

**AISD DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Summary of Regular Meeting**  
**April 17, 2018**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Member Attendance**

(See attached list)

**Others in Attendance** (*Guest Panelists in Italics*)

*Laurie Beaman, Teacher, Lanier HS*

Christian Clarke Casarez, Finance

*BiNi Coleman, Innovation and Development*

Joey Crumley, AICP, Campus and District Accountability

*Brandi Hosack, Principal, Akins HS*

*Dawn Lewis, Austin Partners in Education*

Kendall Pace, Board of Trustees

*Bridget Remish, Employee Relations*

Suki Steinhauser, Communities in Schools

*Naomi Tafoya, Employee Relations*

*Matt Tiffie, Legal Services*

**PROCEEDINGS**

**Preliminaries**

- The meeting was called to order by Dr. Jane Ross at 4:37 p.m. in the Board Auditorium of the Carruth Administration Center.
- There were no public comments.

**Panel Discussion**

- Dr. Ross explained that this was the second in a three-part series of panel discussions on campus safety. Dr. Ross asked the panelists to introduce themselves (*the panelists are identified in italics under Others in Attendance*).
- Attached is a summary of the panel discussion, in a Question-Answer format.

**Conclusion**

- The meeting was adjourned by Dr. Ross at 6:05 p.m.

District Advisory Council Membership and Attendance Record	2017				2018				
	8/15	9/19	10/17	11/28	1/16	2/20	3/20	4/17	5/15
<b>AKINS VERTICAL TEAM</b>									
Heather Shaw, Parent, Perez ES (3/1)	✓		✓	✓		✓			
Lance Lunsford, Parent, Menchaca ES (1/1)				✓		✓	✓		
<b>Mario Piña, Teacher, Perez ES (1/2)</b>		Excused	Excused	✓			✓	✓	
Wayne Lopes, Teacher, Menchaca ES (1/1)	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
<b>ANDERSON VERTICAL TEAM</b>									
Stacey Thompson, Parent, Anderson HS (1/1)	✓		✓	Excused			✓	✓	
<b>Shannon Meroney, Parent, Doss ES (2/2)</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	
Christy Cochran, Librarian, Murchison MS (4/1)	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	
Thuy Nguyen, Teacher, Summitt ES (1/1)		✓	✓	Excused			✓	✓	
<b>AUSTIN VERTICAL TEAM</b>									
Barbara Knaggs, Parent, O.Henry MS (2/2)		✓	✓	✓		Excused	Excused	✓	
<b>Vera Muñoz, Parent, Zilker ES (2/2)</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Sedric Pinkny, Teacher, O.Henry MS (1/1)	✓	Excused	Excused	✓		Excused		✓	
Aimee Finney, Teacher, Austin HS (2/2)		Excused	✓	✓		✓			
<b>BOWIE VERTICAL TEAM</b>									
<i>Vacant, Parent</i>									
Travis Botello, Parent, Bowie HS (1/2)	✓		✓	✓		Excused	✓		
Daniel Gonzalez, Teacher, Bailey MS (1/1)		✓	✓	✓				Excused	
Dawn Dammann, Teacher, Gorzycki MS (1/1)						✓	✓	✓	
<b>CROCKETT VERTICAL TEAM</b>									
Zoe Trieff, Parent, Sunset Valley ES (2/2)	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Brenda Flores-Dollar, Parent, Crockett HS (1/1)		✓	✓	✓		Excused			
Angela Koegler, Teacher, Williams ES (1/1)		✓	✓						
Kristel Nichols, Teacher, St. Elmo ES (1/2)	✓	✓	✓						
<b>EASTSIDE MEMORIAL VERTICAL TEAM</b>									
<i>Vacancy, Parent</i>									
Reyes Rodriguez, Parent, Ortega ES (1/1)									
Giles Smith, Teacher, Metz ES (2/1)	✓	✓	✓	✓					
<i>Vacant, Teacher</i>									
<b>LANIER VERTICAL TEAM</b>									
<i>Vacancy, Parent</i>									
<i>Vacancy, Parent</i>									

