



**Austin ISD Special  
Education Family  
Advisory  
Committee (SEFAC)**

## Minutes for October 28, 2025

**Opening Statement:** The Special Education Family Advisory Committee met at the **Virtually** on Zoom on **October 28, 2025**.

### Meeting Details:

- **Meeting Date:** October 28, 2025
- **Meeting Time:** 6:00 PM - 7:25 PM
- **Meeting Location:** Virtual on Zoom - <https://bit.ly/AustinSEFAC>

### SEFAC Members (Attendance)

Name	Member Type	Vertical Team	Status (P/NP)
Patricia Benigno Ruiz	Parent	Navarro ECHS	NP
Ricardo Bentin	Parent	Bowie HS	P
Molly Barker	Parent	Crockett ECHS	P
Sarah Blyth	Parent	McCallum HS	P
Alasin DeVeney	Elem SpEd Teacher	Joslin ES	P
Nikki Hempe	Parent	Akins HS	P
Natalie Johnson	Parent	McCallum HS	P
Jami Kirkland	MS SpEd Teacher	Burnet MS	NP
Dr. Cherry Lee	Interim Asst Sup SpEd	District	P
Allyson Mangum	Parent	Unique Vert Team	NP
Kellie Marino	Supervisor of SpEd	District	P
Elexa Martinez	Parent	Ann Richards	P

<b>Dr. Mary Anne Maxwell</b>	Asst Sup K-12 Acad	District	NP
<b>Kristin Mijares-Levy</b>	HS SpEd Teacher	Bowie HS	P
<b>Vanessa Morgan Valdovinos</b>	Parent	McCallum HS	P
<b>Beth Pasko</b>	Parent	Akins HS	P
<b>Bree Rolfe</b>	Family Engage Spec	District	P
<b>Daisy Saldua</b>	Parent	Northeast ECHS	NP
<b>Kara Schultz</b>	Elementary Principal	Ridgetop ES	P
<b>Randi Shade</b>	Parent	Unique Vert Team	P
<b>Laura Sykes</b>	MS/HS Asst Principal	Burnet MS	NP
<b>Deb Trejo</b>	Parent	Austin HS	P
<b>Trasell Underwood</b>	Parent	LBJ HS	P

## Visitors/Community Members/AISD Staff

- Sherry Marsh, TEA Monitor
- Lesa Shocklee, TEA Monitor
- Amanda Reyes, Director of Evaluations

## Meeting Agenda and Discussion

### 1. Call to Order, Attendance, Quorum (6:00 PM)

- **1.1. Call to Order:** Deb Trejo called the committee to order at 6:00 PM.
- **1.2. Quorum:** A quorum was met. 17 members were present.
- **1.3. Approval of the Minutes:** Deb Trejo asked for approval of the minutes. Bree Rolfe made a motion to approve. Kellie Marino seconded the motion. All approved.
- **1.4. Membership Updates:** Ricardo Bentin requested clarification for members on renewal of membership and end of term. Cherry Lee clarified the requirements of the terms. Kellie Marino will send individual emails to members with their term status and next steps options.

### 2. Member Comments / Public Comments (6:00 PM)

- **2.1. Public Comment:** No public comment was recorded on the form.

- Deb Trejo read into public comment an email from Lisa Flores regarding a letter to the AISD Board from CBOC relating to Cameras in Special Education spaces.
- **2.2. Member Comments:**
  - Trasell Underwood raised a concern about the TEA Monitors in attendance at SEFAC and how their presence could hinder authentic conversation. Sherry Marsh, TEA Monitor, responded with clarification about the role as part of the TEA Agreed Order. Deb Trejo suggested a followup conversation with District staff about requirements. Randi Shade commented with no concern about having the TEA Monitors in attendance.
  - Elexa Martinez elevated a conversation from the previous meeting about Special Education students being able to follow their feeder pattern under the new consolidation and boundary adjustments. Deb Trejo recommended this conversation be moved into committee.
  - Ali DeVeney requested transparency for Special Education staff about what is happening under the consolidation and boundary changes with Special Education programs and services. She also advocated for district guidance for case managers on how to have conversations with families about these changes. Deb Trejo recommended this conversation be moved into committee.
  - Deb Trejo discussed clarity and questions with dually classified students, receiving Dual Language and Special Education, during the consolidation and boundary changes. Deb Trejo recommended this conversation be moved into committee.

