

AISD DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL
Summary of Regular Meeting
November 28, 2007

ATTENDANCE

Member Attendance

(See attached list)

Others in Attendance

Carol Chapman, Dobie Middle School

Kadia Koch, Dobie Middle School

Alma Ibarra, Dobie Middle School

Dora Vaquera, Dobie Middle School

Elisa Quintana, Dobie Middle School

Candice Jones, Dobie Middle School

Christy Rome, Office of the General Counsel

Dr. Ann Smisko, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction

Dr. Janis Guerrero, Office of Planning & Community Relations

Joey Crumley, Office of Planning & Community Relations

Oscar Palomo, Office of Planning & Community Relations

PROCEEDINGS

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:13 p.m. in the Cafeteria of Dobie Middle School. The co-chairs thanked Dobie Middle School for hosting the meeting, and acknowledged the attendance of Trustee Lori Moya.

Citizens Communications

There were no citizens communications.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October 16, 2007 regular meeting were approved.

Legislative Update

- Christy Rome, Director of Intergovernmental Relations and Policy Oversight, provided a summary of educationally related bills passed by the 80th Session of the Texas Legislature, including:
 - HB 2237 (High School Success) – Several programs providing funding with focus on schools with the highest dropout rates and students with greatest needs
 - SB 9 (Safety of Students) – AISD as a pilot district, including staff fingerprinting and background checks on volunteers
 - HB 1031 (End of Course Exams) – Assessments required for each course taken, but more retest options
 - Other Bills – Defibrillators, school bus seat belts, virtual schools

Superintendent's Update

- Dr. Forgione announced that a TEA management team would be coming to the district in December. He said he was confident that the team would be impressed with what they see.
- Dr. Forgione said that more incentives were needed to attract students to Johnston High School. He said Johnston was still having attendance problems, but efforts were still being made to improve the situation.
- Dr. Forgione reported that NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) results were again very positive for AISD. He said that we were at the top of the nation's urban districts.
- Dr. Forgione said that the district's middle school improvement initiative was underway, and that it will be a true community plan.
- Dr. Forgione said that, based on the recommendations of Gibson Consulting Group, pilot reports were being provided to the Board of Trustees on performance at the elementary, middle, and high school levels.
- Dr. Forgione said that he wanted to see stretch goals for the district – ones that are challenging but still accomplishable. He said it may take longer to reach the 90 or 100 percent levels in some cases. He said we should probably not be expected to do better than the state average, since we have higher poverty levels, more immigrants, and greater diversity than the state as a whole.

Special Recognition

- The co-chairs announced that Julie Lyons, Director of State and Federal Accountability and member of the DAC, would be retiring in December. The co-chairs presented Ms. Lyons with a certificate of appreciation, along with a special cake and card from the DAC. Members gave Ms. Lyons a standing ovation.

Update on Professional Development Program and TAKS Passing Requirements

- Dr. Ann Smisko, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, said that Professional Development had been moved from Human Resources to Curriculum and Instruction. She said that all prior services would continue, and that Professional Development would be working with campuses to help meet their individual needs.
- In regard to TAKS passing requirements, Dr. Smisko said that the Student Success Initiative was started in 1999. She explained that, for the 8th grade, students must pass TAKS reading and math tests to be promoted to the 9th grade. She said that the district sends letters home to parents about the requirements, and that programs are in place to help students prepare for testing.
- Discussion points included:
 - Sometimes, on the job learning is more effective than training sessions
 - The application of Instructional Planning Guides (IPGs) is monitored by principals and Associate Superintendents in the classroom
 - The district is trying to get all kids – general education, special education, bilingual education – access to the same curriculum; progress is being made, but more work needs to be done
 - Need to use professional development as an incentive to teach at certain schools

- Need to be more creative in professional development opportunities (e.g., virtual training and paid weekend and evening training sessions)
- Professional development activities on late-start days are campus-based decisions
- Some retests are available in the summer
- The state, not AISD, scores the TAKS tests – over three million at one time – even though it takes time to get the scores back, Texas does a better job than other states

TEA Waiver Request: Use of Certain Assessments for Teacher Incentives

- Julie Lyons presented a waiver request to allow the district to use the Texas Primary Reading Inventory (TPRI), the Diagnostic Assessment of Reading (DAR), and El Inventario de Lectura en Español de Tejas (Tejas LEE) for grades K-2 for the purpose of awarding teacher incentives under the Texas Educator Excellence Awards Programs. She said that, at the K-2 grade levels, these assessments were the only ones available.
- The DAC recommended approval of the waiver, but some concern was expressed over not having sufficient time to understand and consider the item.

Other Business

- The report on the DAC subcommittee providing assistance to targeted campuses, and reports from other district committees, were postponed.

