

CPA K-12 SAC Meeting

Notes for November 17, 2017

In attendance: Kathleen Kearney (MS Principal); Sheila Stevens (HS Principal); Sarah Schuchard (ES Principal); Nicole Tiley (Head of School); Kathryn Piotrowski; Emerald Zeitz (SAC Chair); Peg Berning (SAC Vice-Chair); Kathy Holden (SAC secretary); Brian Nufer; Christi Shelhamer; Daniel Berning; Heidi Nufer; Holly Gosa; Tiffany Montoya; Charlee; Catrina Lynn; Karen; Kimberly Winder;

At 1:08 p.m. the meeting was opened, new members were welcomed, and good things were shared.

CPA's Mission and Vision Statements were reviewed by all.

Our SAC @ CPA goals include: accountability; responsibility; support; guidance; and collaboration.

SPF and UIP Review

Nicole Tiley reviewed CPA's SPF (School Performance Framework) for 2017

- **SPF Overview:** CPA is in Priority Improvement status due to low participation on state assessments.
 - o 69% of our students took the state assessments, the other families opted out.
 - o The result is that the state has flagged CPA for low participation.
 - o CPA is rated as "approaching" for academic achievement and academic growth.
 - o We are rated as "does not meet" for Postsecondary & Workforce Readiness.

- **SPF summary by School:** For ES & MS, ratings are based on state assessments. HS ratings are based on PSAT and SAT scores.
 - o Elementary School is in Turnaround status, and rated as "does not meet" for academic achievement and academic growth.
 - o Middle School is in Priority Improvement, and rated as "approaching" for academic achievement, and "does not meet" for academic growth.
 - o High School is in Improvement status with ratings of "approaching" for academic achievement, "meets" for academic growth, and "does not meet" for postsecondary & workforce readiness.
 - o Schools with ratings of turnaround or priority improvement have five years to increase their rating. CPA is in year two of priority improvement.

CPA ES specific information was reviewed by Sarah Schuchard

- **ES Academic Achievement:**
 - o Increasing participation in assessments is critical. Plan of communication is being put in place to increase the level of participation.
 - o ELA score was 717.8 which puts CPA in the lowest percentile. However, we are close to the minimum target score of 722.
 - o Math score was 710 which is 9 points below the minimum target score of 719.

- **Academic Growth:**
 - o Focusing on iready assessments to measure beginning, middle, and end of year academic growth. Iready correlates closely with the state assessments.

- Teachers are focusing on grade level standards, and progress in curriculum. One hurdle in progress is when students are falling behind in their curriculum due to not mastering lessons. Teachers are encouraging students to move on in order to stay on track with their grade level.

CPA MS specific information was reviewed by Kathleen Kearney

- **MS Academic Achievement:**
 - Good news – a lot of “approaching” ratings!
 - Math scores are up from the previous year, and is in the “approaching” category.
 - There is a need to focus on improving achievement for our free and reduced lunch students, especially in science.
 - Overall, MS is approaching in both English and Math
- **MS Academic Growth:**
 - MS is approaching in Math, which is also an improvement from last year.
 - Still need improvement in growth in English.

CPA HS specific information was reviewed by Sheila Stevens

- **HS Academic Achievement:**
 - HS is rated as “approaching” for English, Math, and Science.
 - HS is rated “meets” for PSAT scores in Reading, Writing & Math
 - Overall rating is “approaching”
- **HS Academic Growth**
 - HS overall rating is “meets” – Yay!
 - HS is rated as “meets” for CMAS English and Math, and “approaching” for PSAT scores
 - HS is rated as “does not meet” for postsecondary and workforce readiness.
 - Systems are in place to work on matriculation. It is very difficult to track where students go if they discontinue attendance at CPA

Nicole Tiley took questions regarding the SPF

- Dropout rates include 7th through 12th grades. Students are included in the dropout rate if they leave CPA and are not enrolled in another Colorado public school (such as homeschooling or moving out of state without CPA obtaining documentation).
- For matriculation, if students graduate and do not enroll in a postsecondary school that is included on a national clearinghouse (registered schools), then they do not count for matriculation. There is discussion with the state about this because some postsecondary schools (e.g. motorcycle mechanic school in AZ) are not registered on the national clearinghouse.
- In HS the SPF will use the PSAT and SAT data for 9-12 grades. PARCC and CMAS will be used this year for 3rd through 8th grades.
- Our district would like us to encourage all families to participate in state assessments. CPA is contacting parents who opt out to discuss, and if the parent still wants to opt out after a conversation, they are given a form to sign.
- When the state looks at participation rate, they consider how many students participate and add the number of opt out signatures. If the two numbers equal 95%, the school is not

penalized in rating, but is noted for low participation. If the school falls below 95% for participation and opt out signatures, the school is docked a level. CPA was not docked a level this year, but has been flagged for low participation.

