

# Equity Advisory Committee

April 4, 2023



# Call to Order

Zarqa Fatima

# Language Access

- EAC materials are available online in Spanish
- Should participants require Spanish interpretation, members of our team are available and can launch the interpretation channel on zoom



# Public Comments

- Sign-up on [Google Form](#) before meeting
- During meeting -- type the word "*casa*" in chat bar or use the "raise hand" Zoom feature
- 20 minutes total for Public Comment. 2 minutes per speaker. Please say your name before making comment
- For other agenda items, co-chairs will announce if public commentary is designated for that part





# Meeting Minutes

Sachi Edson

# Approval of Meeting Minutes

## [3.7.23 Meeting Minutes](#)





# Public Comments

Sachi Edson

# Holding Space







# Equity Action Plan Update

Dr. Stephanie Hawley & Sundal Ali



			Creation of 2024-26 District Strategic Plan
			The vendor leading the 2022-23 districtwide equity assessment used the EAP to guide the process, community engagement, and focus areas.
			2023 Long Range Plan utilized EAP identified inequities to align with operational strategies that AISD departments are responsible for implementing.
			2021-22 District Strategic Plan was informed by community identified inequities in the Equity Action Plan.
	Equity Action Plan developed as a source document for district work.		
<b>2019</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>

## Austin ISD's Utilization of the Equity Action Plan

# Enroll Austin Briefing EAC

April 4, 2023

**Katie Casstevens**, Interim Executive Director of Student Enrollment & Attendance



# How Families Experience our Current Enrollment Systems

Four different technology platforms

Eight different possible notification letters

Dozens of different instructions and timelines to navigate

Compounded for each child in your family

*"The systems and teams don't talk to one another. **Families experience the sausage-making right now.**"*

*"There's a lot of noise. I'm not sure what I'm supposed to look at, **what's important, what matters.**"*



# Enroll Austin: Unified Enrollment System

- ✓ ***One Portal***
- ✓ ***One Process***
- ✓ ***One Timeline***
- ✓ ***One Outcome***

Include all options in a unified process, with unified outcomes in a single platform powered by Salesforce

The Salesforce logo, which consists of a blue cloud shape with the word "salesforce" written in white lowercase letters inside it.

salesforce

#SimpleStandardSecure



# Intended Family Experience

Enroll Austin will simplify researching and evaluating school options through a school finder.

Families can view and learn about all school options as a whole, based on address or other eligibility factors



Understanding Concept of Choice

Awareness of School Options

Evaluating Schools Options for Fit

Applying to schools

Matching with preferred options

Accessing schools (transportation etc.)

Registering and enrolling

Families will apply during the application window and rank order their school preferences, including their zoned school.

Families will be asked school/program specific questions based on the schools they choose to rank.

Through the application, transportation information could be available to help the decision making process.

The system will direct families to complete the registration process once an offer is accepted.



The system will match students based on space, students' school rankings, assignment number, priorities and eligibility for the school/program.

Families receive one offer to their highest ranked matched school and remain on the waitlist of their higher ranked schools.



# District Steering Committee Recommendations

Over four months, an AISD cross-functional steering committee worked to form a series of recommendations to improve the enrollment experience, communication and existing policies. Over the upcoming months we will bring policy updates aligned with the vision of Enroll Austin

## Communication and Experience

### **Centralize Enrollment Across Schools via Enroll Austin Platform**

### **Centralize Enrollment for All Families via Enroll Austin Platform**

Include process to update Annual Forms as part of Enroll Austin Platform

Clearly and transparently communicate school/program eligibility requirements

## Policy & Procedures

Single Best Offer Process for Assignment

### **Modifying transfer process to align to district needs**

### **Enact school assignment priorities to promote equity while accounting for current policy**

Create and centrally manage capacity projections and targets in collaboration with school leaders



# Discussion and Feedback Areas

## 1. Unified Calendar and Timeline

We are bringing all enrollment actions - enrolling in your zoned school, seeking a transfer to another school, or applying to an application or performance based program - into one timeline. What questions or concerns do you have about our proposed timeline?

## 1. School Assignment Priorities

In the event that there are more eligible applicants for a school/program than there are available seats, how should Enroll Austin prioritize the applicants for admission?

## 1. Diversity Choice

Discussion about whether the District's current Diversity Choice policy should remain.





