

**Steamboat Springs School District  
District Accountability Committee Minutes**

Wednesday, May 13, 2026  
District Office Downstairs Meeting Room  
325 7th Street

| School       | Presenter                      | Notes  |
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| Introduction | Dr. Celine Wicks               | Today's Focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Final DAC Meeting of 25/26</li> <li>+ Projection of Final Budget/Staffing</li> <li>+ EFB Concerns for Future</li> <li>+ End of Year Celebrations</li> <li>+ Recruitment of new SAC members / new chairs?</li> </ul>  |
| SPE          | Jennifer Mack<br>Erin Benderly | Celebrations:<br>Heather Overstake's Sabbatical to Finland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Focus on independence, art and has come back with small things to implement including handwriting/handiwork, no tech. Foundational skills until 3rd grade and multi-lingual until 6th. Staff presentation happening during our PD day.</li> </ul> Math Club <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Every Wednesday. K-5-consistent group-lots of parent engagement. We will start the year with it again. There has been some discussion about changing the location but will keep the cafeteria for now. Maybe consider doing a math night next year with the help of PIC.</li> </ul> Staffing Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enrollment is down Nationwide</li> <li>- 294 -as of right now this is our enrollment for next year</li> </ul> |

- Kinder-2 classes: Next Friday is screening (31ish)
- First- 2 classes: Hensley, Draper
- Second- 3 classes: Kelly, Maki, Drielling
- Third- 2 classes: Maki, Bellamy
- Fourth- 3 classes: Mac, Hahn, Weeks (Neely leaving) (Maki paternity leave)
- Fifth- 3 classes: Clark, Colon, Abalos
- 2 grades will be losing a classroom plus literacy coach needing to be absorbed into the district

-Heineman is traveling to London for higher education so she will not be here next year

-Budget was cut a little again going into next year

-How will this affect specials: World Cultures position open?

-Tech? There was talk about not being able to continue with 1:1 tech/student ration because tech prices are going up

Pirates 2/History Colorado Plays  
(We did not get the Equity in the Arts Grant). We need to find a way to raise money to continue this work.

**Library Renovation this summer:  
Parent Volunteers Needed!**

**-new carpet, ceiling tiles, desk**

EOY: Jaime Passchier !

5th grade trip and fundraising: May 16 at ACE (August reserve date as well)

-Interventionist, Building Sub, SPED and Paras will stay the same: Kerri Ann Crocker moving on: New SPED case manager

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|     |                          | <p>Para numbers will go from 5 to 6</p> <p><b>Math club!</b></p> <p>Performing arts - working with Mr. Baker and Mrs. Sommerfeld</p> <p>Battle of the Books- YAY!</p> <p>ELG- we have already made our mid year goals</p> <p>Essential skills work has been going well</p> <p>We have applied for a supplemental grant for ELG- how can we continue some work with STRIVE. We are working hard with a wrap up plan with STRIVE as the ELG ends</p> <p>High parent engagement - how can we build diversity with this?</p> <p>Monthly Friday Community meetings- the SHINE cards are successful and the kids love them</p> <p>Our students are very well supported in all areas</p> <p>Kid talks! Every Friday is a new PLC- intervention, EB or Kid Talks</p> <p>Next Year: Silverware is in use starting next year. We re-organized our schedule to make this happen.</p> |
| SCE | Amy Bohmer<br>Sarah Burg | <p>Celebrations</p> <p>Erin Early, Educator of the Year</p> <p>Continued improvement in Reading (HMH Implementation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PLC work and Data Protocols - especially in writing (decrease in read plans, 39 students - down from 51 last year.</li> <li>• Essential Skills in Math - moved toward student understanding</li> <li>• 4th and 5th grade adoption of new reading curriculum</li> <li>• Increased parent involvement - ADHD night, Math night</li> </ul> <p>Considerations for improvements for next year:</p>   |

