



Equity Advisory Committee

February 13, 2024





Call to Order

Vanessa Santamaría-Dainton

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
- 10 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



Protocols and Procedures

- During presentations, EAC chairs/coordinators will **not** be monitoring the chat
 - During clarifying questions at the end of each presentation, EAC chairs, coordinators will:
 - alternate between questions from in-person/Zoom participants and from the Q&A feature
- Q&A and chat are available throughout the meeting
 - Chat will not be shown on the in-person screen
- EAC chairs/coordinators will follow up on any unanswered questions found in the Q&A feature



Meetings Minutes

Sachi Edson



Approval of Meeting Minutes

[October 10, 2023](#)

[November 14, 2023](#)



Public Comment

Vanessa Santamaría-Dainton





LRP Update: Operations

Planning and Asset Management
Food Services
Maintenance

Chief of Operations - Christine Steenport



Goal

Supporting Individual Space Needs for Students and Educational Programs

Provide historically underserved students and their educators with spaces that support the individual needs of students and with a variety of educational programs.

Problem Statement

Historically underserved students and their educators are disproportionately impacted by facilities that lack spaces that support the individual needs of students and a variety of educational programs.



Operational Strategy

Ensure staff are supported and trained in current best practices for utilizing new campus spaces in addition to providing staff at existing campuses support to best use spaces for programmatic needs.

- a. Provide professional development training to staff on how to use campus spaces to support students.
- b. Conduct surveys on how spaces are being used to ensure that they are supporting the individual needs of the campus and make adjustments to space planning as needed.
- c. Collect feedback on training to ensure future training is effective for the needs of the campus.

Progress

Where we are now:

- Consultants (Principled Learning and BOLD by DLR Group) scheduled to meet with 2022 Modernized Campuses currently in design **in February 2024.**
- Tour and discussions with principal and teachers will **inform specific professional learning plan** for each campus.
- Planning and Asset Management coordinates with Talent Strategy **in biweekly meetings.**

Next steps:

- Confirm professional learning plan for **each** 2022 bond modernization
- Create process to support **previous modernizations** from the 2017 bond.



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Progress

Where we are now:

- Collaborations with two entities to **implement Post-Occupancy Evaluations (POEs)** of modernized campuses:
 - **Texas A&M Dr. Xuemei Zhu** (limited to elementary schools),
 - **CAUSE** (Coalition for the Advanced Understanding of School Environments)
- Meeting with CBOC to align efforts at their **2/13 meeting**.

Next steps:

- **Confirm scope** with both collaborators and **define timelines**.



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Progress

TBD

- Will likely be included **in scope expectations of consultants** working with each campus on professional development.



Goal

Appealing and Familiar Food Offerings

Economically disadvantaged students with limited food access, as well as emerging bilingual, refugee, immigrant students who are not familiar with American foods have access to a variety of appropriately prepared and served cultural food offerings.

Problem Statement

Students who rely on AISD Food Services for meals lack access to appealing and familiar food offerings.



Operational Strategy

Restart/increase active food sampling opportunities with most impacted groups (kids taste, learn about the food, and have opportunity to learn and respond)



Progress

Where we are now:

- **All schools** offer samples of breakfast and lunch items at back to school nights and during promotional periods throughout the year, such as National School Lunch Week and Earth Week.
- **Cafeteria managers have the option to sample new recipes** at any time to help expose students to new foods and flavors, encouraging them to try the dishes when they appear on the menu.
- We **continue to expand global flavors** at lunch, including recipes such as pupusas with curtido, chana masala, chicken tikka masala, chicken and veggie potstickers, themed bowls (Cuban, Caribbean, Greek), and drumsticks (Moroccan, Korean).

Next Steps:

- **Continue** to offer sampling opportunities throughout the school year.
- **Involve student feedback** in planning 2024-25 menus.
- Developing **more plant-based and globally inspired recipes**, such as ramen and spicy Korean chicken.



Goal

FCA Score of Average or Worse

AISD schools are desired places to be and support student safety and wellness to benefit students, teachers, staff (including those performing the maintenance), parents, and the community around the school.

Problem Statement

Students, educators, and staff in facilities that have an FCA score of average or worse do not have safe, usable, and well-maintained facilities, equipment, and grounds.



Operational Strategy

Evaluate Work Order System: Research best practices on facilities and maintenance work order systems and evaluate our current system to verify it is meeting best practices. If the current work order system is not meeting best practices, consider the following in selecting an improved system:

- a. A simplified process to submit work order to limit user error.
- b. A prioritization process based on safety, urgency, and other factors including the equitable distribution of resources. The quantity of reported issues should not be a driving factor in prioritization.
- c. A place to document when a project is not complete due to lack of funding to ensure it is considered for a future bond
- d. Ensure accountability when multiple departments are required for the resolution of the request.

