TDIP has allotted Huerfano School District Re-1 $500,000 over a three year period.
g. The major TDIP measure of success is student test scores.
h. A Math vertical alignment meeting will be held next Friday. This meeting has been met with enthusiasm by Peakview, Gardner, and John Mall teachers.
i. Mr. McDonalds Impression:
    i. Differentiation of instruction trainings is a "one shoe fits all style." This can be both good and bad for teachers.
j. TDIP Issues:
    i. In an effort to adjust to changes that came about during July and August after extensive spring and

end of year planning, scheduling, and budgeting, the TDIP budget was delayed in the early fall. (Dawn takes responsibility for this).

ii. We have a list of expectations to meet for CDE that will be provided to Becky by the end of this month.

k. TDIP Communication Needs:

i. Better use of technology, updated district calendar, and more PR work.

l. Updated Website:

i. The district website needs to be updated to include TDIP information and progress. This will be followed up on next week and several DAAC members want to see TDIP information posted on the district website by the next meeting.

ii. There needs to be people at each school who are designated to update and post onto their schools website.

VI. Parent/Community Involvement

a. The Huerfano County Journal has been posting on Facebook asking what types of activities or events parents and other citizens would like to participate in with the schools.

b. By using Facebook the Huerfano County Journal can get little bits of information out to the community (TDIP, DAAC, NWEA, etc.)

c. Example: There was a rumor going around that the JMHS library was throwing away all of their books. This was cleared up to say that, yes the library is closed, but the books are still being used by students and staff.

d. The Huerfano County Journal needs more teacher/student feedback concerning when positive things are happening. The Journal can come to the school and post the information on Facebook and in their print edition.

e. We want to see a partnership with the community in terms of character education.

i. "Word of the Month"
ii. This would be district wide in all schools, and the staff is very excited about this possibility.
iii. This would help to bring the community together on a common goal.
iv. The "Word of the Month" would be displayed within schools and on the community (Fox Theater Marque, Word Walls, car windows)

f. Gardner School does "Monday Nesting" which is as all school meeting where they discuss citizenship, handout awards and have teachers present information.
    i. This is an example of something that works well and helps motivate students.

VII. Colorado Preschool Program Update (CPP)

a. Gardner currently has 13 students enrolled in their CPP. They are working on changes between winter and spring, positional words, and the letter "S".
b. Peakview currently has 15 students enrolled in their CPP.
c. Both Gardner and Peakview also need volunteers to complete a survey before the April 2012 grant writing deadline.

VIII. Other/Open Discussion

a. Discipline at Peakview:
    i. The 7th and 8th grade has moved to a more regimented system that seems to be working.
b. A Discipline Report would be helpful for all district meetings (DAAC, School Board, and SAAC).
c. Social/Emotional classes with Jonathan James have been helpful in improving student behavior and decrease discipline issues.
d. Currently at Peakview their top priority is on stopping/preventing bullying.

IX. Next DAAC Meeting Date

a. TBA