

# Equity Advisory Committee

April 8, 2025



**AUSTIN**  
Independent School District

2024-25



# Call to Order

Amanda Stocks



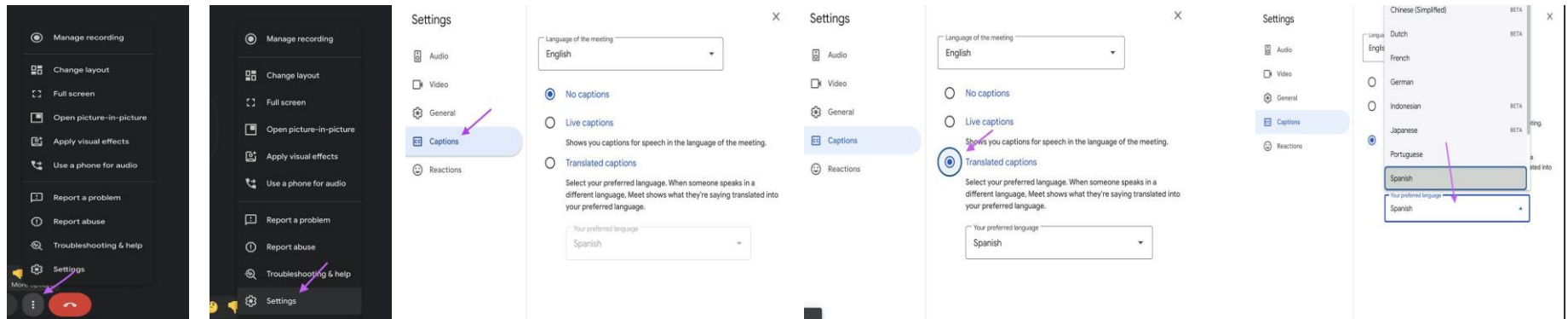
# Language Access

- AISD moved to Google Meet, which does not offer a simultaneous language interpretation option.
- EAC materials are available online in Spanish
- Should participants like Spanish closed captioning (multiple languages available), attendees can choose their preferred language



# How to Change Captions Language

1. While in the meeting, go to the 3 dots on bottom right.
2. Choose “settings” from menu.
3. Choose “Captions” from the list.
4. Choose “Translated Captions” from the list.
5. Use drop down menu to choose the preferred language.





# Logistics

- This is public link
- Should there be inappropriate or disruptive behavior, we will create a new google link and share via email
- Please share your name and role in the chat



# Public Comment

Amanda Stocks



# Meetings Minutes

Amanda Stocks



# Approval of Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2025





**COVINGTON**

MIDDLE SCHOOL

AUSTIN Independent School District

# Student Spotlight



**AUSTIN**

Independent School District

2024-25

# AISD Restorative Practices Team



Amber  
Watts



Colette  
Williams



Veronica  
Silva



Raina  
Gradford



Lokni  
Muniz



# What is FORWARD?

(Focusing On Reflections With Authentic Restorative Determination)

**Austin ISD is looking FORWARD:**  
Disrupting School Violence Through  
Inclusive Practices...

- Awarded a 3year \$1M grant from the U.S. Department of Justice in 2023.



- Piloted in 2 middle schools as an alternative to exclusionary discipline.
- Implements culturally responsive, whole-school restorative practices and professional learning.
- Aims to reduce violence, exclusionary discipline, and referral disparities.
- Team includes 2RP Associates, Integrated Systems Facilitator, and Evaluation Coordinator.

# Why is this program needed?

**Reduces  
Suspensions By  
as much as 18 %  
& Arrests by 35%**

**Promotes  
Long-Term  
Behavioral  
Change**

**Better Student  
Staff & Caregiver  
Relationships**

**Enhances  
student  
academic  
achievement**

**In AISD over 90%  
of students  
reported feeling  
safer & more  
respected**

**Reduces  
disparities &  
keeps students  
in the  
classroom**



# How does the FORWARD program work?



# What is Culturally Responsive Restorative Practices (CRRP)?



(CRRP)?

CRRP is a relationship-based approach to school climate that builds belonging, accountability, and community instead of relying on exclusion or punitive measures. It encourages trust and connection among students, families, and staff, creating an inclusive, supportive space where everyone feels safe to be themselves.



