



**Ascent Classical Academy**  
*of Douglas County*

## MINUTES

### School Accountability Committee Meeting 12 November 2024

#### Location:

10004 Park Meadows Drive  
Lone Tree, CO 80124

#### *Call to Order*

- Mr. Rutan called the meeting to order at 3:44 pm.

#### *Roll Call*

- Present: Headmaster Jones, Mr. Rutan, Mrs. Silverthorn, Mrs. Walker, Dr. Loftus, Mr. Reed, Dr. Jones, Mr. Lenhart, Mr. Walsh

#### *CSI Renewal Site Visit Report*

- CSI Board will decide in December whether to extend a 1 - 5 year renewal for Ascent's charter
  - Ascent is commended for trending toward stability

#### *Student Services*

- Interest in IEPs, English language learners and other special services has gone from ~1% to 10% in the last 5 years
- Hillsdale came for a day at the end of October
  - Last major visit with observations was in the fall of 2022; smaller visit in the spring of 2024
  - Hillsdale was impressed with the coaching and mentoring of students in the K-6 area especially
- Ascent has moved from a CMO model to an ESP model; ESP's goal is to learn from past issues
  - Board wants to be a Hillsdale member
  - Hillsdale wants curricular consistency and administrative stability

#### *Benefit*

- Highest attendance ever, excellent fundraising numbers
- Performances from students were a positive highlight
- Board will continue to work on how to attract new donors

*(continued on next page)*



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*12 Nov 2024 Minutes, cont.*

*IEPs and 504s*

- Number of IEPs and 504s reviewed, and gifted students
- Number of multi-language learners has increased due to improved outreach to new communities to encourage enrollment
- MTSS program helps kids before learning disability or other issues are even assumed; assessment info is analyzed to identify and target them even before IEP/504 referrals
- Resilience strategies are also taught to help students manage their own paths forward
- Information outreach for parents to reduce apprehension with student services
- Maintain enrollment from 8th to 9th grades
  - Build culture and consistency, expand programming

*Security*

- Considering a change in security for the school; possibly more trained eyes in or on the school
- Future goals: upgrade internal security
- Team trains regularly; quality training program
- CSI is monitoring policies at the school; Ascent board has codified policies at all four schools
- Selective hiring for security team; screening, interview, evaluation--not all are accepted
- Relationship with partners, such as Lone Tree police, Canvas security team, SRO

*Minutes*

- The minutes from the 17 September 2024 SAC Meeting were presented and unanimously approved.

*Adjournment*

- The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 pm.

  
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Mr. Adam Rutan, President

  
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Mrs. Meghann Silverthorn, Secretary