

AISD DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL
Summary of Regular Meeting
August 25, 2009

ATTENDANCE

Member Attendance

(See attached list)

Others in Attendance

Dr. Meria Carstarphen, AISD, Superintendent
Joey Crumley, AISD, Planning & Community Relations
Dr. Paul Cruz, AISD, Chief Schools Officer
Robert Garcia, AISD, Assistant to the Superintendent
Dr. Janis Guerrero, AISD, Planning & Community Relations
Dr. Bergeron Harris, AISD, Associate Superintendent of Middle Schools
Debra Hester, AISD, Middle School Operations
Christy Rome, AISD, Intergovernmental Relations

PROCEEDINGS

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Board Auditorium of the Carruth Administration Center.

Approval of Minutes

- The minutes of the June 16, 2009 regular meeting were approved with revisions.

Citizens Communications

- There were no citizens communications.

Superintendent's Update

- Dr. Ross welcomed Dr. Carstarphen and congratulated her on the recent all-staff convocation. Dr. Ross said the event was very sincere, energizing, and motivating.
- Dr. Carstarphen said the school year was off to a successful start, but added there were many things going on and several challenges ahead. She said she enjoyed going to visit a number of schools.
- Dr. Carstarphen highlighted several beginning of school activities, including: filling vacant staff positions; facility improvements; mentoring of new principals and assistant principals; and the New Teacher Academy.
- Dr. Carstarphen said she knows how important it will be to provide all employees strong leadership and meaningful development opportunities.
- Dr. Carstarphen announced that Pearce Middle School would not be getting a restart on the accountability clock as anticipated. She also announced that the two new campuses at Eastside Memorial opened with 650 students.
- In regard to the budget, Dr. Carstarphen said the Board passed the 2009-2010 budget last night with three percent pay raises for all employees. She said the district faced a \$13 million deficit this year, with most of the deficit being covered by

administrative cuts. She said the Board will start looking at next year's budget very soon, and the decisions will only get tougher with an expected deficit of \$20 million.

- Dr. Carstarphen announced that for the first time AISD as a district did not meet AYP; however, more schools than ever before met AYP, and more schools than ever before were rated Exemplary or Recognized. She stated that despite our gains, there are still significant achievement gaps that make people of color look unfavorably at the district.
- Dr. Carstarphen reported that the new strategic plan for the district was well underway and that a lot of stakeholder input had already been obtained (e.g., over 400 people participated in several community conversations held in cooperation with Austin Voices and the E3 Alliance). She said she would soon be forming a strategic plan task force with representation of a number of groups, including the DAC.
- Dr. Carstarphen said the analysis of the last strategic plan's implementation provided a good place to start in determining where we are now and where we need to be. She said the biggest goal will be to get all students at or above grade level within three years.
- Discussion points included:
 - Title I funding does not follow mobile students because by law it is tied to assigned attendance zones
 - It would be good if the Superintendent could come to the next DAC meeting to discuss priorities
 - The school feeder system seems to be getting less structured
 - The strategic plan needs to ensure that the academic vision is spread throughout the system
 - It would be good if the Superintendent could hold a meeting just for parents – we need to work on building the trust factor with parents
 - Parents would like to see the Superintendent and administration at campuses before there is a major problem
 - District information is often hard to understand for many parents and community members
 - It would be good to have the Superintendent continue to support PTA membership
 - Is there a way to express ideas when we run out of time – we often seem to be in a hurry at our meetings

Legislative Update

- Christy Rome, Director of Intergovernmental Relations, provided an update on the last state legislative session. She summarized several bills that were passed relating to education.
- Ms. Rome reported some changes in the state accountability system, including: how Exemplary and Recognized school ratings are determined; how students advance at certain grade levels; raising accountability standards over time; and graduation requirements.
- Ms. Rome stated that funding was earmarked for salary increases for teachers, librarians, counselors, nurses, and speech pathologists. She also stated that funding had been increased for teacher compensation, instructional materials, technology, and pre-kindergarten.

