Austin ISD School Health Advisory Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

Meeting Location: Virtual via Google Meet

In Attendance:

SHAC Members in attendance

- Leah Kelly
- Amy Tyler
- Nina Miller
- Mary Renfro
- Matthew Kenny
- Michelle Gallas

AISD Staff

- Francina Hollingsworth
- Yvette Cardenas
- Dr. LaShanda Lewis
- Nissa Roark
- Alana Bejarano

AISD Board of Trustees

- Fernando De Urioste

Guests

- Gabriela Macias, parent
- Angelique Gonzalez-Page, parent
- Dr. Puja Patel, Dell Children's Medical Center
- Stacy Spencer, Integral Care
- Mary Dodd, Integral Care
- Dr. Kavita Gajjar, Lone Star Circle of Care
- Ashley Wild, Lone Star Circle of Care

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Co-Chair Leah Kelly.
- It was noted that quorum was not established; all formal voting and approval items were held for a future meeting.

Meeting Logistics Announcement

- Francina Hollingsworth reviewed virtual meeting protocols, open meeting regulations, time limits, and virtual meeting guidelines.

Approval of the October 21, 2026, Meeting Agenda

- Action postponed due to lack of quorum.

Introduction of members, staff, and guests

- Virtual introductions were conducted for attending SHAC members, AISD staff, Trustee De Urioste, presenters, and community guests.

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Community Communications/Public Comment

- Gabriela Messias: Spoke regarding indoor air quality and fragrance policies on AISD property. Note that while air fresheners are prohibited, scented supply items and fragranced soaps remain present. Highlighted that the Environmental Sustainability Action Advisory Committee (ESAC) is working to promote fragrance-free awareness to support students with asthma and chemical sensitivities.
- Angelique Gonzalez-Page: Requested moving the Human Sexuality and Responsibility (HSR) curriculum from April to earlier in the school year to assist in earlier awareness and support for students.

Reading and Approval of September 16 Meeting Minutes

- Action postponed due to lack of quorum.

District Updates

- **Health Services - Alana Bejarano:**
  - Hearing, vision, scoliosis, and acanthosis screenings are on schedule to finish prior to December. Lions Club is assisting with PreK 3 and PreK 4 vision screenings.
  - Immunization rates remain high, with 90% of campuses achieving 95%+ compliance for required vaccines (DTP, MMR, Varicella) following evening community clinics.
- **Student Support Services: Dr. LaShanda Lewis:**
  - Over 120 AISD staff members completed grant-funded virtual trainings in September covering suicide awareness, workplace mental health, and work-life balance.
  - Launching Hope Squad (a peer-led suicide awareness program for 4th grade and up) across 3–4 campuses in Spring 2026, supported by the Matt Harbin Foundation. SB 12 parent permission is required for participation.
  - The MOU with Integral Care for on-campus free therapeutic services has progressed from AISD legal to Integral Care's legal review.
- **Fentanyl Poisoning Awareness Month - Francina Hollingsworth:**
  - October is designated as Fentanyl Poisoning Awareness Month by Governor Greg Abbott, with Fentanyl Poisoning Awareness Week observed October 11–17.
  - Texas Education Code requires local SHACs to recommend grade-appropriate instruction on opioids and abuse, approved research-based instruction for students in grades 6 through 12. AISD's adopted health curriculum already incorporates opioid and fentanyl prevention.
  - The district distributed a TEA communication toolkit via its internal website to health teachers and Coordinated School Health leads for campus-wide awareness.
  - Narcan is stocked in all campus AED cabinets via grant funding. Highlighted rising community concern over Carfentanil (100x more potent than fentanyl), requiring elevated Narcan dosage awareness. Free Narcan is available to staff who complete training.
  - AISD partnered with a University of Texas student to establish an anonymized Google reporting form to track whenever Narcan is administered on campus.

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Travis County Children's Mental Health Plan ("Connecting the Dots"): Presented by Stacy Spencer, Dr. Puja Patel, and Mary Dodd (Kids Living Well)

- Outlined the 2025–2030 community plan focused on four main goals: strengthening family resilience, ensuring financial and geographic access, expanding care for complex needs, and building clear navigation roadmaps.
- Highlighted local alignment with Mayor Watson's Gen ATX brain health initiative and Raising Travis County child care funding.

Lone Star Circle of Care Overview: Presented by Dr. Kavita Gajar and Ashley Wild.

- Provided an overview of services as a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) offering pediatrics (birth to 18/19 years), family medicine, integrated behavioral health screening at well-child visits, dental, vision, and mammography (Big Pink Bus).
- Detailed program registration assistance and sliding-fee scales (Levels 1–5) available to uninsured families.

Program Review Evaluation Discussion

- Leah Kelly and Francina Hollingsworth clarified that tonight's presentations were informational community overviews rather than formal program endorsement reviews.
- Distributed the program evaluation link to members for familiarity ahead of future vendor/partner reviews.

Items from Members

- Nina Miller raised concern over administrative delays in advancing previously approved SHAC recommendations to the Board of Trustees.
- Leah Kelly proposed creating a member workgroup to review and update SHAC Bylaws (last updated in 2023) using Department of State Health Services (DSHS) guidelines to clarify submission schedules and operational rules.
- Francina Hollingsworth reported that 4 prospective member applications have been vetted and are pending Trustee appointment.
- The Office of Discipline and Special Education Department are scheduled to present joint data on restraint and seclusion practices at the December meeting
    - AISD district personnel are actively establishing a collaborative partnership with SEFAC.
- The Social & Emotional Wellness subcommittee announced a caregiver listening session on restraint and seclusion experiences scheduled for October 28.
- Re-issued a request for an eligible AISD parent to step forward as co-chair before Leah Kelly rolls off at the end of the school year.

Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.