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|     |                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Book Club option with an optional author visit geared towards things that would be good for parents - adhd (inspiration), the phone book, screen time, etc.</li> <li>• Continuing the work on Essential Skills into other content areas</li> <li>• April was great for math night- if we could do a Reading night in November that would be great- maybe essential skills related?</li> </ul> <p>From PIC's perspective, we would love to be more aligned on our messaging out to parents when we partner with them to support students - field trips, etc.</p> <p>Concern to keep in mind moving into the 26/27 SY<br/>Soda Creek's current third-grade class includes 75 students with an unusually high concentration of needs. Those needs identified by the school counselor are academic and social-emotional needs. <b><u>Nearly half of the students (43%) require significant support services,</u></b> and 30% are already receiving intervention due to being below grade level. Without an additional classroom next year, fourth-grade class sizes could reach levels that make it difficult to provide the individualized instruction and support these students require. Creating a fourth fourth-grade section would allow the school to maintain appropriate class sizes and ensure students receive the targeted support necessary to close learning gaps and continue progressing.</p> <p>There will be a new teacher rep on SAC next year.</p> |
| SGS | Jacy Rock<br>Elissa Chapman | <p><b>End-of-Year Celebrations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Excited to see the end of year data and review as an SAC, but preliminary information is</li> </ul>   |

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|  |  | <p>strong.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Completed a full year of Instructional Playbook implementation across all grade levels. Teachers are using a shared instructional language in a way they weren't a year ago.</li><li>• Teacher Appreciation Week generated meaningful family engagement across the school. The Taco Truck was a big hit!</li><li>• Elissa Chapman was selected as SGS Teacher of the Year. She is also a Colorado Educator of the Year nominee.</li><li>• It was a big few months for performances and community events: 4th grade put on a Colorado History performance, students collaborated with Strings to write and perform original songs, and the Drama Club performed The Wizard of Oz. Our 2nd grade held a Mother's Day Tea, and kindergartners showed up to Career Day dressed for the job, while 3-5 had a career fair with people from different career clusters presenting.</li><li>• Completed the Gift of Failure book study as part of ongoing investment in family partnerships around student development.</li></ul> <p><b>Budget and Staffing — Heading into 26/27</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grateful that SGS will have two preschool classrooms next year. Strong enrollment made that possible. It matters for our youngest learners and their families.</li><li>• This year, SGS also faced a</li></ul> |
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|  |  | <p>difficult choice between protecting instructional staffing and keeping a counselor. This position was funded through the Colorado School Counseling Corps Grant. To keep two counselors like other schools in the district position, we effectively had to again reduce in our middle school specials program. We feel there should be a "floor" of counseling positions so that schools do not need to choose between student mental health and robust program offerings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Middle school staffing is being reduced from 6 to 5 teachers. The SGS team spent time redesigning the schedule to protect student access to core academics, specials, Spanish, Band, and daily WIN time.</li><li>● Continue to be concerned that reductions of this magnitude at a K-8 school disproportionately affect middle school programming and SGS. Moving from six to five teachers required significant schedule redesign to protect that access, and we are operating with very little margin. Any more reductions put the program itself at risk. SGS looks forward to a further conversation around boundaries.</li><li>● To that end, middle school teachers voluntarily stayed late to meet with incoming 6th grade families, walk them through the new schedule, and answer hard questions. The response from families was overwhelmingly positive.</li><li>● Two positions remain open: Biliteracy Teacher and SPED Teacher. Recruitment is</li></ul> |
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|      |                                | active.   |
| SSMS | Megan Scannell<br>Torey Wodnik | <p>8th Grade Transitions (ongoing)</p> <p>Raft Trip</p> <p>Band/Choir Concerts</p> <p>John Irwin Award - Great Accomplishment!</p> <p>TLCC Results - great participation -huge amount of growth in most categories</p> <p>Torey is moving on to SSHS; no chair named yet.</p> <p>On the radar.... More staffing than usual for next year. Internal moves. Strong candidates</p>   |
| YVHS | Kristyl Boies                  | <p><b><u>Vote for new chair</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Tabled, 2 parents and 1 community member missing (will likely do this upon return to school year)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Recruit new members--plan</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Reach out to parents who understand the school's impact</li> </ul> <p><b><u>YVHS Celebrations for 2025-26</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Getting the word out: Marketing (fliers, podcast, commercial opener at Wildhorse), open house, communication with secondary counselors →deeper awareness of YVHS and opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 3 new students in Q4</li> <li>○ Some tours and potential applicants for fall</li> <li>○ (Still not replacing the number graduating, but</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