- Ms. Rome described additional legislation, including: additional excused absences for students; flexibility for the University of Texas under then top ten percent rule; and prohibition of cell phone use by motorists in school zones.

Update on Pearce Middle School

- Dr. Bergeron Harris, Associate Superintendent of Middle Schools, provided an update on the status of Pearce Middle School. Dr. Harris reported that Pearce now has a new principal and administrative staff. He also reported that the present enrollment at Pearce was 424 students, close to the number projected.
- Dr. Harris described a Turnaround Framework for Pearce, including: accountable learning communities; a shared vision for teaching and learning; professional learning needs based on classroom visits; providing a guaranteed viable curriculum; implementing robust student support systems; and celebrating success.
- Dr. Harris stated that the Pearce repurposing plan focuses on three specific areas: instruction and learning; student support and school climate; and structural supports to ensure success.
- Dr. Harris described several specific initiatives at Pearce, including: opportunity centers; full implementation of PBS; mentoring for all students; implementation of AVID; implementation of Teleparent; and community walks.
- Discussion points included:
 - We need as a community to show the Commissioner that we can do this at Pearce
 - The same holds true for Eastside Memorial
 - Elementary schools are working in close coordination to provide a comprehensive K-8 approach
 - Why is special education not specifically mentioned in the plan

DAC Annual Retreat for 2009

- Joey Crumley reported that budget cuts had also hit the DAC, resulting in the DAC going paperless, cutting back significantly on refreshments, and cutting back on the annual retreat.
- Mr. Crumley stated that the Executive Committee considered several options for the retreat this year, and favored having a “mini-retreat” on September 15 at Gullett Elementary School focused on identifying areas for improving the DAC, establishing DAC priorities, and setting the DAC’s calendar for the coming year.
- Discussion points included:
 - In previous years the annual retreat averaged about \$5,000 in total cost
 - Having the Superintendent share her priorities would help the DAC establish its priorities
 - The mini-retreat could possibly be at the regular DAC meeting time
 - The Executive Committee will work on the details of the mini-retreat and let members know

Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

District Advisory Council Membership and Attendance Record (Rev. 06/04/09)	2009					2010				
	6/16	8/25	9/15	10/20	11/17	1/19	2/16	3/23	4/20	5/18
AKINS VERTICAL TEAM										
★Ramon DeJesus, Parent, Akins HS (7/1)	✓	✓								
Adolphus Anderson, Parent, Akins HS (4/1)	✓	✓								
Maria (Lupe) Ramos, Teacher, Perez ES (2/1)		✓								
Jamie Heilingoetter, Teacher, Langford ES (1/2)										
ANDERSON VERTICAL TEAM										
Narda Fisher, Parent, Hill ES (1/2)		✓								
Laura Tuma, Parent, Murchison MS (3/1)	✓									
Alicia Hill, Teacher, Doss ES (1/1)	✓	✓								
Kallie Jones, Teacher, Anderson HS (1/1)	✓									
AUSTIN VERTICAL TEAM										
Michael Supancic, Parent, Austin HS (1/2)	✓									
Frank Simonetti, Parent, Mills ES (1/2)										
Douglas Rhodenbaugh, Teacher, Austin HS (4/1)		✓								
Dounna Poth, Teacher, Patton ES (1/2)	✓									
BOWIE VERTICAL TEAM										
Doug Jansen Parent, Bailey MS (1/2)	✓									
Donna Casteel, Parent, Bowie HS (2/2)										
Vicki Everett, Teacher, Bailey MS (3/2)		✓								
Pam Martin, Counselor, Clayton ES (1/2)										
CROCKETT VERTICAL TEAM										
Julia Ragsdale, Parent, Joslin ES (1/1)	✓	✓								
Kevin Manzke, Parent, Cunningham ES (2/1)	✓	✓								
Linda Johnson, Teacher, Odom ES (3/2)	✓	✓								
Beth Ann Cole, Teacher, Boone ES (1/1)	✓	✓								
EASTSIDE MEMORIAL VERTICAL TEAM										
<i>Vacancy, Parent</i>										
<i>Vacancy, Parent</i>										
Sarah Robertson, Teacher, Metz ES (2/1)		✓								
Mary Alsobrook, Teacher, Allan ES (1/2)	✓									
LANIER VERTICAL TEAM										
Darin Mattke, Parent, McBee ES (1/2)										
<i>Vacancy, Parent</i>										