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Isa Boonto-Zarifis, Teacher, Lanier HS (1/1)				✓			Excused	✓		
Laurie Beaman, Teacher, Lanier HS (1/2)	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		
<b>LBJ VERTICAL TEAM</b>										
Betty Johnson, Parent, LBJ HS (6/1)		✓		✓		✓				
<i>Vacancy, Parent</i>										
Daniela Ruiz, Teacher, Harris ES (1/2)	✓	Excused	✓							
<b>Blanca Galvez-Perez, Teacher, Andrews ES (3/2)</b>	✓	Excused	✓	✓		✓	Excused	✓		
<b>McCALLUM VERTICAL TEAM</b>										
Sam Russo, Parent, Brentwood ES (1/1)		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		
Dr. Melanie Haupt, Parent, Brentwood ES (1/2)		✓		✓		Excused				
Cari Land, Counselor, Highland Park ES (1/1)		✓	✓			Excused	✓	✓		
Yvonne McDaniel, McCallum HS (1/1)		✓	✓	✓						
<b>REAGAN VERTICAL TEAM</b>										
Ayelet Neubach, Parent, Winn ES (1/1)				✓		✓	Excused	✓		
Dr. Deanna Mercer, Parent, Reagan HS (1/2)		✓	Excused			✓		✓		
<b>Maya McElroy, Librarian, Graham ES (4/1)</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
Claudia Torres, Teacher, Webb MS (1/2)	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
<b>TRAVIS VERTICAL TEAM</b>										
<b>Genevieve Dell, Parent, Fulmore MS (2/1)</b>	Excused	✓	✓	✓		✓	Excused	Excused		
Deborah Trejo, Parent, Fulmore (1/1/)		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
Sandy Chilton, Teacher, Uphaus ECC (1/2)	✓		✓	✓		Excused	✓			
Allison Friedlander, Instructional Coach, Becker ES (2/2)	✓	✓	✓				✓			
<b>SPECIAL CAMPUSES VERTICAL TEAM</b>										
Jane MacLean, Parent, Ann Richards School (3/2)	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	Excused		
Sondra Marks, Parent, LASA (3/1)	Excused	Excused	Excused	✓		Excused	✓	✓		
Danna Roberts, Teacher, ALC (1/1)	✓	✓		✓		✓				
Paula Cox, Teacher, Rosedale (1/1)	✓	Excused	✓	✓						
<b>PRINCIPALS</b>										
Rafael Soriano, Principal, Padron ES (1/1)	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		
Jennifer Pace, Principal, Widen ES (1/1)		✓	Excused	Excused		✓	✓	✓		
<b>Shannon Sellstrom, Principal, Covington MS (6/1)</b>	✓	✓	Excused				✓	✓		
Dr. Susan Thames, Assistant Principal, Akins HS (1/1)	✓		✓	✓		✓				
<b>ACPTA REPRESENTATIVES</b>										
Vanessa Santamaria-Dainton (1/2)		✓	✓			✓	✓	Excused		

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Nu Chanpheng (2/2)	Excused	✓	✓	✓		✓				
<b>COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES</b>										
Michael Supancic (5/2)	✓	✓		Excused		Excused	Excused	✓		
<b>LaDonna Massad (6/1)</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Cathy Painter (2/1)		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Toni Rayner (4/1)			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
<b>Paul Mitchell (5/1)</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓			Excused	✓		
Candace Aylor (2/1)	Excused	Excused		Excused		Excused	Excused	✓		
<b>BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES</b>										
Drew Bixby (3/2)	✓		Excused	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Andy Sams (1/1)		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
Dr. Billy Harden (1/1)										
<b>CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE</b>										
Kathy Winfrey, Winn ES (1/1)			Excused	✓						
<b>DISTRICT-LEVEL PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES</b>										
<b>★ Dr. Jane Ross, Child Study Team/MTSS (9/2)</b>	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		
Bonnie Hauser, Library/Media Services (4/1)	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
Alonzo Blankenship, SEL (2/1)	✓	✓		✓				✓		
<b>AT-LARGE MEMBERS</b>										
<b>★ Adolphus (Andy) Anderson (8/1)</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
Vickie Black (9/2)		✓	✓			✓	✓			
Kevin Manzke (6/1)		Excused	Excused	✓		✓		✓		
Kathy Green (1/2)	✓	✓						✓		
James Wetter (4/2)		✓				✓	✓	✓		
<b>Alberto Gonzalez (8/1)</b>		Excused				✓		✓		
<b>STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES</b>										
Jimmy Counihan, Student, Bowie HS (2/2)	✓	✓	Excused				✓			
<b>Connor Fierro, Student, LASA (1/1)</b>	✓	✓	Excused	✓		✓	✓			
Zack Minicozzi, Student, Anderson HS (1/1)		✓	Excused	Excused						
Sophie Ryland, Student, McCallum HS (1/1)								✓		
<b>BOARD OF TRUSTEES LIAISON*</b>										
Alternating (See List of Others in Attendance)	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		
<b>SUPERINTENDENT*</b>										
Dr. Paul Cruz	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		

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**ATTACHMENT**  
**Summary of Panel Discussion**  
**DAC Regular Meeting, April 17, 2018**

*Q = Question or Comment, A = Answer or Response*

Q: How do we check for students who have experienced life crises, and how do we help them?