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|  |  | <p>we expect more applicants at end of summer or early fall)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Fitness grant &amp; health class<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Some students had never been in a gym before</li><li>○ Exercise and swim classes</li><li>○ Nutrition lessons and cooking</li><li>○ 5K finale</li><li>○ After SAC: student survey results</li></ul></li><li>- At least half use gym beyond health class</li><li>- 67% report positive impact to physical health</li><li>- Several expressed gratitude for the opportunity, enjoyed working out with teachers</li><li>- 63% report positive impact to mental health</li><li>- Social and learning benefits, opportunity to connect with others</li><li>- “Peaceful feeling” from the gym</li><li>- 71% rated strong benefit of our outside instructors for nutrition, fitness goals</li><li>- 88% rated strong benefit to receiving apparel and accessories</li><li>● Academics<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ EASI grant with continued work from diagnostic review (common instructional framework)</li><li>○ Project-Based Learning (PBL)--end-of-year PBL</li></ul></li><li>- Physics &amp; economics with community of experts (Mars</li></ul> |
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|      |                   | <p>Rover engineer, published astronomer, astrophysicist)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Museum and planetarium</li> <li>- Great work by students; opportunity to work on group</li> <li>- Conference in California→moving to more of a daily practice</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Parent Conferences -- 100% for in-person and transformation celebrations</li> <li>● Climate and culture of students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Relationships</li> </ul> </li> <li>● PIC! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Official, with 501(c)3</li> <li>○ Staff appreciation</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Educator of the Year nominee Garret S.!</li> </ul>   |
| SSHS | Kelly Vanderbosch | <p>Substance Abuse Prevention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Coordinator grant funded, ends at the end of next year</li> <li>- Partnered w/SRO; Routt County Tobacco Coalition, other community partners</li> <li>- Discussion about earlier programming</li> </ul> <p>Mental Health - focus in anchor periods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cell phone / Screen time plans</li> <li>- Mental Health Wellness Day... huge success</li> </ul> <p>Climate &amp; Culture.... Not just about academics, whole student</p> <p>Multi Lingual Student Programming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More students applying for Seal of Biliteracy Seal</li> <li>- Parent Rep who is multilingual stated that the admin ALWAYS listen</li> </ul> <p>Increased Parent Engagement</p> <p>Reviewed Parent Engagement Policy</p> |

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|                         |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PIC went away for a while but is becoming more active</li> <li>- Admin feel supported by parents</li> <li>- Parent involvement in Curriculum Committee</li> <li>- Changes made to academic lettering, Parents felt heard</li> </ul> <p>Improvement... diversify parents involved with SAC &amp; PIC; open opportunities for parents feeling more comfortable to “see something, say something.” Need more avenues to disclose and feel safe.</p>  |
| <p>District / Board</p> | <p>Dr. Celine Wicks<br/> Dr. Tim Ridder<br/> Stephanie Juneau<br/> Jane Toothaker</p> | <p>Enrollment Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The last of the classes over 200 are currently at SSHS.</li> <li>- All classes entering SSHS for next four years are averaging 190 or less.</li> <li>- All classes below that are averaging around 130/class.</li> <li>- This is something to keep in mind for future budget planning.</li> <li>- We anticipate all elementary grade levels at SCE and SPE will be down to two sections instead of three in the next few years.</li> </ul> <p>Education Fund Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Please keep an eye on EFB information on a monthly basis.</li> <li>- Currently EFB funding is down 5% per month. This is due to the less than ideal winter Steamboat Springs had. Lodging took the biggest hit. This decline directly impacted EFB funding.</li> <li>- If we have a better winter next year, we anticipate funding to</li> </ul> |

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|  |  | <p>rebound.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- This is Dr. Wicks' last DAC meeting. Also, Carol Sehnert will step down as the DAC Chair. Kristin Drury will need to find a new DAC Chair at the beginning of next school year.</li></ul> |
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