Adjourn

The co-chairs again thanked Dobie Middle School for hosting the meeting and thanked members of the school community for attending. Continued communication with the DAC was encouraged. The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

District Advisory Council Member List and Attendance (Rev. 10/16/07)	2007						2008					
	6/19	8/21	9/18	10/16	11/28		1/15	2/19	3/18	4/15	5/20	
AKINS VERTICAL TEAM												
Christina DeWinne, Parent, Akins HS (1/2)	✓		✓	✓								
<i>Vacancy, Parent</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A							
Maria (Lupe) Ramos, Teacher, Perez ES (1/1)			✓		✓							
Martha Bartz, Teacher, Paredes MS (1/1)	N/A	N/A	N/A									
ANDERSON VERTICAL TEAM												
Stacey Silverman, Parent, Hill ES (2/2)			✓	✓	✓							
Laura Tuma, Parent, Davis ES (2/1)	✓	✓	✓	✓								
Melissa Prepster, Teacher, Murchison MS (1/1)	✓		✓	✓								
Jill Stimson, Librarian, Hill ES (1/1)	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓							
AUSTIN VERTICAL TEAM												
Vickie Black, Parent, Matthews ES (5/1)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
Buddy Owen, Parent, Austin HS (6/1)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
Jeanne Ann Thompson, Counselor, O.Henry MS (1/1)	✓	✓	✓									
Mark Kelly, Teacher, Small MS (1/2)		✓	✓	✓	✓							
BOWIE VERTICAL TEAM												
Laura Ammer, Parent, Kocurek ES (2/1)												
Donna Casteel, Parent, Bailey MS (1/2)	✓		✓									
Vicki Everett, Teacher, Bailey MS (2/2)	✓	✓	✓	✓								
Marcos Bazan, Teacher, Bowie HS (1/1)	✓	✓	✓		✓							
CROCKET VERTICAL TEAM												
Tammy Henderson, Parent, Cowan ES (1/1)			✓	✓								
Kevin Manzke, Parent, Cunningham ES (1/1)	✓	✓	✓		✓							
Linda Johnson, Teacher, Odom ES (2/2)			✓	✓	✓							
Marcie Goltz, Teacher, Boone ES (1/1)	✓		✓		✓							
JOHNSTON VERTICAL TEAM												
Hilda Villalobos-Alvarez, Parent, Ortega ES (1/1)	✓	✓	✓	✓								
Joyce Guajardo, Parent, Metz ES (1/1)												
Joe Moore, Teacher, Martin JH (4/1)												
Sarah Robertson, Teacher, Metz ES (1/1)	✓	✓	✓									
LANIER VERTICAL TEAM												
Lourdes Flores, Parent, Wooldridge ES (1/2)		✓			✓							
Christine Brister, Parent, Burnet MS (1/1)	✓	✓			✓							
Isabel Cano, Teacher, Cook ES (2/1)	✓				✓							
Patricia Croghan, Teacher, McBee ES (1/1)		✓	✓		✓							
LBJ VERTICAL TEAM												
Betty Johnson, Parent, Pearce MS (1/1)	✓	✓			✓							
LaDonna Massad, Parent, LBJ HS (1/1)		✓	✓	✓	✓							
Susan Levett, Teacher, Andrews ES (1/1)	✓	✓		✓	✓							
Jon David Saucedo, Teacher, Sims ES (1/2)	✓			✓	✓							

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McCALLUM VERTICAL TEAM											
Varshna Narumanchi-Jackson, Parent, Lee ES (2/1)		✓	✓	✓							
Kathy Golden, Parent, Lamar MS (1/1)	N/A	N/A	✓		✓						
Pam Gonzalez, Teacher, Highland Park ES (2/1)											
Mary Ghazinezhadiansh, Teacher, McCallum HS (1/2)		✓	✓		✓						
REAGAN VERTICAL TEAM											
Shanntell Colvin, Parent, Norman ES (1/2)					✓						
Veronica Martinez, Parent, Pickle ES (1/1)											
Martha Dolman, Teacher, ALC (1/2)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Kathy Ryan, Teacher, Hart ES (1/2)	✓	✓	✓		✓						
TRAVIS VERTICAL TEAM											
★Ramon DeJesus, Parent, Travis HS (6/1)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Adolphus Anderson, Parent, Rodriguez ES (3/1)	✓	✓	✓	✓							
Marie Harpin, Teacher, Travis HS (1/2)			✓	✓							
Douglas Rhodenbaugh, Teacher, Fulmore MS (3/1)			✓	✓							
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS											
Pat Butler, Mills ES (2/2)			✓	✓	✓						
Shannon Sellstrom, Dawson ES (1/1)	N/A		✓	✓	✓						
Janie Ruiz, Gullett ES (3/1)			✓	✓	✓						
MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPALS											
★Jane Ross, Pearce MS (4/2)	✓	✓	✓		✓						
Stephanie Childs, Bailey MS (1/1)	✓		✓								
HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL											
Edmund Oropez, Lanier HS (1/2)			✓								
ACPTA REPRESENTATIVES											
Pascual Piedfort (1/2)	✓	✓	✓		✓						
Jane Hampton (1/1)	N/A		✓								
COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES											
Wayne Krause, Texas Civil Rights Project (1/2)	✓	✓									
Yvonne Meyer, City of Austin (1/1)	✓	✓		✓							
BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE											
Linda Klar, Gilleland Creek Press Association Services (2/2)											
CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE											
Linda Garcia, Small MS (1/1)											
DISTRICT-LEVEL PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE											
Julie Lyons, Accountability (2/2)	✓	✓	✓		✓						
AT-LARGE MEMBERS											
Alberto Gonzalez, Parent, Fulmore MS, LBJ HS (3/2)	✓	✓	✓		✓						
Dennis Petrash, Parent, Patton ES (1/2)	✓	✓	✓		✓						
Mollie Guion, Instructional Specialist, Martin JH (1/2)	✓	✓	✓	✓							

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STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES												
Jasmine Thum, LASA	N/A		✓	✓	✓							
Cora Lee, Austin HS	N/A	N/A	N/A		✓							
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPRESENTATIVE (ex officio)												
Johna Edwards, Board Secretary (1/2)	✓	✓	✓	✓								

/ # = Total number of terms appointed/Year of current term ★ = Co-Chair