



DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Annual Report 2014-2015

**June 11, 2015
Department of Campus and District Accountability**

DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015
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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 Board of Trustees and Superintendent. Pursuant, AISD policies BQ-Legal, BQA-Legal, and BQA-Local pertain to the District Advisory Council (DAC). This report documents DAC activities for the 2014-2015 school year, and is prepared in accordance with DAC bylaws for the information of the public, Board of Trustees, Superintendent, and district administration.

Meetings

The DAC held ten regular meetings during the period of report. Normally, DAC regular meetings are held on the third Tuesdays of the month. Following is the schedule of DAC regular meetings for the period of report. Regular meetings are normally held in the Board Auditorium of the Carruth Administration Center from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Pursuant to Policy BQB(Regulation), the DAC holds at least one meeting a year at a campus with its Campus Advisory Council.

June 17, 2014
August 19, 2014
September 16, 2014
October 21, 2014 (Annual Planning Retreat, Palmer Events Center, 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.)
November 18, 2014
January 20, 2015 (Garcia YMLA)
February 17, 2015
March 24, 2015
April 21, 2015
May 19, 2015

In addition, the DAC conducted a special meeting on June 9, 2015, at Covington Middle School.

The DAC also maintains an Executive Committee, the primary functions of which are to set the agendas for regular DAC meetings, to select certain members to serve on the DAC, and to discuss district issues with the Superintendent. The Executive Committee held ten meetings during the period of report. Normally, Executive Committee meetings are held on the first Tuesdays of the month. Following is the schedule of Executive Committee meetings for the period of report. Executive Committee meetings are normally held in Conference Room A-300 of the Carruth Administration Center from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

June 3, 2014
August 5, 2014
September 2, 2014
October 7, 2014
November 4, 2014
January 6, 2015
February 3, 2015
March 3, 2015
April 7, 2015
May 5, 2015

Agenda Items

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

- Status of Previous DAC Recommendations to Administration
- 2015-2016 Budget Process and Issues
- Strategic Plan Scorecard and District Needs Assessment
- DAC Strategic and Budget Recommendations*[#]
- Profile for New Superintendent
- Conversation with Sole Superintendent Finalist
- Discussion with CACs of Garcia YMLA and Means YWLA
- Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR)
- Recommendations of DAC Subcommittee on Site-Based Decision-Making*[#]
- Recommendations of DAC Subcommittee on Customer Service*[#]
- 2015-2016 District Calendar*
- Title I Funding Allocation Formulas and Preliminary Title I Allocations for 2015-2016
- Final Title Funding Allocations for 2015-2016*
- Revised DAC Bylaws*
- Dual Language Program Update
- Literacy Action Plan
- Mind Mixer Presentation
- New District Strategic Planning Process
- District Legislative Agenda
- Legislative Update
- District Technology Plan
- Dyslexia/504 Program Update⁺
- Concerns over STAAR ELA Tests⁺
- Format for HB5 Campus Reports*
- TEA Waiver Requests:
 - High School Late Start Days for 2015-2016*
 - Missed Instructional Days*
 - Teacher Portal*
 - Homebound Students*

**The DAC took action.*

[#]Forwarded to the administration for consideration.

⁺Item requested by a CAC.

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

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. As seen in the following table, the membership of the DAC has historically not closely mirrored the demographics of the district's student population, and the DAC realizes that this is an area for continued improvement. However, according to the Coordinator of District Advisory Bodies, this is a district-wide issue, with the majority of applicants interested in serving on district advisory bodies being White and living in the western portions of the district.

Ethnicity		04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15
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%
	District	13.3%	13.5%	12.7%	12.1%	12.1%	11.3%	9.5%	9.1%	8.7%	8.2%	8.0%
Hispanic	DAC	29.8%	24.6%	26.7%	27.3%	27.0%	19.0%	24.2%	21.2%	28.0%	16.2%	17.5%
	District	54.7%	55.4%	57.1%	58.1%	58.0%	59.0%	59.1%	60.5%	60.2%	59.9%	59.5%
White	DAC	61.4%	57.9%	56.7%	56.4%	58.7%	65.1%	57.2%	57.9%	54.0%	70.9%	69.8%
	District	28.9%	28.0%	26.8%	26.3%	26.4%	25.8%	25.5%	24.4%	24.9%	25.5%	25.9%
Other	DAC	0.0%	5.2%	6.7%	3.6%	3.2%	4.8%	4.5%	4.5%	3.2%	1.6%	4.8%
	District	3.1%	3.1%	3.4%	3.5%	3.5%	3.9%	5.9%	6.0%	6.2%	6.4%	6.6%

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
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%
Two terms	20.4%	16.1%	22.5%	15.1%	12.5%	27.9%	26.6%	10.8%	10.0%	23.4%	19.0%
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%

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 45 different campuses are represented. The Superintendent and a Trustee (with an alternate) designated by the Board 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, at: <http://archive.austinisd.org/inside/dac/>. The webpage includes the DAC bylaws, annual reports, meeting schedules, agendas, minutes, membership roster, and basic information on the DAC. The DAC Coordinator also 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. In addition, two DAC subcommittees – on customer service and site-based decision-making – provided over 40 hours of combined service. The DAC continues to provide an important contribution to accomplishing the mission and goals of the district.