



MEETING MINUTES

Austin Independent School District Environmental Stewardship Advisory Committee

Wooten Elementary School
May 20, 2026 | 5:30-7:30 pm

The AISD Environmental Stewardship Advisory Committee met at Wooten Elementary School on May 20, 2026 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

Navvab Taylor
Lavanya Selvam Alli*
Bobby Sandoval
Arianna Colasanti
Alicia Kim
Mandi Golman
Reynaldo Torres
Jen Cregar
Aubrey Lethbridge
Kevin Lanza
Stephanie Simmons
Catherine Martinez*
Bonita Gray
Selene Castillo
Tamera Diggs-Tate
Ashleigh Cibelli-Pettus
Melody Alcazar
Julie Gutierrez

Visitors in Attendance

Janelle Frodge
Jengo Wiley Russell
Kisa Fry
Josh Conrad
Aroua Vazquez
Eimanie Thomas
Austin Wells
Gabriela Macias
Colleen Garland

Staff Coordinators in Attendance

Darien Clary
Carsen Daniel
Nia Nickens

Members Not in Attendance

Luca Sims
Delaney Lavelle
Sahana Ranganathan**
Juan Gomez
Mary Petrovich**
Waliya Lari
Tracy Geraldez
Sara Montoya
Erica Sterling
Matthew Garland
Carinne Maravilla **
Jeff Wacker

Citizens Communion

None

* Indicates Committee Co-chair

** Indicates excused absence

Minutes

I. Welcome & Connect

Lavanya Selvam Alli, ESAC Co-chair, called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm. Lavanya then introduced ESAC Co-chair, Catherine Martinez, AISD Director of Sustainability, Energy, and Environment, Darien Clary, AISD Sustainability Coordinator, Carsen Daniel, and Administrative Assistant, Nia Nickens while welcoming members to do the same. Lavanya then reviewed the ESAC purpose, resources, shared reminders, and reviewed the meeting agenda. See meeting slides 1-9 for additional information.

The committee reached quorum at 5:46 pm.

II. Public Comments & Announcements

There were no public comments. Darien promoted the ESAC newsletter and highlighted the student-led initiatives displayed at EcoRise's 10th Annual Central Texas Student Showcase at City Hall on May 14th. Darien also showed members the AISD Site Repurposing website explaining the site evaluation process of a district owned property and on-going community meetings focusing on campus specific inputs. In addition, Carsen promoted an opportunity to intern with the City of Austin's Air Quality team to help install additional PurpleAir sensors at Austin ISD campuses and facilities. See meeting slides 11-15 for additional information.

Jen Cregar motioned and Aubrey Lethbridge seconded the motion to approve meeting minutes from the March 25th ESAC meeting. The minutes were approved.

III. Co-Chair Elections

At 5:56 pm, Catherine Martinez introduced the co-chairs as 2-year terms and reviewed co-chair responsibilities. Catherine is vacating one of the two co-chair positions. Catherine introduced one nomination for co-chair: Aubrey Lethbridge. Aubrey shared his bio and expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve and excitement for the role ahead. At 6:00 pm, a vote was held and members elected Aubrey as co-chair for the two year term SY 2026-27 & SY 2027-28.

IV: Awards & Recognitions

Catherine Martinez won the 2026 Latino Academic Achievement Award for their contributions to the success of Austin ISD's students, schools or district programs. Catherine was also awarded the ESAC "Supernova Steward" Award for their exceptional leadership and given a certificate, gift card, and trophy as a token of appreciation from the ESAC members. Working group leaders and members were also recognized for their hard work and dedication to the ESAC subcommittees this year.

Catherine and Darien presented the following recognition awards:

- Milkweed Award - Colleen Garland
- Photosynthesis Award - Mandi Golman
- Super Energy Saver - Rey Torres
- Guardians of the Green - Delaney Lavelle and Sahana Ranganathan
- Zero Waste Impact - Lavanya Selvam Alli
- Mayor Stubbs Future Leader - Luca Sims and Juan Gomez
- Solar Flare Award - Aubrey Lethbridge
- Green Lane Leader Award - Bobby Sandoval
- Cross-Pollinator Award - Erica Sterling, Daniela Willett, Alicia Kim, and Arianna Colasanti

Lastly, Lavanya Selvam Alli, Alicia Kim, Mandi Golman, Rey Torres, Jen Cregar, and Julie Gutierrez were recognized for their perfect attendance throughout the spring. Please see meeting slides 22-35 for additional information.

V. Breakout Groups

Working groups broke out at 6:12pm to discuss their accomplishments over the past year and begin planning for next year. In addition, Carsen Daniel reminded members to write what they loved about

being on the ESAC on note cards. These will be helpful feedback for future planning.

VI: Closing, Reflections, & What's Next

Working groups reconnected at 6:50 PM. Darien Clary highlighted that general ESAC meetings will pause for the summer and resume in the fall, and reminded members of an upcoming strategic planning meeting taking place over the summer break. Catherine Martinez shared closing remarks and encouraged everyone to get outside and go vote in local elections.

Additionally, members and guests shared the following announcements:

- Colleen Garland announced that the Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center is hiring for positions working with young students through the Girls+ Outdoor program. She also shared that the OWL Center will host a PEAS summer camp with spots available. PEAS is a non-profit partnering with 29 schools for direct programming, the majority of which receive these programs free of charge. Colleen also mentioned that the Greater Greener Conference will be co-hosted by Austin Parks and Recreation in June.
- Mandi Golman announced openings for a licensed Irrigation Specialists on the AISD Grounds team.
- Jen Cregar noted that the City Council is considering a vote on a set of natural gas power plants that would affect Manor ISD. The community is actively collecting signatures in opposition and members were encouraged to call their council representatives.

VII. Green Building Tour

Lastly, Darien Clary announced that she would be giving a guided tour for anyone who would like to stay of the newly modernized Wooten Elementary School as it is part of the 2022 bond featuring green design. Jen Cregar motioned to adjourn, Mandi Golman seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7pm.