# CRRP Seeks To...

**Build**

**healthy relationships**

**Create**

**a culture that integrates social, emotional, and academic needs.**

**Facilitate**

**a space that enhances people's ability to connect with each other.**

**Promote**

**a greater sense of security, inclusiveness, belonging, and care**

**Address and**

**the needs of the school community**

**Repair**

**harm and restore relationships**

**Resolve**

**conflicts**

**Lower**

**referrals, suspensions, and punitive responses to behavior**

# Restorative Practices

IS  
NOT

- a quick-fix or one-time solution

IS

- an ongoing approach focused on relationships & accountability.

IS  
NOT

- only for students

IS

- inclusive of everyone & tailored to meet individual needs

IS  
NOT

- about fixing broken people

IS

- about understanding behavior & focusing on needs

IS  
NOT

- solely reactive & focused only on harm done

IS

- mostly proactive & centered on relationship building





### **COLT CART:**

- Every Friday, we roll out the Colt Cart with treats for staff, While sharing treats, we thank staff for all they do, and check in on their well-being.

### **Covington MS Successes**

- Reduced discipline disproportionality for Black students from 17.82% to 4.95%
- Reduced number of tardies by nearly half from 2nd nine weeks to 3rd nine weeks

### **Kealing MS Successes**

- Reduced discipline disproportionality for Black students from 59.69% to 26.88%
- Reduced discipline disproportionality for students receiving special education services from 36.78% to 18.46%

# Thank You!

Any questions?



