

CSC Meeting Minutes

Denver Center for International Studies
DCIS
574 West 6th Avenue
Denver, CO 80204



Committee Members: (Please see the CSC meeting sign-in sheet for the attendee list)

2015-16

Date: 17 May 2016

Time: 4:30pm – 6:30pm (may extend to 7:30pm if needed)

Meeting Location: Melanie Grant Travel Center, Room #104

CSC Members:

Parents:

- Jason Sand (Chair) – jasonpsand@gmail.com - absent
- Karen Herbert – herbks@gmail.com - present
- Vivian Masket – vivian_masket@dpsk12.org - present
- Tanya Tribelhorn – tribelhorns@comcast.net - present

Staff Members:

- Theresa McCorquodale (Principal) – theresa_mccorquodale@dpsk12.org - present
- Sonia Burns – sonia_burns@dpsk12.org - present
- Caroline Kerswill – caroline_kerswill@dpsk12.org - present
- Jane Lineman – jane_lineman@dpsk12.org - present
- Adam Reiter – adam_reiter@dpsk12.org - present
- Miguel Urdiales – miguel_urdiales@dpsk12.org - absent

Students:

- Omar Flores – omarfrak@gmail.com - absent
- Camilla Green – campidgeon@me.com - present
- Gisselle Ortiz - futuredoctor17@gmail.com - present
- Eli Masket – emasket@comcast.net - present

DCIS Mission Statement

Denver Center for International Studies prepares students for college by developing multilingual, interculturally competent citizens who are actively involved in our rapidly changing world.

Committee Members: (Please see the CSC meeting sign-in sheet for the attendee list)

Agenda & Minutes

4:30 pm Call to order, welcome

4:30-5:05 pm Public Comment

- Questions about where DCIS would like to go with Innovation - there doesn't seem to be any steps currently, but there does seem to be interest in learning more. Schools seem to

have more flexibility in their decision - questions about what we may benefit from if we were to seek innovation status.

- Shared that some students don't know about CSC or other forums for students to share their voice - recommended that next year CSC put forth effort to better educate our students on how to share their voice, and what is the appropriate forum for doing so
- Student shared updates re: student forum. Guided questions were provided, and each advisement identified two reps to share feedback. Feedback indicated that a lot of students were looking to leaving DCIS for various reasons (across various grades), students didn't want to be with middle school students (likely from high schoolers), strong opinions about the potential changes with world languages, and concerns about teachers leaving (losing staff, retirement, staff turnover). Question about this information funneling outside of student council - not a current process. This year, information was shared with administration. There was a suggestion for students to better understand the process for sharing information, and what committees are the targets for specific types of information. Next year there will be an ambassador position that may be able to help with that process. Shared ways to funnel information and improve our communication among community members (e.g., club sponsors, teacher advocates, newspaper class, etc.).
- Student shared concerns on behalf of students re: taking AP Calc and AP Stats and the focus of college preparation. Some students do not feel like they are getting what they need, noted in the area of math and science. Pairing of course and teacher, rigor, and options were noted as concerns. Additional feedback indicated that some students are not connecting to the instruction being provided - lack of accessibility, connecting with content, differentiation. Students may be more willing to access a more rigorous course if they felt like they were more able to access the content in a supportive and instruction manner. There were also a concerns about the inconsistency of course offerings across years and the messaging to parents re: options (e.g., communication that goes home to parents re: course offerings and reason for selection).

5:05-6:15 pm

Agenda Items

- School Choice Letter
 - Vivian requested approval to pass on our letter to the Instructional Superintendent - all agreed on action step
- Part 2 of the Protocol re: 2016-17 Priorities
 - Guests were allowed to participate in the discussion. It was noted that if public is allowed to participate in full meeting, notice should be given to community to allow equity in participation.
 - Review of last work session provided to participants. Was noted that this issues should be opened up to a larger DCIS community for feedback. For tonight, the CSC is going to go through this process to narrow the recommendations for next year. Reviewed norms.
 - Core Problem = Budget is not sustainable (staffing, programming, and operations).
 - Shared out what we "want DCIS students to..." - compiled collective feedback and reflected on what resonated most - grouped frequently identified ideas - share out commonalities:
 - Global awareness
 - Travel

- Have access to rigor and resources
 - College ready
 - Take action (service)
 - Proficient in a world language
 - Be lifelong learners
 - Have an inclusive school community
 - Have school pride
- Problem-solved for potential action steps to address the core need - shared commonalities
 - Being intentional, purposeful, and consistent with the schedule
 - Being intentional, purposeful, and consistent with course offerings
 - Possible rotation of courses
 - Rethinking course offerings - out of the box options
 - Fundraising to sustain some operational costs or enrichment course offerings
 - University partnerships
- Concerns about low enrollment numbers for certain courses - especially in world language courses - stress that admin needs specific suggestions on how to address potential budget changes - concerns about incoming CSC members not having background information - proposal for a workgroup that may include current CSC and other community members to help determine next steps for next year's budget decisions
- Next year's CSC will continue this process
- End of the Year Evaluation for Principal by CSC
 - 2014-15 evaluation form was provided
 - Completed by CSC - to be passed on to Jason for a signature by the Chair of CSC, CSC Chair to review with principal, and forward evaluation to the Instructional Superintendent
- Share data for college enrollment (Theresa) - not shared

7:30-7:30 Action Items and Agenda Items for 16-17 Year
 ● None set

7:30 pm Conclusion and Depart
 ● No June Meeting

NOTE: All agendas are posted publically in a timely fashion on school's website and/or in a highly visible area in the building.