

<p style="text-align: center;">AISD DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL Summary of Regular Meeting March 21, 2017</p>
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ATTENDANCE

Member Attendance

(See attached list)

Others in Attendance

Cindy Anderson, Board of Trustees
Julie Cowan, Board of Trustees
Joey Crumley, Campus and District Accountability
Carolyn Hanschen, Campus and District Accountability
Rachel Naugle, Teaching and Learning
Jennifer Pace, Principal, Joslin ES
Kendall Pace, Board of Trustees
Jacob Reach, Superintendent's Office
Raul Sanchez, Principal, Webb MS
Valerie Sterne, Assistant Principal, Andrews ES
Ann Teich, Board of Trustees
Ken Zarifis, Education Austin

PROCEEDINGS

Preliminaries

- The meeting was called to order by Dr. Jane Ross at 4:34 p.m. in the Board Auditorium of the Carruth Administration Center.
- There were no citizen communications.
- Dr. Ross asked new DAC members to introduce themselves.

Equity Plan Update

- Jacob Reach, Special Assistant to the Superintendent, provided an update on the district's Equity Plan, which included the following points:
 - ☞ Three parts of the Equity Study were self-assessment, data review, and curriculum assessment
 - ☞ Three focus areas of the Equity Study were student achievement, discipline, and access to high-quality offerings
 - ☞ DAC volunteers and campus principals took the Equity Survey
 - ☞ We found that we're doing well in graduation and other student outcomes, but need to improve on discipline, access to some programs, and college readiness
 - ☞ Some new indicators were added to the Strategic Plan Scorecard related to performance gaps, and these are now also part of the Superintendent's evaluation
 - ☞ Some new Strategic Plan action items were also added
 - ☞ A student performance index centered on equity is being created
- Discussion points included:
 - ☞ Would have been better if an independent third party was involved in the study
 - ☞ Separate magnets in themselves don't promote equity
 - ☞ We do a lot of things that look good on paper, but it's really the same old thing – we're really perpetuating bad ideas, and we're missing the boat on a lot of things
 - ☞ Training the teachers is what will really bring improvements
 - ☞ The full study is available online

- ☞ The student performance index is coming out this summer
- ☞ It's still hard to see concrete examples of things that are happening to stop inequities
- ☞ There are trainings available to campuses

Superintendent's Update

- Dr. Cruz provided an update, which included the following points:
 - ☞ Today's DAC agenda is packed with every important work
 - ☞ We're not there yet with equity, but we've made significant strides
 - ☞ The legislative session is going on right now, and a lot of community members as well as Trustees have been busy representing the district
 - ☞ Trustee Cowan was recognized by Speaker Strauss for her advocacy
 - ☞ There are discussion at both the state and federal levels going on now that could impact our funding
 - ☞ The Facilities and Bond Planning Advisory Committee (FABPAC) is meeting tonight to finalize its recommendations to the Board
 - ☞ The Facilities Master Plan (FMP) not only looks at physical condition of facilities, it also looks at the educational suitability of facilities
 - ☞ The Board may take action on the FMP at its March 27 meeting
 - ☞ The FABPAC's level of commitment and understanding of issues is impressive
 - ☞ Our FMP is a totally proactive undertaking – it's not a state or federal requirement
 - ☞ Boundary changes won't help a lot unless they're done everywhere – the FMP is about more than moving kids around
- Discussion points included:
 - ☞ The administration has been working closely with the FABPAC, so the FABPAC's recommendations will also be the administration's recommendations to the Board
 - ☞ Hopefully, the FMP won't fall apart, because we have a history of not following through on large-scale things like this
 - ☞ Hopefully, equity efforts are being consistently applied across all campuses

Proposed Local Innovation Plan

- On hand to provide an overview of the proposed Local Innovation Plan were Jennifer Pace, Principal of Joslin Elementary School, Raul Sanchez, Principal of Webb Middle School, and Ken Zarifis of Education Austin. The overview included the following points:
 - ☞ The Innovation District Advisory Committee (IDAC) put in a lot of hard work – it was a very diverse group, and include five DAC members
 - ☞ Legislation from the last session enabled the creation of Innovation Districts, allowing for certain exemptions from the Texas Education Code (TEC)
 - ☞ The IDAC represented real grassroots decision-making, with a significant campus and community voice
 - ☞ The IDAC looked at several innovation plans prepared by other districts, as well as the collective input from AISD principals
 - ☞ The IDAC decided not to pursue numerous exemptions, rather only four exemptions which the entire committee reached consensus on
 - ☞ The four proposed exemptions address TEC requirements related to teacher certification, minutes of instruction, first and last day of instruction, and minimum attendance
 - ☞ There will not be a blanket application of the four exemptions across the district – a process is being developed for individual schools to request specific exemptions
 - ☞ The innovation plan will enable us to have more autonomy and to be more competitive with charter schools
 - ☞ When opposition to innovation plans was seen in other districts, it was when numerous exemptions were being sought