# Cities Connecting Children to Nature

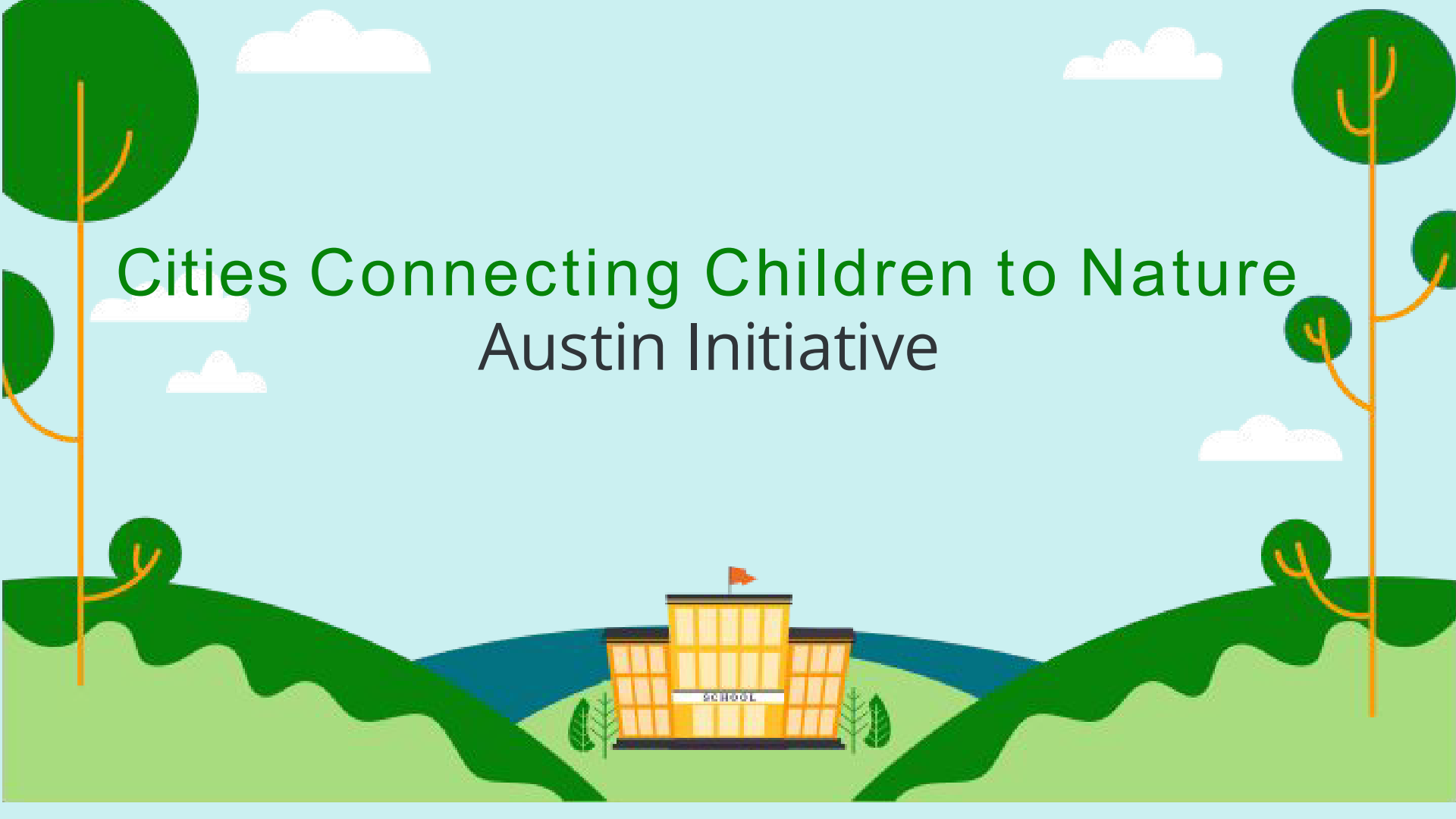


**AUSTIN**  
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Yasmine Anderson

# Cities Connecting Children to Nature Austin Initiative







## The Nature Gap

Across the US, three-fourths of census tracts with large numbers of children and families of color live in nature-deprived places.

- Center for American Progress



Mitchell Jorstad  
@OfficialMitchill

Older folks: "Why don't kids go outside anymore?"

The outside they built:



# Cities Connecting Children to Nature

(CCCN) is a national initiative that seeks to create more equitable and abundant access to nature in cities through a partnership between The National League of Cities Institute for Youth, Education, and Families and the Children & Nature Network.

## Austin Initiative

### Our Vision and Mission

Cities Connecting Children to Nature strives to ensure every child has access to and connection with nature every day.

We are committed to connecting people with the natural spaces where they live, learn, and play, which fosters lifelong beneficial relationships with nature. CCCN collaborates across institutions and systems, amplifying efforts, sharing resources, and creating partnerships that deepen our collective vision and advance our mission.



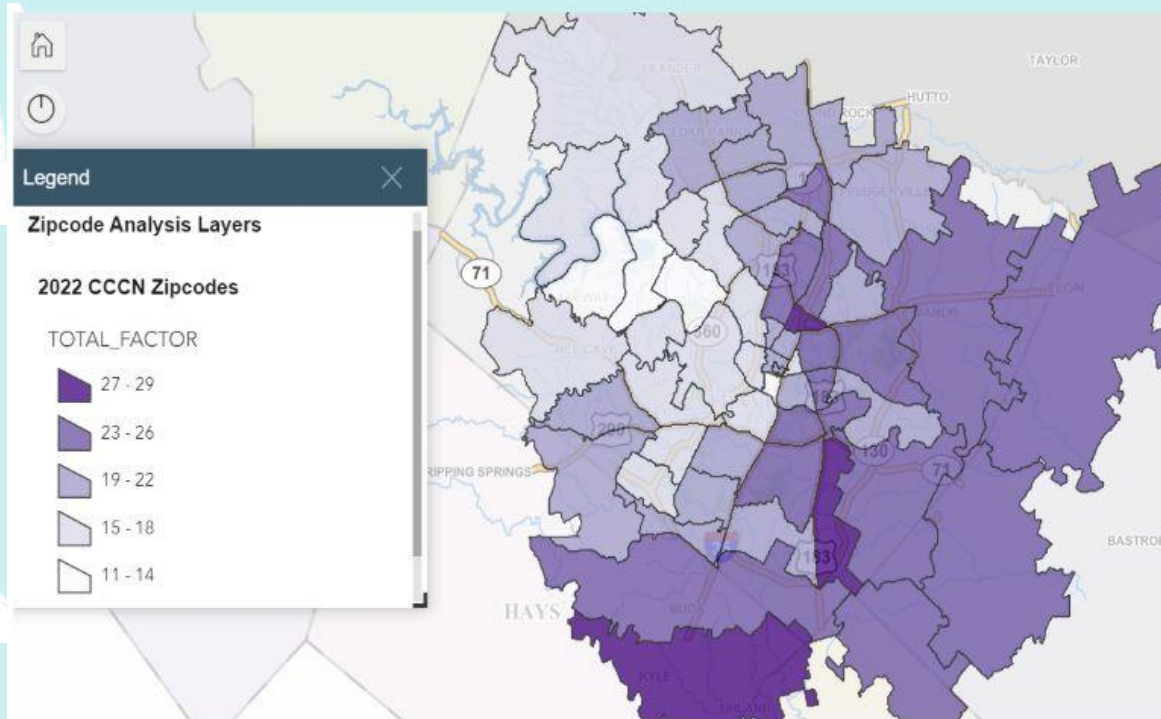


# CCCN Strategies





# Nature Equity Framework



AUSTIN CHILDREN'S  
**OUTDOOR  
BILL of RIGHTS**

In which every child has the right to:

