

CIVA School Accountability Committee
Minutes - 2 March 2015

A meeting of the CIVA School Accountability Committee was held at 5:30 PM on 2 March 2015, Keith Benson, Curtis Cook, Cyrie Dantzler, Bob Proctor, Stacy Richards and Alan Varin attending.

Dr. Cook explained that the SAC is a subcommittee of the board, required under Colorado statute. It is to make recommendations as to spending, school performance and related reporting, and implementation of strategic plans, in addition to whatever other endeavors it might choose.

The committee went on to discuss possible initiatives:

- The annual parent survey. Ideas for increasing response rate (advance notice sent home with students, making hard copy response possible, link to CIVA homepage) and for content were discussed. Some research into comparable surveys at other charters might be useful.
- Related to the survey as a matter of school climate, discussion turned to interior aesthetics and especially lighting. The committee might have some recommendations to the administration in this matter, to the goal of bringing out the best in students and making the school attractive to prospectives.
- The committee discussed how it might assess the annual budget and offer comment that is both useful and timely. Dr. Cook is to provide committee members with further information about this.
- Comment was made along these lines that the committee should be alert to ways the budget for material improvements could be linked to student preferences and in turn even to curriculum. (Might we seek a grant — say from Colorado Springs Utilities — to enable roof-mounted solar panels, with students calculating benefits and joining in the grant application?) Keith will explore including researching and drafting a grant as part of the National Honor Society focus during the 2015/2016 school year.

Next. Alan Varin agreed to chair the committee. While under statute the committee is required to meet only quarterly, involving the committee in the CIVA budget process may affect remaining springtime committee meeting dates. Therefore a next meeting date was not set at this time.