DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Annual Report
2016-2017

May 2017
Department of Campus and
District Accountability

DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT
2016-2017

Introduction

Each public school district in the state is required in §11.251 of the Texas Education Code to maintain a district-wide advisory committee to assist in the planning and decision-making process, and to provide advice and recommendations to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees. AISD policies BQ-Legal, BQA-Legal, and BQA-Local pertain to the District Advisory Council (DAC). This report documents DAC activities for the 2016-2017 school year, and is prepared in accordance with DAC bylaws for the information of the Board of Trustees.

Meetings

The DAC held eight regular meetings during the period of report:

August 16, 2016
September 20, 2016
November 15, 2016
January 17, 2017
February 21, 2017
March 21, 2017
April 18, 2017
May 16, 2017

In addition, on October 25, 2016, the DAC held its annual planning retreat at the AISD Performing Arts Center.

According to AISD policy BQB(Regulation), the DAC must hold at least one meeting per year at a campus with its Campus Advisory Council (CAC). The January 17, 2017 DAC meeting was held at Burnet Middle School.

The DAC also maintains an Executive Committee, the function of which is to discuss current issues and determine agenda items for regular DAC meetings. The Executive Committee held eight meetings during the period of report:

August 2, 2016
September 6, 2016
November 1, 2016
January 3, 2017
February 7, 2017
March 7, 2017
April 4, 2017
May 2, 2017

Website

According to AISD policy BDF(Local), all district advisory bodies must have webpages accessible through the AISD homepage. The DAC webpage includes the DAC bylaws, annual reports, meeting schedules, agendas, minutes, membership roster, and basic information on the DAC. The DAC website is at: *https://www.austinisd.org/advisory-bodies/dac*.

Agenda Items

The following items were included on DAC regular meeting agendas for the period of report:

- Legislative Update
- Food Services Update
- Federal Title Funding Allocations
- Strategic Plan Revisions
- Student and Community Engagement Campus Reports*
- Enrollment Update
- Charter Schools Overview
- Immigrant/Refugee Students and Services Overview
- Equity Plan Update
- Segregation Study
- DAC Bylaws Revisions
- Introduction to Districts of Innovation
- District of Innovation Update
- District of Innovation Plan*
- Annual TEA District Performance Report
- Budget and Finance Update
- District Marketing Plan Update
- Facility Master Plan Update
- District Bereavement Leave Policy
- Revisions to Student Code of Conduct
- Budget Priorities for 2017-2018*
- Status of Previous DAC Recommendations
- 2017-2018 District Calendar*
- TEA Waiver Requests:
    - Early Release Dates*
    - Number of Professional Development Days*
    - Low Attendance Day*

**Action Item*

In addition to the above agenda items, standing items on the DAC agenda include Citizens Communications, the Superintendent's Update, reports from DAC members who serve on other district advisory bodies, and possible future agenda items.

Membership

DAC diversity data has been tracked since 2004-2005. According to DAC bylaws and district policy, the membership of the DAC shall strive to be reflective of the district's geographic, ethnic, and economic diversity. But, like other advisory bodies in the district, the DAC is challenged by an available pool of applicants which is limited in size and does not reflect the diversity of the district. However, in 2015-2016 and 2016-2017, the percentages of Hispanic DAC members were at all-time highs.

Ethnicity		04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17
African American	DAC	8.8%	12.3%	10.0%	12.7%	11.1%	11.1%	14.1%	16.4%	14.8%	11.3%	7.9%	12.9%	14.1%
	District	13.3%	13.5%	12.7%	12.1%	12.1%	11.3%	9.5%	9.1%	8.7%	8.2%	8.0%	7.8%	7.5%
Hispanic	DAC	29.8%	24.6%	26.7%	27.3%	27.0%	19.0%	24.2%	21.2%	28.0%	16.2%	17.5%	30.6%	31.0%
	District	54.7%	55.4%	57.1%	58.1%	58.0%	59.0%	59.1%	60.5%	60.2%	59.9%	59.5%	58.8%	58.1%
White	DAC	61.4%	57.9%	56.7%	56.4%	58.7%	65.1%	57.2%	57.9%	54.0%	70.9%	69.8%	51.6%	53.5%
	District	28.9%	28.0%	26.8%	26.3%	26.4%	25.8%	25.5%	24.4%	24.9%	25.5%	25.9%	26.6%	27.3%
Other	DAC	0.0%	5.2%	6.7%	3.6%	3.2%	4.8%	4.5%	4.5%	3.2%	1.6%	4.8%	4.8%	1.4%
	District	3.1%	3.1%	3.4%	3.5%	3.5%	3.9%	5.9%	6.0%	6.2%	6.4%	6.6%	6.8%	7.1%

DAC member length of service data has been tracked since 2004-2005. The DAC strives to attract new members, but also appreciates the value of experienced members. As seen in the following table, although there is a general trend toward members with more experience, most members continue to have served one term or less on the DAC.

Experience	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17
One term or less	69.4%	69.6%	65.3%	69.8%	68.8%	49.2%	48.0%	64.6%	63.9%	54.7%	60.4%	60.9%	50.7%
Two terms	20.4%	16.1%	22.5%	15.1%	12.5%	27.9%	26.6%	10.8%	10.0%	23.4%	19.0%	18.8%	22.5%
Three terms or more	10.2%	14.3%	12.2%	15.1%	18.7%	22.9%	25.4%	24.6%	26.1%	21.9%	20.6%	20.3%	26.8%

In compliance with statutory requirements, the DAC membership includes parents, teachers, community members, and business representatives. In addition, the DAC membership includes students, principals, counselors, librarians, at-large members, and classified staff members. Not all of the positions on the DAC are tied to campuses, but 41 different campuses are represented. The Superintendent and a Trustee designated by the Board may serve as *ex officio* members of the DAC.

Prospective DAC members are identified through various sources, including applications submitted through the standard process for district advisory bodies, references from campuses, references from other DAC members, references from the Austin Council of PTAs, and participants in the AISD UpClose program.

Staff Support

The Planning Supervisor of the Department of Campus and District Accountability serves as the DAC Coordinator. The Director of Campus and District Accountability provides senior staff level support to the DAC. In addition, during the course of the school year, various senior staff members of the district present items to the DAC.

The DAC Coordinator maintains the DAC webpage, makes arrangements for DAC meetings, maintains the DAC membership, provides orientation to new members, maintains DAC records, and serves as principal point of contact for the DAC.

Conclusion

For the period of report, the DAC provided the district with over 200 hours of assistance in considering a number of issues, and the DAC Executive Committee provided over 150 hours of service. DAC continues to provide an important contribution to accomplishing the mission and goals of the district.