A: (Hosack) Teachers have more training now on trauma. Response to Intervention (RTI) is our number one structure to identify students who may be in trouble. Schools strive to be solution-based. Social workers are also available on campuses.

Q: Why aren't all APIE volunteers background-checked? To what extent can we background-check job candidates coming from other countries?

A: (Lewis) APIE does use a database to research all volunteers who come through them. But APIE has no control over schools that seek volunteers from other sources. (Tiffie) Legal will check into any situation that doesn't look appropriate.

Q: I'm surprised and shaken that AISD has no policy to require thorough vetting of anyone who comes on a campus.

A: (Lewis) Raptor is used to check for sex offenders. The extent of background checking may depend on the level of volunteering involved. (Coleman) We do have policies. Some people may be fingerprinted and/or required to be supervised.

Q: Are there rules on teachers communicating electronically with students?

A: (Remish) There are district and state rules in place that cover electronic communications. There is also an Educator Code of Ethics.

Q: Perhaps parents need more background checks. There are parent volunteers on campuses who don't have any supervision.

A: (Coleman) There may be cases where policies and procedures aren't followed, and it's good for us to hear about it. We'll continue to do what we can to be more vigilant.

Q: How do AISD policies and procedures compare to other districts?

A: (Coleman) I hear from colleagues that we're the most thorough, but of course we are a very large district. (Remish) AISD decided that all contractors must be fingerprinted.

Q: I'm also a parent, and I'm not always checked when I volunteer. Can we add background checks to Raptor?

A: (Hosack) Yes, but it's expensive. (Coleman) Again, the policies and procedures are there. Perhaps we need to have some campus-level conversations. (Tafoya) Some campuses are definitely up on the rules, but we certainly want to know about those that aren't.

Q: The Boy Scouts use a "two-deep" practice – at least two volunteers involved with a child, or at least two children involved with a volunteer – so there are more witnesses.

A: (No response)

Q: How are multiple points of building access being controlled?

A: (Hosack) Locked doors may be an inconvenience, but we're in a different time now. Every principal now is very safety-focused. Constant training and vigilance is required. (Beaman) Every campus is different, and every campus needs to take specific approaches to safety. (Tiffie) I go to a lot of campuses, and they're good about checking on who I am and directing me to the office.

Q: I'd like to hear more, what are appropriate occasions for teacher-student electronic communications?

A: (Beaman) The communications policy is there to protect everyone involved. There may be a need to inform students of schedule changes in athletic events and the like. Blend offers a means for students and teachers to discuss course-related matters.

Q: Some schools are okay with teachers being around students if there is also a teacher present.

A: (No response)

Q: Who's making sure that every campus is following the policies and procedures? It shouldn't be left up to each campus to decide how they do things.

A: (Remish) Last summer, safety training was given to administrators. (Hosack) Emergency Management audits each campus and grades them on their safety procedures. (Tiffie) Principals are given a lot of latitude, but they can't ignore policy. (Coleman) You're totally right, and it makes me a little nervous to hear what I've been hearing. But, again, let us know when it happens so that we can immediately address it.

Q: Please take the DAC's comments in a positive vein. It would be good to have the panelists come back again for further discussions.

A: (No response)

Q: How are teachers instructed to share what they see or learn?

A: (Hosack) We take an active "if you see it, say it" approach. (Beaman) AISD has a place online to report improper incidents. Campuses take information from students very seriously.

Q: Facebook is constantly trying to get people with anything at all in common to connect, including students and adults. You can see the potential problem with this. What is the policy on teachers and students friending each other on Facebook?

A: (Remish) The district discourages it. (Hosack) As a principal, I tell my teachers just don't do it. Social media is the devil. (Beaman) Teachers should always remember to keep all of their communications professional. (Remish) The state requires every district to have electronic communications policies, but there are some that still don't.

Q: It would be good to send out more information and reminders to parents about what's supposed to be going on at every campus, and encouraging them to report when it's not.

A: (No response)

Q: A random audit of policy compliance would be a good idea.

A: (No response)