- Climb a tree
- Catch a fish
- Picnic in a park
- Hike a trail
- Ride a bike
- Splash in a creek or river
- Discover plants and wildlife
- Play in the sand and mud
- Gaze at the night sky
- Chase a firefly
- Plant a seed and watch it grow
- Harvest and eat a fruit or vegetable

Understanding that research shows children who learn and play in nature are healthier, happier and perform better in school, we enthusiastically support this Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights.

Learn more at [www.austintexas.gov/cccn](http://www.austintexas.gov/cccn)

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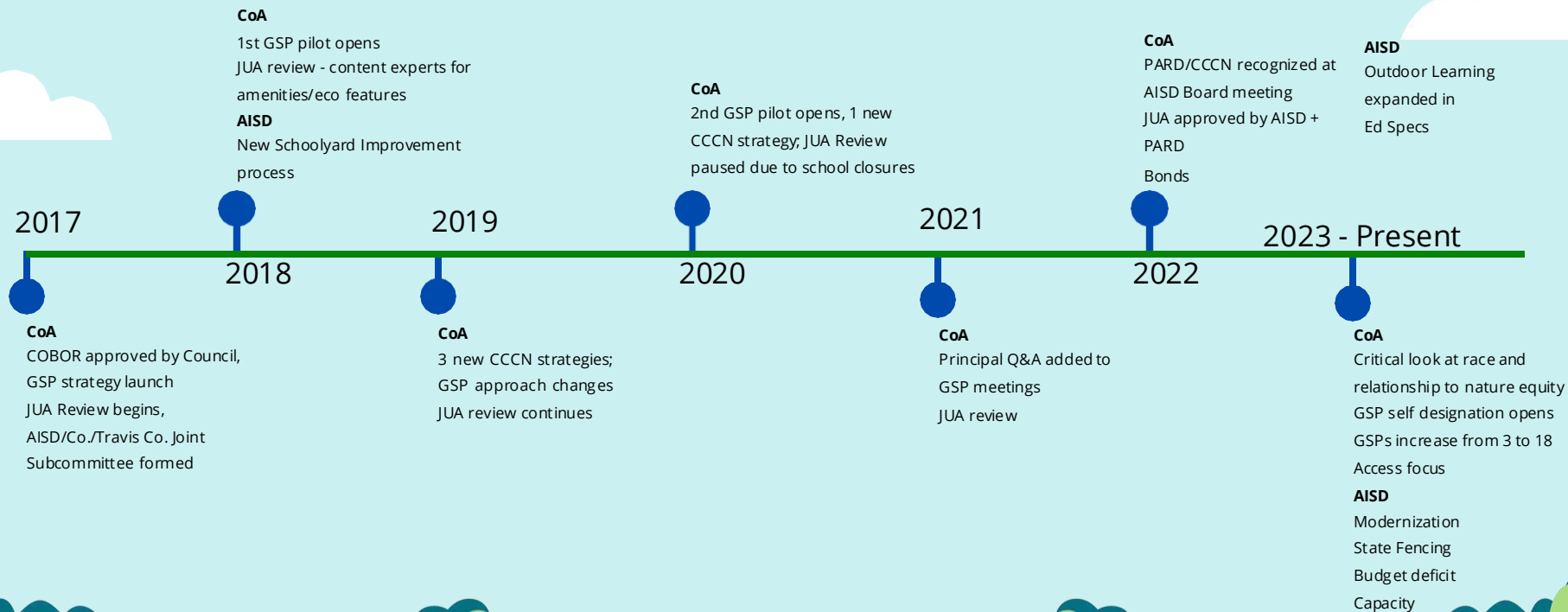
Children in Nature  
Collaborative of Austin

**CITY OF AUSTIN**  
CREATED 1856

# Children + Nature Evolution in Austin



# Children + Nature Evolution in Austin



# AISD + CCCN/PARD Partnership

- Joint Use Agreement + Easements
- AISD Bond + Modernization
- Adjacent Parks
- Fencing + Access
- Community-initiated Projects
- Tree Planting
- AISD Sustainability Plan