# Feedback on Proposed Calendar

## Proposed Calendar: All applications and transfers for the upcoming year follow the same timeline

First Tuesday in November	The Enroll Austin <b>application will open.</b>
Second Friday in February	The Enroll Austin <b>application will close.</b> All applications must be complete by this deadline to be considered in the main round assignment process. <b>Note:</b> Where applicable, school administrators will have two additional weeks to complete eligibility decisions for all applicants.
Early April	All applicants will be notified of the <b>results of the Main Round</b> of the Enroll Austin process.
April 15 (or first business day after)	<b>Late applications</b> will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.
Three weeks prior to the first day of school	Deadline to submit a request for a <b>general transfer for the fall semester.</b>
Mid-September	Current year <b>waitlists are retired, and Hardship Transfers begin.</b> From this point on, Hardship Transfers are assessed on a case-by-case basis.
Second Friday in November	Deadline to submit a <b>transfer request back to zoned school</b> for the beginning of the January semester.

## Current Enrollment Calendar

Phase 1: Programs of Choice	Common App Window:	10/17/22 - 1/13/23
	Program Decisions	2/6/23
	Family Commitments	2/14/23
Phase 2: Neighborhood Schools & Transfers	Online Registration & Transfers Open	1/09/23
	Priority Window	1/09/23 - 1/31/23
	Out of District Transfers Open	2/1/23
Phase 3: Pre-K	Qualifying/Tuition/ Dual Language	4/3/23



# Discussion and Feedback Areas

## Unified Calendar and Timeline Questions

- Do you generally agree with the application open and close dates?
- Do you generally agree that transfer requests shall be accommodated first come, first served through the summer before school begins?
- Do you generally agree that once the school year has begun, movement between schools should be limited to exigent circumstances?



# Feedback on Assignment Priorities

Enroll Austin will use school assignment priorities to promote equity while accounting for current practice and policy provisions

Implement the following priority structure in the annual Enroll Austin process:

1. Zoned students
2. Children of AISD staff
3. Siblings of currently attending students (allowed via current AISD policy)
4. Majority-to-Minority (allowed via current AISD policy)
5. Tracking transfer (allowed via current AISD policy)
6. All other in-district applicants
7. Out of district applicants



# Discussion and Feedback Areas

## School Assignment Priorities

- Do you generally agree with the ordering of the priority factors listed?
- Do you generally agree with Majority to Minority priority or would you recommend including a different equity measure?
- Are there any other priorities you would propose adding to the list?



# Feedback on Sunsetting Diversity Choice

## Diversity Choice

AISD's Diversity Choice policy was first implemented in the 1970s. The intent and goals of the policy are not stated, and it is unclear whether its intent or goals continue to be met today.

- There are currently 153 students (77% hispanic) on a diversity choice transfer (less than 1% of overall student population)
- AISD informs families on an annual basis whether they are eligible for this type of transfer
- These students are guaranteed transportation

Students are notified via letter from the Enrollment Office of their eligibility to transfer using Diversity Choice



# Discussion and Feedback Areas

## Diversity Choice

- Given the lack of context for this existing policy, and the existence of Majority-to-Minority transfers, we are exploring sunseting this program. What concerns would you have?



# Exit Survey

Please provide additional feedback: <https://forms.gle/c32Ha5JdLCNWSdKr8>



Thank You







# EAC Subcommittee Updates

Subcommittee Leaders

# Recruitment and Retention of Black and Brown Staff



# Access to Student Programs/ Engaging Marginalized Communities Subcommittee\*



*\*New name pending*



# Supporting LGBTQIA2+ Students Subcommittee



# Equity in Enrollment Subcommittee





# EAC Accomplishments and Gratitude

# Thank You!

- Caytie Brown, HS Student at McCallum HS
- Nadia Khan, AISD Parent
- Dr. Stacie Holiday, Principal at Lively MS
- Hollie Jenkins, Librarian at Allison ES
- Valerie Esparza, Deputy Director for the Center for Women in Law at UT
- Dr. Michael O'Malley, Dean at Texas State University

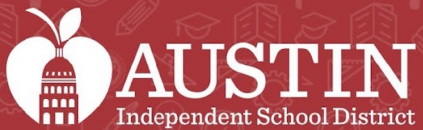


# EAC Accomplishments

- Committee approval for 3 sets of recommendations to the Supt.
- Engagement with the Equity Assessment Vendor
- Diverse makeup of EAC membership with campus staff, community, and parents







# Next Steps

EAC Coordinators

# Next Steps

- Keep up with district communication about the equity assessment for engagement opportunities during the summer
- If your subcommittee plans to meet during the summer, let us know!



# Next EAC Meeting

**TBD**





# Optimistic Closing & Adjournment

Sachi Edson