**Facility Schools Board**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**October 7, 2021**

**Via Zoom**

**In attendance:**

Board Members Present: Carolena Steen, Sonjia Hunt, Kelly O’Shea, Elizabeth Lucier, Laura Writebol, Steven Ramirez, Tiffeny O’Dell

Staff Present: Judy Stirman, Wendy Dunaway, Quinn Enright, Ann Symalla, Annie Haskins, Lori Kochevar, Robin Singer

Audience: Barb Taylor, Isabel Broer, Myra Marcus,

**Approval of Minutes for September 9, 2021:** A motion was made by Kelly O’Shea and seconded by Sonjia Hunt to approve the minutes of the September 9 meeting with the Poplar Way Academy Q&A removed. Motion passed.

**Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made to approve the agenda with an update from Isabel Broer and an opportunity to discuss the Facility Schools Model Workgroup meeting by Laura Writebol and seconded by Carolena Steen. Motion passed.

**Facility Schools Office Update:**

* **CDE/Facility Internal Updates/Frontline** – Judy Stirman
  + CDE is internally focused on vaccination and vaccination status of staff and contractors. All contractors entering CDE buildings will either have to provide evidence of vaccination or submit to biweekly testing.
  + Adams 14’s district accreditation was removed by the State Board of Education (SBE). This marks only the second time in Colorado history that a district’s accreditation has been removed.
  + The ESSU Directors Meeting will be held October 14th and 15th. An invitation has been sent to all of our facility coordinators and directors.
* **Data Management and Systems Support** – Quinn Enright
  + October Report is currently being organized by schools and will be with larger CDE by the next board meeting.
  + A large Infinite Campus update which will significantly change the user interface is coming. Trainings for registrars and other IC school experts are being planned for January or February.
* **I-Ready/Tuition Cost** – Lori Kochevar
  + Tuition Cost cost line items were due on September 17th.
    - OFS is going through each facility school’s report and contacting everyone about their submission.
    - There was a slight discrepancy between schools with how staff hours were reported. This topic will be addressed at the October Directors meeting.
  + There were two I-Ready trainings at Kaleidoscope: one for new teachers and another for high school students.
    - Teaching high school students through i-Ready has always been a challenge for facility schools. The session went well and provided several tips and resources for high school instruction through i-Ready.
* **Monitoring/Updates from the Field** – Robin Singer and Ann Symalla
  + Two remote monitoring visits were completed this past month. Four monitoring visits are scheduled for October.
  + One to one support on IEP issues and questions is being provided. A group training on IEPs is scheduled for October 27th
  + The first new SPED Director mentor meeting took place this past month.
    - The monitoring team will meet with them monthly to help them through the year.
    - This group is intended as a safe space where new SPED Directors can ask any questions they may have and receive collaborative support.
    - Feedback has indicated that these meetings are very appreciated by the target audience.
  + A special education team has formed in OFS and is comprised of Robin, Ann, Annie, and Dede. This group is working on how to introduce this new organization structure to the field.
* **AnLar/Enrich Update –** Annie Haskins
  + Dede and Annie have been working with AnLar to preview their system.
    - A meeting with AnLar has been set for October 18th where more of the system will be displayed and there will be an opportunity for questions.
    - OFS has a policy of transparency with our IEP system needs.
  + An October Enrich training took place earlier this week.
  + The first ESUG meeting of the school year will take place on the Friday after the Directors meeting.
* **Curriculum/Induction/Kaleidoscope/Out of District Consortium** – Wendy Dunaway
  + Kaleidoscope went very well.
    - Feedback has included many positive comments about the focus on staff self-care and the variety of related sessions.
    - Although we wanted to have the conference in person, it went as well as it could have gone virtually.
    - A suggestion for the board is to access the Kaleidoscope dashboard available to all attendees to watch Dardi Hendershott’s presentation as it is a good example of a staff self-care presentation that received a large amount of positive feedback. It is also a good reference for a variety of virtual engagement strategies including real time polling.
    - Kaleidoscope attendees were listed by login, which is not always a good representation of attendance. That being said, there were about 250 registrants.
  + The next Out of District Consortium will take place on October 21st. The group will discuss communication regarding placements, discharges, and other related procedures.