- CPA provides testing sites within 40 minutes of all its families. CPA is not aware of distance being a reason for opting out.
- Sarah Schuchard offered that some parents opt out because they feel the tests are not relevant to them. It is important to remember that the participation and our school score is important for continued school choice.
- Sheila Stevens added that the tests give our school more data and information to allow CPA to continue improving education.
- Kathleen Kearny also echoed the other principals, and that although we do use the data, it is not the only information used for instructional decisions.

SAC input & discussion of UIP (Unified Improvement Plan)

- Emerald Zeitz and Peg Berning, our SAC executive officers, submitted a list of issues to discuss for the CPA UIP. Nicole Tiley asked participants to point to issues that need the most focus:
 - o Extra help for struggling families who are trying was emphasized by several members.
 - o School wide praise: CPA is planning honor roll assemblies at the end of the semester, and is currently sending out certificates to students who are working hard.
 - o Heidi Nufer suggested a catch-up club for those who are behind.
 - Nicole Tiley stated that when the UIP is written, these ideas for rewarding hard work and providing supports for struggling families will be included.
 - o Parent & Learning Coach involvement
 - Sarah Schuchard stated that CPA tries to be compassionate for families with non-traditional situations, especially since we are a public school. However, CPA continues to emphasize that although we are flexible about when we school, the amount of school work done each week does not change.
 - Accountability plans, mentoring, and other avenues were put in place last year and are helping families succeed.
 - However, we do take a stand when all avenues of support are explored and there is not sufficient engagement.
 - CPA will continue to work
 - Nicole Tiley noted that CPA is often a family's first choice because of their unique situation (e.g. bullying, medical concerns). CPA tries very hard to work with these families to succeed.
 - o CC attendance statistics:
 - Nicole Tiley reported that students who attend class connects are also the students who are performing well. Conversely, students not performing well are only attending class connects about 25% of the time.
 - Targeted cc's are much smaller – only 10 students. Proficient students are in the larger cc's.

- Students whose iready score is below the 25th percentile are asked to come to cc four times per week. Students scoring in the 50th percentile are asked to come two times per week. Higher scoring students have one cc per week.
 - Peg Berning suggested using the best practice method that the HS Health teacher uses to encourage cc attendance. Sheila Stevens will contact Mrs. Carpenter.
 - Is CMAS test valid?
 - CMAS is nationally normed, and follows a Bell Curve trend lines.
 - State says that 50th percentile is considered proficient.
 - Based on BOY testing, about 45% of our MS kids are where they should be, so there is a need to provide a lot of class connect support.
 - I Ready
 - Hard to compare PARCC & CMAS because I Ready is taken at home, and the PARCC/CMAS tests are taking elsewhere. Test taking data should be compared where the testing environment is the same. This need to be looked at by CPA.
 - Nicole raises the question whether the BOY, MOY, and EOY I ready tests should be taken at test sites to get the kids used to taking the tests outside of home.
 - CPA was at 98% participation for I ready tests.
 - Differentiation, Engagement & Curriculum
 - Making cc's optional so that teachers can focus on struggling students
 - Cc's need to be smaller
 - When CPA picks a course from the k.12 catalogue, CPA chooses based on the course meeting Colorado state standards.
 - Peg Berning suggested bringing the previous years' World Cultures text book back.
 - Emerald Zeitz & Jason Berning stated that the 7th grade science and social studies curriculum is above a 7th grade level.
 - Nicole Tiley will ask for a staff meeting between CPA & k.12 about 7th grade curriculum concerns.
- Nicole Tiley shared more Power Point Slides for the development of CPA's UIP which is due in mid-December:
 - Root Causes:
 - Action Plan for ES and MS:
 - HS Actions
- How is CPA doing as compared to other K.12 schools.
 - Hard to compare k.12 schools between states
 - CPA looks at how we are doing versus other CO online schools. The majority of online schools in Colorado are in "priority" or "turnaround" status.
 - Comparing data is tricky: some of the schools ranked as performing have much lower participation rates than CPA.
- Decreasing drop out
 - CPA has improved from a 12% to a 9% drop out rate.