- ☞ The DAC is now being asked to approve the proposed Local Innovation Plan so that it can go to the Board for final approval
- Discussion points included:
 - ☞ TEA approval of the plan is not required
 - ☞ The Board is able to amend the plan after it is approved
 - ☞ The Superintendent is considering whether or not to recommend reconvening the IDAC for any future changes to the plan
 - ☞ Need to be thoughtful of parents' schedules when considering changes to the school day
 - ☞ Campus staff, CACs, and campus communities will have input into individual schools seeking exemptions
 - ☞ Any changes to the minutes in school days will still have to fall within the total required minutes for the school year
 - ☞ The IDAC was not interested in having different plans for different parts of the district
- The DAC approved the proposed Local Innovation Plan, with no dissenting votes.

Segregation Study

- On hand to provide an overview of a study on segregation in AISD was Valerie Sterne, Assistant Principal of Andrews Elementary School. The overview included the following points:
 - ☞ In AISD, the vast majority of White students go to low-poverty schools, and the vast majority of non-White students go to high-poverty schools
 - ☞ This difference is distinctly apparent when seen on map
 - ☞ Data consistently show that integration closes performance gaps, and integration has no negative impacts on White students
 - ☞ Blackshear Elementary was chosen for a case study because it became a fine arts academy
 - ☞ In a survey of Blackshear parents, most parents had generally positive feelings about the school and its integration, but a significant number of non-White parents expressed concern that the school would eventually become mostly White
 - ☞ District-wide, we have seen some changes in economic distribution among schools, but the bottom line hasn't changed much
 - ☞ Many parents probably don't realize how segregated we really are, but we can't totally rely on individual choices to effect change – we need district policies
- Discussion points included:
 - ☞ There are lots of pieces to this puzzle, including gentrification
 - ☞ Parents have to be willing to send their kids across greater distances, and the district must provide the transportation
 - ☞ Schools that don't get Title I funding still have kids with needs
 - ☞ There are certainly more answers to desegregation besides busing
 - ☞ We don't want neighborhood schools to lose their identities
 - ☞ Dual language programs have been positive attractions for a number of schools – having other showcase programs could help in high-poverty areas
 - ☞ Encourage people to become involved in the City's CodeNext discussions
 - ☞ Under the state's current school finance system, our operations funding, including transportation, keeps shrinking
 - ☞ Over time, Austin will probably become less and less diverse

Conclusion

- The meeting was adjourned by Andy Anderson at 6:54 p.m.

District Advisory Council Membership and Attendance Record	2016				2017					
	8/16	9/20	10/25	11/15	1/17	2/21	3/21	4/18	5/16	
AKINS VERTICAL TEAM										
Heather Shaw, Parent, Perez ES (2/2)		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
Monica Sanchez, Parent, Casey ES (3/1)				✓			✓			
Mario Piña, Teacher, Perez ES (1/1)	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓			
Shalane Sheppard, Teacher, Akins HS (2/2)										
ANDERSON VERTICAL TEAM										
Cathy Painter, Parent, Anderson HS (1/2)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Shannon Meroney, Parent, Doss ES (2/1)	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			
Christy Cochran, Librarian, Murchison MS (3/2)	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓			
Thomas Jolliffe, Teacher, Anderson HS (1/2)		✓								
AUSTIN VERTICAL TEAM										
Barbara Knaggs, Parent, O.Henry MS (2/1)	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				
Vera Muñoz, Parent, Zilker ES (2/1)	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
Sedric Pinkny, Teacher, O.Henry MS (1/1)		✓		✓	✓					
Aimee Finney, Teacher, Austin HS (1/2)	✓		✓							
BOWIE VERTICAL TEAM										
Mike Berryman, Parent, Bowie HS (1/2)		✓								
Travis Botello, Parent, Bowie HS (1/1)										
Arthur Thompson, Teacher, Bailey MS (2/2)	✓						✓			
Brian Alford, Teacher, Bowie HS (2/1)			✓	✓		✓				
CROCKETT VERTICAL TEAM										
Zoe Trieff, Parent, Sunset Valley ES (2/1)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			
Nicole Reed, Parent, Cunningham ES (2/1)		✓		✓						
Rocio Ruiz, Teacher, St. Elmo ES (2/1)	✓	✓				✓	✓			
Kristel Nichols, Teacher, St. Elmo ES (1/1)	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			
EASTSIDE MEMORIAL VERTICAL TEAM										
<i>Vacancy, Parent</i>										
Reyes Rodriguez, Parent, Ortega ES (1/1)					✓					
Giles Smith, Teacher, Metz ES (1/2)		✓		✓	✓	✓				
Mayra Lopez, Teacher, Zavala ES (1/1)					✓					
LANIER VERTICAL TEAM										
DeeDee Evans, Parent, Lanier HS (3/1)	✓				✓	✓				
Natalie Bowers-Benderly, Parent, Wooten ES (2/2)										
Stephanie Wick, Teacher, Burnet MS (1/1)										

