

AISD DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL
Summary of Regular Meeting
April 15, 2008

ATTENDANCE

Member Attendance

(See attached list)

Others in Attendance

Joey Crumley, AISD, Planning & Community Relations
Kent Ewing, AISD, Redesign
Dr. Pat Forgione, AISD, Superintendent
Lt. Silas Griggs, AISD, Police
Dr. Brenda Hummel, AISD, Educational Support Services
Dr. Andri Lyons, AISD, Discipline
Jane Nelson, Calendar Task Force
Patrick Patterson, AISD, LBJ High School
Mike Perez, Calendar Task Force
Nancy Phillips, AISD, State & Federal Accountability
Rene Sanchez, AISD, LASA
Trent Sharp, AISD, Redesign

PROCEEDINGS

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 p.m. in the Board Auditorium of the Carruth Administration Center.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March 18, 2008 regular meeting were approved.

Citizens Communications

There were no citizens communications.

2009-2010 District Calendar Process and Survey

- Dr. Brenda Hummel, Acting Assistant Superintendent of Educational Support Services, presented information on the 2009-2010 district calendar process, including a timeline, list of task force members, and FAQs. Dr. Hummel then introduced some of the members of the task force.
- Dr. Hummel explained that a survey, developed by parents, was currently being conducted to gain community perspectives on calendar issues and options, and that she would like DAC members to also take the survey to specifically get their input.
- Discussion points included:
 - Legislative requirements may affect the district calendar
 - The Calendar Task Force does not have direct purview over high school late start days, although it is definitely interested in this
 - May want to revisit the idea of a two-year district calendar

- A recurring issue is balancing the length of semesters versus ending testing prior to going on winter break
- The district has traditionally followed UT's spring break schedule
- Parent-developed surveys are a step in the right direction

Proposed Changes to 2008-2009 Student Code of Conduct

- Dr. Andri Lyons, Discipline Coordinator, presented proposed changes to the Student Code of Conduct. Dr. Lyons said that there was no legislative session this year, and the two proposed changes were administrative in nature. She explained that the Student Code of Conduct was largely legal in nature, addressing what the district is required to do. She said that the two proposed changes would result in mandatory removals for possession of BB or air guns and homemade weapons.
- Silas Griggs, Lieutenant, Police Department, showed pictures of items recently confiscated from students on school property. One was a BB gun that looked very much like a real rifle, and one was a rattail comb that had been sharpened to a point.
- Dr. Lyons said that she had consulted with the General Counsel, Police Department, and campus administrators, all of whom concurred on the need to address this matter. She said the main pro was removing a danger, with the main con probably being intent.
- Discussion points included:
 - Extensive due process is always used and can establish extenuating circumstances
 - Removals of students are not necessarily lengthy, and there is considerable discretion involved
 - May wish to consider addressing slingshots
 - ALC does not offer the same quality of educational experience to students being disciplined
 - Although a student may possess a toy gun, it may be difficult for a law officer to tell the difference, which is a danger to the student
- The DAC moved to support the proposed changes to the Student Code of Conduct, with one dissenting vote and one abstention.

Texas Educator Excellence Grant Cycle III

- Nancy Phillips, Director of State and Federal Accountability, stated that \$2.6 million in TEEG funds were being sought by AISD schools this funding cycle. She provided summaries of the 26 individual campus funding plans. She explained that several of the campuses had previously received grant funding.
- Ms. Phillips said that 75 percent of any grant funding received by a campus must go directly to compensating teachers. She explained that Campus Advisory Councils have to approve the campus funding plans, but not the DAC or the Board of Trustees. However, she said that the Board must approve the campuses applying for the grants, and a recommendation in this regard was being sought from the DAC.
- Discussion points included:
 - Some campuses will get TEEG and Strategic Compensation funding
 - There is great variety among campuses in how grant funding is distributed
 - May need to have greater accountability in the system
 - Some campuses are simply repeating what they did last year

- No campus has yet to decline a grant opportunity
 - Advice and counsel is available to campuses in developing their funding plans
- The DAC moved to recommend approval by the Board for the designated campuses to apply for grant funding, with one abstention. A secondary motion to add monitoring plan compliance failed.