**Attorney General’s Office Updates** – Isabel Broer

* High-Cost Placements
  + There have been several questions about the payment responsibility of different agencies when it comes to high-cost placements.
  + The AG’s office is working on getting understandings in place about paying for high costs with HCPF and CDHS and are looking at potential fixes.

**Approval Presentation – Goldstar Learning Options/StarBound Academy**

* The Goldstar Learning Options/StarBound Academy introduced their team to the board.
  + Katie Soverpo (CEO), Katie (Chief Strategy Officer), Lori McClurg (SPED Director), Laura Folzman (Special Education Manager), Katherine Kerico (Clinical Day Treatment Manager), Chelsea Purko (Teacher), Paulon Brothers (SPED Teacher), Sarah (BCBA)
* A PowerPoint presentation was given by the Goldstar Learning Options team. It addressed the who, what, and why of Goldstar.
  + The curriculum utilized will be Teach Town, which allows for more flexibility in learning plans.
    - Specialized accommodations will include sensory needs and adaptive functioning.
    - I-Ready will also be utilized for curriculum.
  + Students will receive individual, group, and family therapy, which will include such instructional elements as identifying emotions, problem solving, and preparing for functioning within future social environments.
    - Family nights will be frequent in order to better facilitate at-home learning for day treatment students.
  + The target student population is those with ASD and associated, complex behavioral needs. These students will all be identified with an IEP.
  + All staff will be trained in Professional Crisis Management (PCM), Applied Behavior Analytic Principles (ABA), and Acceptance & Commitment Therapy (ACT)
* The board asked the Goldstar team several questions.
  + There are plans for expansion in Denver and requests for expansions in places such as Pueblo and Grand Junction.
  + One reason this site decided to become a facility school was because school districts were requesting that they become a facility school. They also receive parent referrals.
* Kelly O’Shea motion Sonjia Hunt seconded. Motion passed unanimously (7-0).

**Allocation to Facility Schools –** Judy Stirman

* As part of SB21-275, an allocation was given to facility schools from JBC supplemental funding.
  + Facility schools submitted applications by September 29th. All were turned in on time.
  + There is a lot of variety in the proposed plans. Directors will be asked at their October meeting to voluntarily provide pictures of changes/building updates once they are implemented.
  + All proposed plans are currently under review to ensure adherence to SB21-274.

**Update – New Programs –** Judy Stirman

* Poplar Way Academy was approved last month contingent upon the hiring of a teacher. However, they still have not been able to hire anyone for that position. Deon is working hard on that and is hoping to have someone hired by November.
* Deon is putting together paperwork for the Centennial Peaks school to the North. It will be similar to Poplar Way Academy but in a new location.
  + Centennial Peaks will be a hospital site, which means it will not receive Tuition Cost funding. Thus, it is not bound by the Tuition Cost deadline.
* Judy will meet with another potential new site tomorrow.
* Hilltop’s residential site will be closing on October 31st.
  + Sonjia and her staff are doing everything they can to keep the day treatment side open. They currently have six day treatment students and two residential students.
  + This closing largely occurred due to staffing shortages. Many staff left due to vaccination requirements.
  + There are now no residential programs on the western slope and only two day treatment programs cover the same area.

**JBC/Stakeholders Group/Bill** – Wendy Dunaway

* OFS is currently in the process of securing a team to do the analysis portion, which is much more than only fiscal and includes capacity analysis. An analysis team will bring even more focus to the group and help the group determine its focus on an ongoing basis.

**Facility Schools Model Workgroup Meeting** – Judy Stirman

* Today went well, but there are a few things we can do better.
* What are the board’s impressions?
  + The board believes that G will be a good facilitator and that this meeting was well-run and efficient.
  + Many on the board are anxious to start work on the new Facility Schools model. They are grateful for the opportunity and want to create lasting change for the better as quickly as possible given SB21-274’s time restraints.
  + One area of improvement for these meetings is to include at least one break.

**Other Topics from the Board**

* None.

**Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board**

* An update on Mt. St. Vincent was provided by Barb Taylor.
  + MSV currently has 5 students. All are either private placements or out-of-state placements, but they are going to enroll their first day treatment kid on October 12th.
  + MSV is working with the districts and making sure their processes are in place.

**Adjournment of Meeting**

Kelly O’Shea made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Carolena Steen seconded. Meeting was adjourned.

**Next meeting** – November 11, 2021, at 11:30 a.m.