



MEETING MINUTES

Austin Independent School District Environmental Stewardship Advisory Committee

AISD Outdoor Wonder & Learning Center | 84 Robert T Martinez Jr St, Austin, TX 78702
September 24, 2025 | 5:30-7:30 pm

The AISD Environmental Stewardship Advisory Committee met at the AISD Outdoor Wonder & Learning Center on September 24, 2025 to consider, discuss, and take action on the items listed in the agenda. These meeting minutes are supplemented by the meeting materials, which can be accessed on the [ESAC website](#).

Attendees

Members in Attendance

Luca Sims
Sahana Ranganathan
Danielle D'Cruz
Mary Petrovich
Lavanya Selvam Alli*
Waliya Lari
Tracy Geraldez
Bobby Sandoval
Arianna Colasanti
Alicia Kim
Azocena Salinas
Mandi Golman
Rey Torres
Catherine Martinez*
Jen Cregar
Aubrey Lethbridge
Kevin Lanza
Bonita Gray
Carinne Maravilla
Tamera Tate
Melody Alcazar
Julie Gutierrez

Visitors in Attendance

Jim Stephens
Amanda Braziel
Sandra Grimaldo Hernandez
Karen Bishop
Sara Montoya

Erica Sterling
Ted Siff
Phoenix Tovar
Hythus Hu
Colleen Garland

Staff Coordinators in Attendance

Darien Clary
Carsen Daniel

Members Not in Attendance

Tomas Naranjo-Ceballos
Anika Mehta
Nicole Howard
Erin Lane
Gretchen Calderon
Matthew Garland**
Bill Schnell
Gabriella Bermea**
Mike Berryman
Jeff Wacker
Ashleigh Cibelli-Pettus
Kathleen Cane

Citizens Communion

None

* Indicates Committee Co-chair

** Indicates excused absence

Minutes

I. Welcome & Connect

Meeting attendees checked in and participated in an icebreaker activity upon arriving. Catherine Martinez, ESAC Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 5:42pm. Members connected with other members during the opening activity. ESAC Co-chair Catherine Martinez, Co-chair Lavanya Selvam Alli, AISD Director of Sustainability, Darien Clary, and AISD Sustainability Coordination Manager, Carsen Daniel, introduced themselves and welcomed members to do the same. Catherine Martinez then reviewed the ESAC purpose, shared reminders, and reviewed the meeting agenda. See meeting slides 2-9 for additional information.

Luca Sims motioned to approve the minutes from the May 21, 2025 ESAC meeting, Bonnie Gray seconded the motion, and a majority of ESAC members passed the motion at 5:48 pm.

II. Public Comments & Announcements

There were no public comments. Outdoor Learning Specialist Colleen Garland shared an announcement from partner organization PEAS for their "Camp Teach Outside" professional development opportunity for teachers. Carsen Daniel introduced UT student Phoenix Tovar who was a visitor in attendance at the meeting. See meeting slides 10-13.

III. District & Sustainability updates

AISD volunteer coordinator Sandra Grimaldo Hernandez shared about the AISD volunteer platform, Voly. Members and attendees asked questions about volunteering at campuses. Following that presentation, Catherine Martinez and Darien Clary shared updates on the AISD budget and consolidation, as well as other AISD sustainability related updates. See slides 15-26.

IV: Strategic Planning Recap

Co-chair Lavanya shared a strategic planning recap. Including demographic breakdown of the members of the ESAC by district, gender identity, race and ethnicity, and member category. Lavanya also shared challenges and successes from the 2024-25 school year on working groups that were discussed at the August 2025 Strategic Planning Meeting. See slides 27-32.

V. Working group pitches and breakouts

Darien Clary then teed up the working group pitches. Working group leaders pitched the ideas of their working groups in 30-60 seconds. This year's working groups include: Zero Waste, Energy and Water Conservation, ESAC Member Resource List, Construction/Demolition Materials Salvaging, Student Civic Engagement, Walk/Bike to School, and ESAC Recruitment. Members had the opportunity to propose other working group ideas or possible collaborations.

Members then broke out into their working groups and discussed their goals and meetings for the year. See slides 33-38.

VI: Closing & Adjourn

At 6:56, ESAC Co-Chair Lavanya Selvam Alli wrapped up the meeting and shared the dates for the remaining meeting of the 2025-26 school year. At 7:04, member Aubrey Lethbridge motioned to adjourn the meeting and member Reynaldo Torres seconded the motion. See slides 38-40.

VII. OWL Tour

After the meeting was adjourned, attendees had the opportunity to tour the new AISD Outdoor Wonder

& Learning Center at Metz Elementary, led by AISD Outdoor Learning Specialist Colleen Garland. The tour was complete at 7:32pm.