Superintendent's Update

- Dr. Forgione said that the district was hard at work under state accountability requirements for Johnston and Pearce. He said the district wants these schools to stay open, but we must prepare closure contingency plans under state law.
- Dr. Forgione said that closing a school does not solve any problems and disrupts neighborhoods. He said that the Board last night had a deep discussion on the Johnston plan, and that incentives were needed to attract students to Johnston.
- Dr. Forgione said that the district would be asking the TEA Commissioner for a bridge to 2009 to allow time for the innovative Johnston plan to take hold.
- Dr. Forgione said the district was also working on succession planning, not just for the Superintendent, but for other executive positions. He said that legacy succession planning was also underway at the campus level.
- Dr. Forgione announced that three "Executive Principal" positions were being created at the elementary, middle, and high school levels to provide greater support for campuses.
- Dr. Forgione thanked the DAC for hosting the Middle School Education Plan community conversation recently at Mendez. He commented that the middle is where the end begins.

Proposed High School Late Start Days for 2008-2009

- Kent Ewing, Executive Director of Redesign, said that high school late start days were proceeding smoothly with only a few kinks. He said that a lot had been accomplished on campuses.
- Edmund Oropez, Rene Sanchez, and Patrick Patterson testified as high school principals that late start days were extremely valuable, resulting in more common planning time for teachers and greater opportunities for professional development and training.
- Trent Sharp said that teachers and parents had been surveyed on late start days, and this input would help drive any needed improvements or adjustments.
- Discussion points included:
 - Loss of instructional time is outweighed by the benefits
 - The quality of instruction is going up
 - Very few negatives have been heard from teachers and parents
 - Late starts seem to be more feasible than early dismissals for high schools, but for elementary schools early dismissals would probably be better
 - Implementation costs have been minimal
 - Concern over cumulative losses of instructional time, given all of the other reductions
- The DAC moved to support the proposed high school late start days for 2008-2009.

DAC Budget Priorities for 2008-2009

- Pat Butler, Chair of the DAC Budget Subcommittee, said that there had been no changes to the subcommittee's recommendations since the last DAC meeting. She said that she would like to get more supporting information on technical support, but did provide some cost estimates for various levels of support to the campuses.
- The subcommittee's recommendations were again put before the DAC for consideration, and discussion points included:
 - Probably best not to state specific dollar amounts in the recommendations
 - May need to state some minimum standards
 - Should consider a centralized trouble ticket system to dispatch technicians to campuses as needed
- Ramon DeJesus pointed out that this was the third time that this item had been on the DAC agenda, and that a vote was now required in order for the DAC to have an opportunity to provide timely input to the Budget Task Force and the Board.
- The DAC moved to support the recommendations of the subcommittee and to forward them to the Budget Task Force and the Board.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 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)	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓		✓		
Kay Manis, Parent, Menchaca ES (1/1)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓			
Maria (Lupe) Ramos, Teacher, Perez ES (1/1)			✓		✓			✓				
<i>Vacancy, Teacher</i>												
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												
<i>Vacancy, Parent</i>												
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)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		
<i>Vacancy, Parent</i>												
<i>Vacancy, Teacher</i>												
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)	✓			✓	✓			✓		✓		

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	
McCALLUM VERTICAL TEAM												
Varshna Narumanchi-Jackson, Parent, Lee ES (2/1)		✓	✓	✓				✓		✓		
Kathy Golden, Parent, Lamar MS (1/1)	N/A	N/A	✓		✓		✓					
<i>Vacancy, Teacher</i>												
Mary Ghazinezhadiansh, Teacher, McCallum HS (1/2)		✓	✓		✓				✓			
REAGAN VERTICAL TEAM												
Shanntell Colvin, Parent, Norman ES (1/2)					✓		✓					
<i>Vacancy, Parent</i>												
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, Klar Communications (2/2)							✓			✓		
CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE												
<i>Vacancy</i>												
DISTRICT-LEVEL PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE												
<i>Vacancy</i>												
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)	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓		

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	
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