



## **DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL**

### **Annual Report 2015-2016**

**May 2016  
Department of Campus and District Accountability**

<b>DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016</b>
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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 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 2015-2016 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 18, 2015
- September 15, 2015
- November 17, 2015
- January 19, 2016
- February 16, 2016
- March 22, 2016
- April 21, 2016
- May 18, 2016

In addition, on October 20, 2015, 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 19, 2016 DAC meeting was held at Akins High 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 seven meetings during the period of report:

- August 4, 2015
- September 1, 2015
- November 3, 2015
- January 5, 2016
- February 2, 2016
- April 5, 2015
- May 3, 2015

**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 Impacts
- Campus Website Improvements
- AISD App
- Teacher Evaluation
- Special Education Update
- Basic Parliamentary Procedure
- AISD Strategic Plan, 2015-2020
- Overview of District Advisory Bodies
- Overview of DAC Operations
- 2016-2017 Budget Priorities\*
- 2016-2017 District Calendar\*
- South Austin Academic Programming Update
- HB5 Campus Report Format\*
- Annual District Performance Report
- Customer Service Update
- Information Technology Update
- Equity Discussion
- CTE Update
- District Marketing Plan
- South Magnet Planning Committee Proposals
- NAEP Update
- DAC Bylaws Revision\*
- District Equity Self-Assessment
- SEL Update
- Professional Pathways for Teachers
- TEA Waiver Requests:
  - Missed Instructional Days\*
  - Low Attendance Days\*

*\*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***

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. DAC diversity data have been tracked since 2004-2005. In 2015-2016, the percentage of Hispanic DAC members was at an all-time high.

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
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%
	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%
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%
	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%
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%
	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%
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%
	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%

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
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%
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%
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%

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 43 different campuses are represented. The Superintendent and a Trustee 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, 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.