Progress

Where we are now:

- Researching best practices for work order system
- Evaluating current system to determine long-term efficacy
- Identifying how to best consolidate rental program and work order system to eliminate unnecessary systems and move towards single sign-on to simplify process for district staff

Next Steps:

- Issue Request for Proposal (RFP) to identify vendor that can provide robust work order system that best addresses operational strategy
- Develop SOP for prioritization process of work order requests
- Develop SOP for documenting uncompleted projects due to lack of funding





LRP Update: Technology

Executive Director of Technology Operations - Laura Browder
Chief Technology Officer - Oscar Rodriguez



Goal: Accessibility Software for SPED Needs

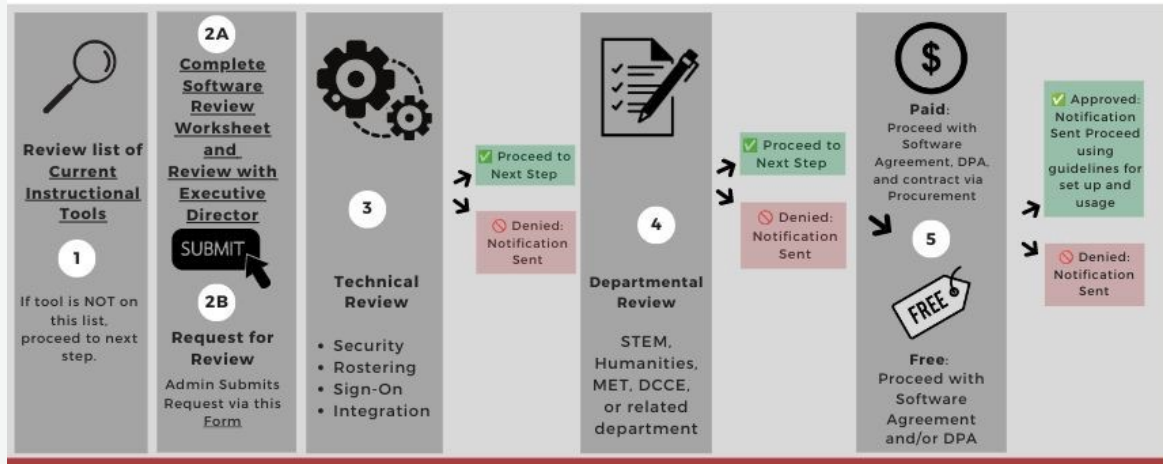
“By designing with
accessibility in mind, we are
designing for our friends,
families and futures selves.”

*~ Alistair Duggin, Head of
Accessibility at Government
Digital Services*



Strategies for Accomplishing Goal

● Improve the existing non-enterprise software review process to collaborate with Academics, Administration, and any other necessary organizations to consider user feedback in order to provide a comprehensive software review process to ensure that the digital accessibility needs of end users are equitably supported and new software systems integrate into existing AISD administration, learning management, and professional development systems prior to roll out.



<https://bit.ly/AISDsoftwarereview>



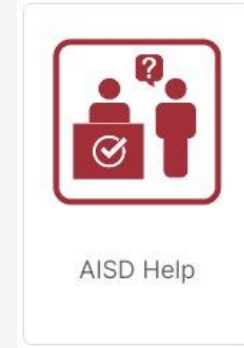
Goal: Enhance autonomy of individuals with unique needs who have recently migrated to the U.S., and/or are not familiar with current AISD technologies



Strategies for Accomplishing Goal 1



- Partner with teams across the district, community members and technology vendors to provide resources and tech tools with multilingual capability that are tailored for teachers, parents, students, and any other unique role necessary.



- Streamlining support into a one-stop-shop (AISD Help) to better serve our stakeholders



Goal 2: Increase the ability and confidence level of AISD families who are using district technology.



Strategies for Accomplishing Goal 2

Find a school that's the best fit for your student



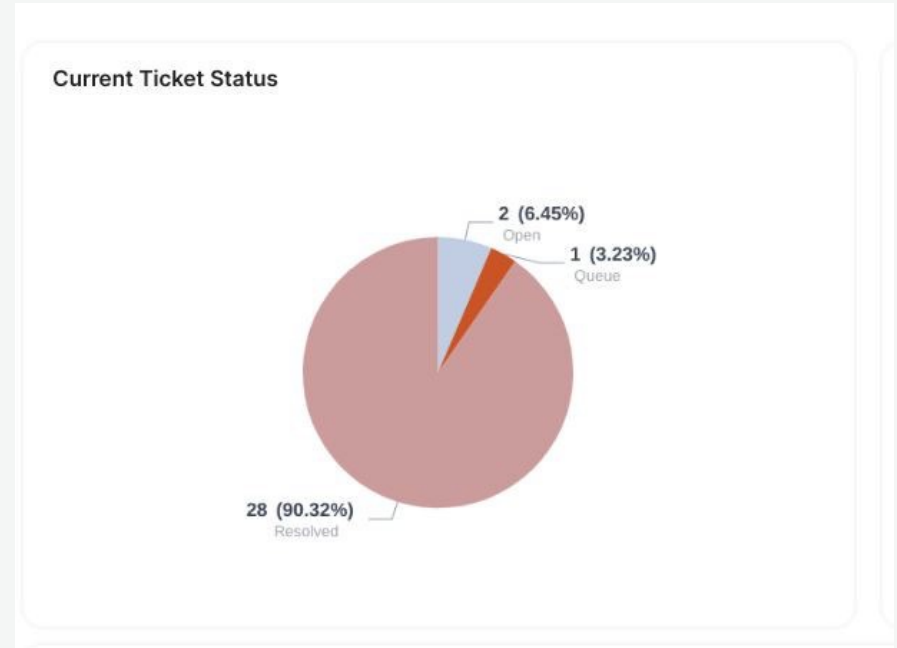
The new Austin ISD School Finder helps families find a school that's the best for for their student.