/ # = Total number of terms appointed/Year of current term

★ = Co-Chair

Bold = Executive Committee Member

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Sweeney, Teacher, Cook ES (1/1)		✓								
Paul Mitchell, Teacher, Lanier HS (1/1)	✓	✓								
LBJ VERTICAL TEAM										
Betty Johnson, Parent, Pearce MS (2/1)	✓	✓								
Betty Williams, Parent, Garcia MS (1/1)	✓	✓								
Susan Levett, Teacher, Andrews ES (2/1)		✓								
Jon David Saucedo, Teacher, Sims ES (2/2)	✓									
McCALLUM VERTICAL TEAM										
Varshna Narumanchi-Jackson, Parent, Lee ES (3/1)										
Kathy Golden, Parent, McCallum HS (2/1)										
Frederick Bentley, Kealing MS (1/2)										
Mary Ghazinezhadiansh, Teacher, McCallum HS (2/2)										
REAGAN VERTICAL TEAM										
Bernice Herrera, Parent, Graham ES (1/2)		✓								
Anthony Mitchell, Walnut Creek ES (1/2)		✓								
Margaretta Simmons, Teacher, Graham ES (1/2)		✓								
Kathy Ryan, Teacher, Hart ES (2/2)	✓	✓								
TRAVIS VERTICAL TEAM										
Chris Hoerster, Parent, Linder ES (1/1)	✓	✓								
Vickie Black, Parent, Fulmore MS (5/1)	✓	✓								
Carla Lantz, Teacher, Mendez MS (1/2)										
Sophia Sherline, Teacher, Travis HS (1/1)	✓									
SPECIAL CAMPUSES VERTICAL TEAM										
Buddy Owen, Parent, LASA (6/1)	✓	✓								
LaDonna Massad, Parent, LASA (2/1)	✓	✓								
Angela Hinz, Teacher, International HS (1/2)		✓								
Martha Dolman, Teacher, ALC (2/2)	✓	✓								
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS										
Linda Purvis, Baranoff ES (1/2)		✓								
Shannon Sellstrom, Dawson ES (2/1)	✓	✓								
Janie Ruiz, Gullett ES (4/1)	✓	✓								
MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPALS										
Sherry Lepine, Small MS (1/2)		✓								
Lisa Bush, Fulmore MS (1/1)	✓	✓								

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HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL										
Julieanne Arreola, Akins HS (1/2)										
ACPTA REPRESENTATIVES										
Pascual Piedfort (5/2)	✓	✓								
<i>Vacancy</i>										
COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES										
Wayne Krause, Texas Civil Rights Project (2/2)	✓									
Jill Stimson (2/1)	✓									
BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE										
Linda Klar, Klar Communications (3/2)	✓									
CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE										
Earlynn Williams, Student Services (1/2)	✓									
DISTRICT-LEVEL PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE										
★ Jane Ross, PBS Specialist (5/2)	✓	✓								
AT-LARGE MEMBERS										
Alberto Gonzalez, Parent, LASA (4/2)		✓								
Dennis Petrash, Parent, Patton ES (2/2)	✓	✓								
Mollie Guion, Instructional Specialist, Martin MS (2/2)	✓	✓								
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES										
Mallory Catherine Bayer, LASA (1/2)		✓								
Grant McClure, McCallum HS (1/2)		✓								
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPRESENTATIVE										
Lori Moya, District 6, Secretary										
SPECIAL EDUCATION CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE LIAISON										
Gerard Jimenez										

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