### **3. Strategic Plan Updates & Review (6:20 PM)**

- **3.1. Status Update & Review of Campus Based Evaluator Model:** Update and review were provided by **Amanda Reyes, Director of Evaluations.**
  - Amanda Reyes provided information on the changes made this year to the evaluator model and requested feedback from SEFAC on questions that could be asked to families on their evaluation experience.
- **3.2. Discussion:**
  - Deb Trejo posed questions to get clarity on the ask for feedback. Amanda Reyes responded.
  - Kellie Marino shared the feedback document with SEFAC to add their questions.
  - Cherry Lee added a request for SEFAC to send her any specific updates or questions about evaluations that would be pertinent to the Board Update in January.

### **4. Inclusion Work Group and Transition Work Group Updates (6:30 PM)**

- **4.1. Inclusion Work Group and Transition Work Group Updates:** Kellie Marino shared updates on the progress of the inclusion and transition work groups. Both groups are

working on toolkits and resources. Both groups are meeting in November.

- **4.2. Discussion**

- Deb Trejo requested to share minutes or documents from those meetings with SEFAC.
- Suggestion made that at least one member of SEFAC participate as a member of each committee.
  - Kellie Marino stated that she is a member of the Inclusion Work Group.
  - Ricardo Bentin stated that he is a member of the Transition Work Group.
- Ricardo Bentin, Randi Shade, and Bree Rolfe offered comments and discussed the difference between transition services for students with disabilities and advancement across grade levels/schools as something to consider in future work opportunities for the Transition Work Group.

## **5. Discussion: Future SEFAC Committees/Work Groups (6:40 PM)**

- **5.1. Future SEFAC Committees/Work Groups:** Deb Trejo began the discussion and requested suggestions for committees from the SEFAC. The following committees and work groups were discussed along with several members volunteering to lead the work as listed. Vanessa Morgan made a motion to form the committees. Ricardo Bentin seconded the motion. 13 voted by raised hand to form the committees.
  - Advancement Work Group
  - Consolidations and Boundary Work Group
  - Behavior Work Group
  - Parent Engagement Committee - Bree Rolfe
  - Inclusion Work Group - Kellie Marino
  - Transition Services Work Group - Randi Shade
  - Technology Advisory Committee - Ricardo Bentin
- **5.2. Discussion**
  - Revisions to the Quality Standards document and Problem Solving Guide for Meaningful ARD Committee Participation document will be done within the Parent Engagement Work Group.
  - Concerns were raised about too many committees being added.
  - Kellie Marino will send out information in writing about the committees.

## **6. Strategic Plan Updates & Review (7:10 PM)**

- **6.1. Strategic Plan Updates & Review:**
  - Kellie Marino updated the SEFAC on the highlighting feature that was added to the spreadsheet to indicate changes.
  - Ricardo Bentin asked about items being blocked because of consolidations. Kellie Marino responded no.
  - Deb Trejo requested clarity on items with no responsible party indicated.

## **7. Future Agenda Items, Closure, and Adjourn (7:25 PM)**

- **6.1. Future Agenda Items:** Discussion on future topics was led by Deb Trejo.
  - Ricardo Bentin suggested Committee Setup. Vanessa Morgan agreed and suggested deciding on long term and short term goals for the Committees.
  - Ricardo Bentin requested connection with District leadership on feasibility for the technology requests.
  - Dej Trejo suggested Consolidation as a topic of discussion.
- **6.2. Closure:** The meeting closure was led by Deb Trejo. The next meeting will be on December 2nd at Austin ISD Central Office.

## **7. Adjournment**

- The meeting adjourned at 7:32 PM.