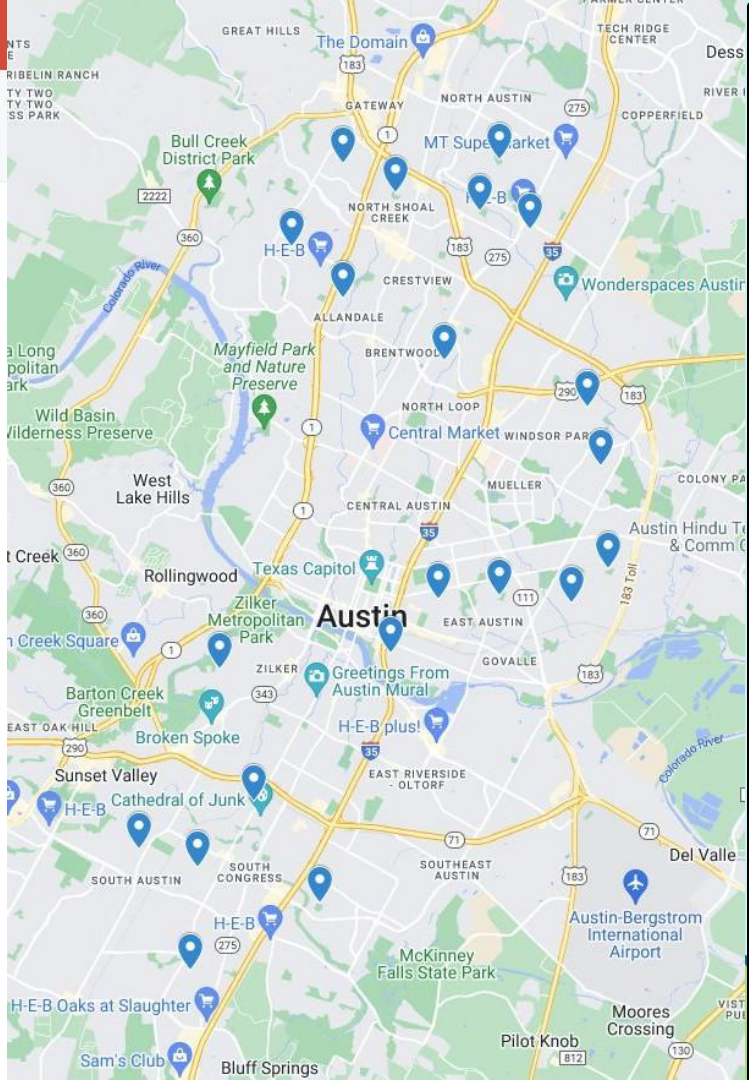
2,035 views

Published on September 12, 2022

SHARE

EDIT

- Joint Use Sites
- Andrews Elementary School
  - Barrington Elementary School
  - Barton Hills Elementary School
  - Katherine A Cook Elementary School
  - Cunningham Elementary School
  - Doss Elementary School
  - Gullett Elementary School
  - Hill Elementary School
  - Josephine Houston Elementary School
  - Kealing Middle School
  - Norman-Sims Elementary School
  - Oak Springs Elementary School
  - Odom Elementary School
  - Ortega Elementary School
  - Pecan Springs Elementary School
  - Pillow Elementary School
  - Reilly Elementary School
  - Sanchez Elementary School
  - St. Elmo Elementary School
  - Williams Elementary School
  - Wooldridge Elementary School