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

★ = Co-Chair

Bold = Executive Committee Member

* = Non-Voting

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Laurie Beaman, Teacher, Lanier HS							✓			
LBJ VERTICAL TEAM										
Betty Johnson, Parent, LBJ HS (5/2)		✓	✓							
Tihira House, Parent, Garcia YMLA (1/1)										
Daniela Ruiz, Teacher, Harris ES (1/1)		✓	✓							
Blanca Galvez-Perez, Teacher, Andrews ES (3/1)		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
McCALLUM VERTICAL TEAM										
Candace Aylor, Parent, McCallum HS (1/2)		✓	✓		✓					
Dr. Melanie Haupt, Parent, Brentwood ES (1/1)	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓			
Rachel Eastman, Teacher, Brentwood ES (1/2)		✓	✓	✓			✓			
Mary Davis, Teacher Gullett ES (1/2)										
REAGAN VERTICAL TEAM										
<i>Vacancy, Parent</i>										
Dr. Deanna Mercer, Parent, Reagan HS (1/1)	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			
Maya McElroy, Librarian, Graham ES (3/2)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Claudia Torres, Teacher, Webb MS (1/1)		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			
TRAVIS VERTICAL TEAM										
Genevieve Dell, Parent, Fulmore MS (1/2)			✓	✓	✓					
James Wetter, Parent, Fulmore MS ES (4/1)				✓	✓	✓	✓			
Sandy Chilton, Teacher, Uphaus ECC (1/1)					✓	✓	✓			
Allison Ashley, Teacher, Becker ES (2/1)	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			
SPECIAL CAMPUSES VERTICAL TEAM										
Jane MacLean, Parent, Ann Richards School (3/1)	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓			
Sondra Marks, Parent, LASA (2/2)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Danna Roberts, Teacher, ALC (1/1)							✓			
Paula Cox, Teacher, Rosedale (1/1)				✓	✓	✓				
PRINCIPALS										
Rafael Soriano, Principal, Padron ES (1/2)		✓								
Lupe Velasquez, Principal, Allison ES (1/1)					✓					
Shannon Sellstrom, Principal, Covington MS (5/2)		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			
<i>Vacancy, High School Principal</i>										
ACPTA REPRESENTATIVES										
Vanessa Santamaria-Dainton (1/1)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Nu Chanpheng (2/1)	✓		✓	✓						

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COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES										
Michael Supancic (5/1)			✓			✓				
LaDonna Massad (5/2)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Toni Rayner (3/2)			✓	✓		✓	✓			
Paul Mitchell (4/2)	✓					✓	✓			
BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE										
Drew Bixby (3/1)	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓			
Kevin Wood (2/2)	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓			
CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE										
Rodrigo Velez, Human Resources (2/1)										
DISTRICT-LEVEL PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES										
★Dr. Jane Ross, Learning Support Services (9/1)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Bonnie Hauser, Library/Media Services (3/2)	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			
Alonzo Blankenship, SEL (1/2)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			
AT-LARGE MEMBERS										
Alberto Gonzalez (8/1)										
★Adolphus (Andy) Anderson (7/2)	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			
Vickie Black (9/1)					✓	✓	✓			
Kevin Manzke (5/2)	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				
Kathy Green (1/1)	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES										
Ilisha D'Souza, Student, Anderson HS (1/2)		✓		✓	✓	✓				
Jimmy Counihan, Student, Bowie HS (2/1)		✓	✓			✓				
Connor Fierro, Student, LASA (1/1)						✓				
BOARD OF TRUSTEES LIAISON										
Amber Elenz	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			
SUPERINTENDENT										
Dr. Paul Cruz		✓	✓		✓		✓			

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