

Minutes for Hope Online School Accountability Committee Meeting

October 13, 2008 6:30 pm

Conference Call # 1-866-476-8702, participant code 765421#

The meeting convened at 6:30 pm on October 13 via conference call. Attendees included:

Steve Boston

Margo Branscomb

Joyce Gietl

Paula Arduini

Ervan Martinez

Guest, Gigi Hill

General Business:

Joyce Gietl informed the group that SAC Bylaws would be drawn up and circulated to the members for the next meeting. It will be necessary for the committee to formally approve and adopt bylaws for the organization, per state statute and Douglas County requirements. Open meeting laws apply to the SAC committee and will include posting of the meetings on the Hope Online website. The following 2008/2009 meeting dates were agreed upon: 10/13, 1/12, 3/16, 5/11. Everyone agreed that conference calls were the most convenient meeting method, but with enough notice, a face to face meeting could be planned.

The committee was asked for suggestions regarding how it could conduct an election of parent members, as directed by state statute. The suggestions included soliciting nominations with a blank ballot and asking the Learning Centers to provide their input. Concern was expressed that the larger Learning Centers might dominate the election results.

Student Achievement:

Committee members were informed that the 07/08 Hope CSAP results could be accessed at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/>.

Free and reduced lunch at Hope Online has begun on a small scale despite difficult obstacles presented by the state. Cherry Creek Online is the first center to offer free and reduced lunch. The plan is to open 5-6 more centers during the fall semester—those with existing USDA-approved kitchens. Ten centers are anticipated to open during second semester. Those will be determined by level of need.

Current Demographics and Student Affairs:

The 08/09 Student Profile and Learning Center Profile were sent to committee members electronically and discussion was opened. No questions were asked.

Joyce Gietl described the Learning Center Certification process and the quality standards that Hope Online and Douglas County require for Learning Centers to be approved and renewed.

Gigi Hill, Hope Discipline and Attendance Coordinator, gave an update on 08/09 attendance and safety procedures at Hope Online Learning Centers. Her discussion included the policies and procedures that Hope has in place, attendance contracts, community support resources, and the special challenges that the student population presents in the areas of discipline and attendance and some of the strategies employed to meet those challenges.

The committee was asked to think about goal setting for safety in the Hope Online Learning Centers. A police officer visit was suggested.

#### Budget:

Committee members were informed that Hope Online is actively seeking grants to augment the shortfall in this year's budget due to lower than anticipated enrollments. 2008/09 grants received include a 35K private grant + a matching 5K corporate grant designated for technology. This is the first year Hope Online will receive an eRate discount for technology utilized in the Hope Online main office. It should be understood that this is not a grant, but a discount of equipment/services provided by telephone and internet service providers.

A revised budget with the actual October student count will be presented to the Board next month, then to the Douglas County School Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

## AGENDA

### General Business

1. SAC Bylaws
2. Parent members—election
3. Teacher election
4. Open meeting laws
5. Meeting Dates

### Student Achievement

6. 07/08 CSAP results: CDE website, <http://www.cde.state.co.us/>
7. Free and reduced lunch update

## Current Demographics and Student Affairs

8. 08/09 Student Profile\*
9. 08/09 Learning Center Profile\*
10. Learning Center Certification Process
11. Update on 08/09 attendance and safety – Gigi Hill

## Budget

12. Update on 08/09 grants
13. Count results: potential funding
14. Revised Budget

## School Improvement Plan Review\*