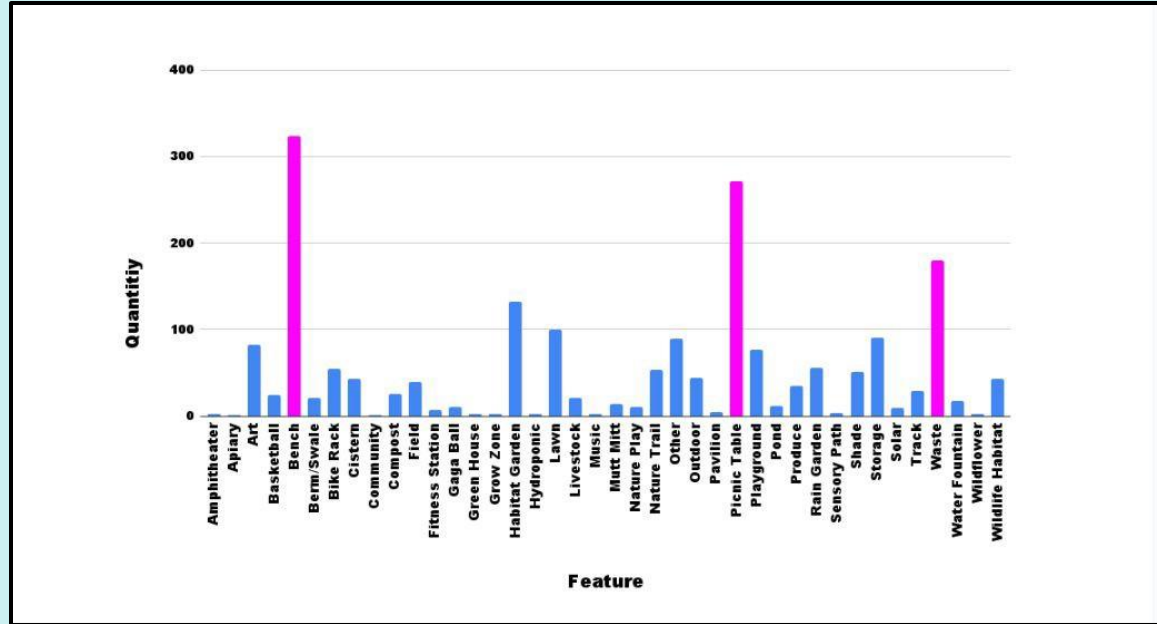
# Green School Parks

Every schoolyard creates access to nature and fosters play and learning outdoors for all.



# Assessments

- Andrews ES
- Barrington ES
- Cook ES
- Harris ES
- Hill ES
- Houston ES
- Langford ES
- Linder ES
- Oak Hill ES
- Oak Springs ES
- Odom ES
- Pecan Springs ES
- Allison ES
- McCallum HS
- Reilly ES
- Williams ES
- Wooldridge ES
- Burnet MS
- Dobie MS
- Martin MS
- O. Henry MS
- Austin HS
- LBJ ECHS
- Travis ECHS
- Small Middle School
- Kealing MS
- Navarro ECHS
- NE Early College HS



# Get Involved



## Get added to our Listserv

Receive bi-monthly emails,  
invite to our quarterly  
collaborative briefings



## Sign the COBOR

Show your support for Austin's  
Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights  
by signing online



## Visit a School Park

School parks are free and  
open to the public outside  
of school hours.



## Speak up for nature!

Research shows  
significantly better health  
and wellbeing for people  
who spend 2+ hours in  
nature each week.



# Resources

**Cities Connecting Children to Nature**

[www.austintexas.gov/cccn](http://www.austintexas.gov/cccn)

**Austin's School Parks**

<https://www.austintexas.gov/page/school-parks>  
<https://bond.austinschools.org/joint-interest-school-parks-faq>

**AISD / PARD Joint Use Agreement**

[tinyurl.com/JUA2023](http://tinyurl.com/JUA2023)

**AISD Educational Specifications for Outdoor Learning**

[tinyurl.com/EdSpecGetOutside](http://tinyurl.com/EdSpecGetOutside)

**Think Trees Tour**

[Think Trees Tour |](#)  
[AustinTexas.gov](http://AustinTexas.gov)

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**Yasmine Anderson**

[yasmine.anderson@austintexas.gov](mailto:yasmine.anderson@austintexas.gov)

# Office for Organizational Transformation Update



**AUSTIN**  
Independent School District

2024-25

Sundal Ali and Diana  
Trimino

# With Gratitude

- **Equity Action Plan, 2021-2022**
- **Community Retreats on Disproportionality in Discipline, 2021-2023**
- **Districtwide Equity Assessment, 2022-2024**
- **Long Range Planning Committee, 2022-2023**
  - **EAC subcommittee work integrated**
- **Bond Steering Committee, 2022**
- **Enroll Austin, 2023-2025**
- **District Calendar, 2023-2025**
- **LBJ ECHS after school program buses (fine arts), 2023**
- **Budget Mitigation Feedback, 2023-2025**

# Optimistic Close and Adjournment



***STRONG*** Schools  
***STRONGER*** Austin

