Evaluation of Campus Performance in Community and Student Engagement

Mollie Dawson Elementary School
3001 S 1st Street, Austin, TX, 78704

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Overall Performance | Exemplary

This rating system is required by House Bill 5 (see TEC § 39.0545 for details about the law). It allows each campus to showcase the opportunities they provide to students, families, and the community in areas other than standardized testing. Details about the law and rating system can be found at www.austinisd.org/cda/hb5-community-student-engagement.

Campus Demographics

Grade Levels: PK, K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Vertical Team: Travis
Trustee District: 2
Enrollment: 340

Austin ISD 2015-2020 Strategic Plan

Core Beliefs
1. All students will graduate college-career-, and life-ready
2. We will create an effective, agile, and responsive organization
3. We will create vibrant relationships critical for successful students and schools

Values
• Whole Child Every Child
• Physical, social, and emotional health and safety
• Equity, diversity, and inclusion
• High expectations for all students, employees, parents/guardians, and community members
• Creativity, collaboration, and innovation
• Community schools
• Life-long learning
Fine Arts: EXEMPLARY

- The school offers fine arts curriculum in grades K-5.
- The Creative Learning Initiative Arts Inventory is completed and data is used to inform practice.
- Fine arts instruction and/or creative learning strategies will be included in the 2017-18 Campus Improvement Plan.
- Fine Arts productions or exhibitions: Veteran’s Day Celebration, Mother’s Day Celebration
- Fine Arts community experiences: Dawson Choir students performance at the Travis Rebel Expo, Each grade level went to Zach Scott Theater, Leap of Joy dance performance
- Fine Arts career exploration: Career Fair

Wellness & Physical Education: EXEMPLARY

- The campus implements a Coordinated Approach to Child Health program and earned a Recognized or Exemplary rating on the Coordinated School Health Survey.
- The FITNESSGRAM assessment is administered to at least 90% of all students in grades 3-12.
- At least 95% of students have completed their required immunizations.
- The campus is designated as No Place for Hate®.
- At least one performance objective to increase health and wellness will be included in the 2017-18 Campus Improvement Plan.
- Community education programs: DrumFit Night, Marathon Kids, Healthy Heart Family Fun Run
- Staff fitness and wellness activities: Session at culinary institute regarding healthy eating, Wellness Wednesday Workout Warriors, De-stress Day in December
- Extra physical activities for students: Brain Breaks, Wellness Wednesday rotations

Community & Parental Involvement: EXEMPLARY

- The school has an active Parent Teacher Association.
- The school employs a Parent Support Specialist, at least half time.
- At least one (1) performance objective to increase community and parental involvement will be included in the 2017-18 Campus Improvement Plan.
- Opportunities to get involved: Operation School Bell, Designated Parent Room, Dawson Playdates
- Regular forms of communication: Monthly newsletters, School messenger phone calls and emails, Parent surveys
- Parent informational events: Monthly Principal & Parent Coffees, Back to School Night, Dual Language/Social Emotional Learning meetings
- Adult learning opportunities: Whole Brain Child book study, Computer literacy classes, Student attendance/truancy
- Family Fun events: Holiday celebration, Healthy Heart Family Fun Run, Heart Art Night

21st Century Workforce Development Program: EXEMPLARY

- The school displays college pennants, displays diplomas/degrees of staff members, or participates in regular staff college dress days.
- The school provides students and parents, especially first-generation college students, information about postsecondary opportunities.
- Students have mentors from middle or high schools.
- Students at the school have access to Project Based Learning.
- At least one (1) performance objective to increase 21st Century Workforce Development will be included in the 2017-18 Campus Improvement Plan.
- College/Career events: Career Day, February 2nd Job Shadowing
Second Language Acquisition Program: EXEMPLARY

• All students receiving bilingual/ESL services are supported by a certified bilingual/ESL teacher.
• ELL and non-ELL students participate together in music, art, and PE classes.
• The school has an active Language Proficiency Assessment Committee that meets TEA expectations.
• At least one (1) performance objective to increase second language acquisition will be included in the 2017-18 Campus Improvement Plan.
• TEA approved language program: Two way dual language
• Opportunity for developing international relationships: First grade international pen pals
• Cultural awareness programs/special events: Holiday program, Hispanic Heritage Month studies, First grade international pen pals

Digital Learning Environment: EXEMPLARY

• The school provides training for staff and activities or programs for students on how to recognize and prevent cyberbullying.
• Elementary students have access to computers for at least one (1) hour per week.
• At least one (1) performance objective to improve the digital learning environment will be included in the 2017-18 Campus Improvement Plan.
• Web-based learning opportunities: iStation, Reflex Math, Think Through Math

Dropout Prevention Strategies: EXEMPLARY

• All students identified as struggling in reading or writing are provided specialized instruction or intervention.
• The school provides training for staff and activities or programs for students on how to recognize and prevent bullying.
• The school has implemented a Positive Behavior Support system.
• Mentorship program: Early Act First Knight character education
• Intervention support: After school tutorial program in fall and spring
• Activities to promote an emotionally healthy environment: No Place for Hate, Unity Circle, Early Act First Knight character education

Educational Programs for Gifted & Talented Students: EXEMPLARY

• GT Program Student Assessment: Exemplary
• GT Program Service Design: Exemplary
• GT Program Curriculum and Instruction: Exemplary
• GT Program Professional Development: Recognized
• GT Program Family-Community Involvement: Recognized
• At least one (1) performance objective implementing advanced academic strategies and resources will be included in the 2017-18 Campus Improvement Plan.
• Extracurricular enrichment activities: Prime Time classes, Music Memory
• Academic competitions: Regional Science Fair, Music Memory
• Parent and community outreach: GT principal and parent coffee, GT principal and parent coffee
AISD District Ratings

Fine Arts: Exemplary
Wellness and Physical Education: Exemplary
Community and Parental Involvement: Exemplary
21st Century Workforce Development Program: Exemplary
Second Language Acquisition Program: Exemplary
Digital Learning Environment: Exemplary
Dropout Prevention Strategies: Exemplary
Educational Programs for Gifted and Talented Students: Exemplary
Compliance: Yes
Overall: Exemplary

How were the criteria for these ratings developed?
The legislation did not permit TEA to determine the criteria for these evaluations; criteria were to be developed by a local committee. The AISD District Advisory Council (DAC) was identified as the local committee.

October 2013: A DAC subcommittee made up of parents, teachers, staff, and community members met to discuss the new law and come up with a proposed framework.

December 2013: All district principals participated in workshops to help develop a list of ten indicators for each of the nine factors.

January 2014: Content experts were consulted to provide feedback and suggest improvements on the list of indicators. The DAC subcommittee reviewed the feedback and made modifications.

February 2014: The full DAC voted to accept the recommendation of the subcommittee. The proposed list of indicators was presented to Senior Cabinet, Principals, and Campus Advisory Councils.

March 2014: Community input was gathered through the district’s website. Feedback from these groups was integrated.

April 2014: The proposed plan was taken to the Board of Trustees for discussion and feedback.

The 2013-14 school year served as a baseline year for this process. In 2014-15, the DAC re-evaluated the list of indicators and decided to maintain them for an additional two years.