- Collaborate with the communications and community engagement department to include the "audience appropriate" technology updates in all variations of the weekly AISD newsletter.



Strategies for Accomplishing Goal 2

- Analyze IT HelpDesk ticket requests to identify questions / issues where the creation of targeted training videos or other targeted support resources would resolve a certain minimum percent threshold of all district IT HelpDesk tickets





Northeast Early College High School

Band, Theatre, & Guitar/Orchestra

Assistant Principal Hill





AUSTIN
Independent School District

Northeast ECHS

Equity Advisory
Committee Spotlight:
Soul Raiders
Rock Band
Theater



Soul Raider Marching Band



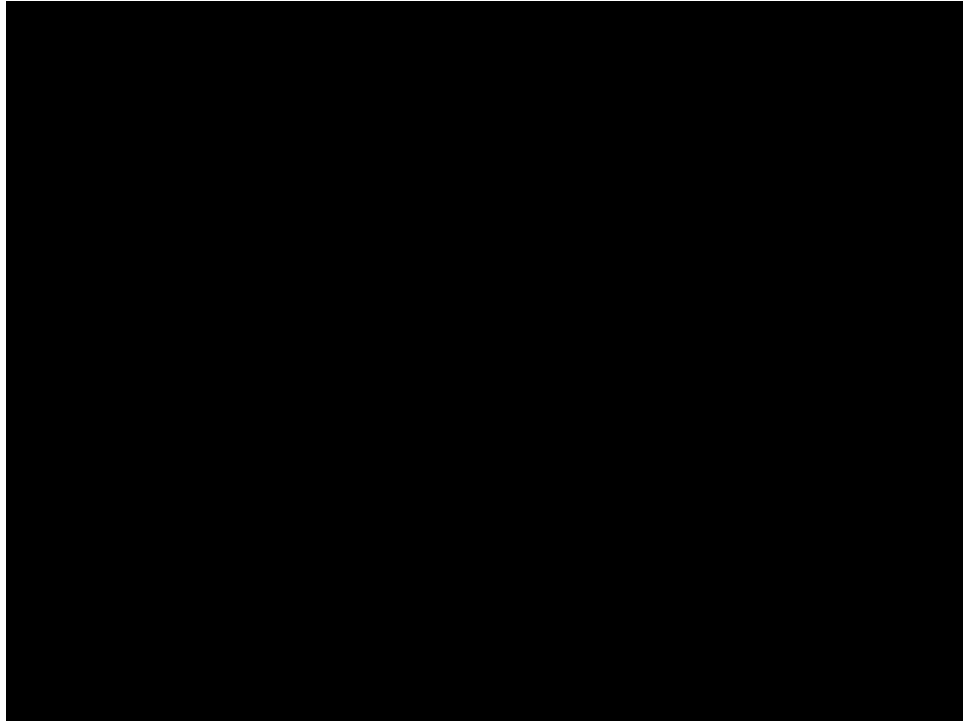
Soul Raider Marching Band



Northeast Orchestra and Rock Band



Northeast Orchestra and Rock Band



Theater Program



NORTHEAST ECHS
BLUE JESTERS THEATRE
PRESENTS

SIX

THE MUSICAL

TEEN EDITION

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SIX: TEEN EDITION is presented by special arrangement with Concord Theatricals
www.concordtheatricals.com

JANUARY
25TH, 26TH, 27TH
AT 7 PM
NEECHS THEATER
BUILDING

STUDENTS TICKETS - \$5
GENERAL ADMISSION - \$7



Student Panel

Aniyah King 11th Grade

Josiah Perez 12th Grade

Julie Martinez 12th Grade

Ricardo Montoya-Adame 12th Grade



Ombuds Office Update

Dawn Spinozza - Ombudsperson



Mission of Ombuds Office

- To create a safe and confidential space for students, families, and members of the school community to ask questions, share concerns, and seek informal assistance in resolving issues and conflicts related to AISD
- To identify trends and systemic concerns across the District and recommend to leadership improvements to policies, procedures, services, and systems to address concerning trends, promote equity, and improve the culture and climate of AISD

Location of Ombuds Office

Brooke Elementary School
3100 E. 4th St.
Austin, TX 78702

*Phone number, email address, website, and outreach materials are being developed.

*Office is scheduled to open March 4, 2023.
Visits are by appointment.



Guiding Principles

1. Independence
2. Impartiality
3. Informality
4. Confidentiality





EAC Reflective Discussion

Sachi Edson



Optimistic Closure & Adjournment

Vanessa Santamaría-Dainton