

AISD DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL
Summary of Regular Meeting
February 18, 2020

ATTENDANCE

Member Attendance

(See attached list)

Others in Attendance

Norma Castillo, Talent Acquisition and Development

Joey Crumley, Innovation and Development

Katy Escandell, Academics

Rosa Peña, Human Capital

Dr. Jacob Reach, Chief of Staff

Michelle Wallis, Innovation and Development

PROCEEDINGS

Preliminaries

- The meeting was called to order by Dr. Jane Ross at 5:01 in the library of Summitt Elementary School.
- There were no public comments.
- Under comments from members, Joey Crumley announced that the district was still looking for volunteers, particularly teachers and students, to serve on the upcoming Strategic Planning Advisory Committee.

Superintendent's Update

- Dr. Jacob Reach, Chief of Staff, provided an update that included the following points:
 - ☞ The Board is continuing to work on its pieces of the new strategic plan.
 - ☞ The annual district demographic report was presented to the Board last week, and highlights included:
 - The first time since 2011-12 there has been an increase in district enrollment
 - Out-of-district enrollment has grown significantly
 - We're continuing to expand our PK3 and PK4 enrollment
 - The full report is available online
 - ☞ The Board will be hearing the district's financial forecast next week, including:
 - The tax rate will decrease slightly
 - Recapture is down, but we're still giving more than anyone else in the state
 - Our fund balance is still healthy, but we'd like to reinforce it
 - We're revisiting stipends
 - We want to make strong investments into academically struggling schools, and into school safety
 - We will continue to build up early literacy supports
- Discussion points included:
 - ☞ The current fund balance is about \$290 million (we're required to have at least \$150 million).
 - ☞ We're looking into the pay scale for special education staff to make sure we're competitive.
 - ☞ We're hearing different stories about special education caseloads.
 - ☞ We're bringing in some contracted special education services.
 - ☞ From the city's point of view, in the future we should see condos and townhomes becoming more occupied by a different demographic.
 - ☞ We may be looking at funding full-day PK3.

District Organization Update

- Dr. Reach provided an update that included the following points:
 - ☞ There is not a lot to report on this right now.
 - ☞ We've increased staff in central offices who support schools, such that they can be on campuses more.
 - ☞ Principals are generally saying good things about this change.
 - ☞ Parents are feeling that there's no one to talk to directly at the district level when they have issues or concerns.
 - ☞ The Academics team was also reorganized – four curriculum areas were consolidated into two, with more staff dedicated to literacy and early childhood education.
 - ☞ The district organizational chart online doesn't go down very far in levels.
 - ☞ Due to various other duties, not all elementary school executive directors have the same number of principals reporting to them.
 - ☞ Now, facility maintenance has its own director and assigned staff, making them more responsive to needs.

School Changes Update

- Dr. Reach provided an update that included the following points:
 - ☞ For the schools that have been consolidated, there are transition teams made up of various campus staff, and the teams give regular reports to the Board.
 - ☞ New schools are continuing to open under our last bond program.
 - ☞ The Board may have further discussions on possible other consolidations.
 - ☞ Cultural proficiency efforts are being ramped up.
 - ☞ We're continuing to discuss possible shared facility usage with the city.
- Discussion points included:
 - ☞ We haven't finalized the reuse of the Pease campus.
 - ☞ The Equity Officer came onboard in August and has been involved in the process since that time.
 - ☞ Extended days are starting at the consolidated schools, and we're looking at student care until 6:00 p.m. We'll assess how this goes, and then look at expanding to other campuses.

District of Innovation Plan Amendment

- Norma Castillo, Director of Talent Acquisition and Development, and Katy Escandell, Director of Academics, went over the following points:
 - ☞ The district is facing a lake of CALTs, and inequities where they are stationed.
 - ☞ In addition to CALT accreditation, currently CALTs must also have a teaching certificate, and there are continuing education requirements. It has become harder to acquire them and to keep them.
 - ☞ The DOI plan allows CTE instructors to not have a teaching certificate, but most have industry certification.
 - ☞ We now want to do this with CALTs, but they would still need CALT accreditation or be very close to getting it.
- Discussion points included:
 - ☞ These people would be similar to reading specialists.
 - ☞ There is a concern about providing people training, then having them leave, so we may want to consider a minimum time agreement.
 - ☞ It's not correct to say that all kids are getting the dyslexia services that they need.
 - ☞ All dyslexic kids can learn if they receive the help they need when they need it.
 - ☞ There's an argument to be made that CALT accreditation is more important than having a teaching certificate – the therapy is what's needed. In other words, a teaching certificate may not ensure better provision of needed services.

- ☞ We still need to ensure that kids with reading needs other than dyslexia get the help they need.
 - ☞ We need to not pull kids away from the normal school day to get therapy – before or after school would be better.
 - ☞ It would be best to stipulate in the DOI plan exactly what CALTs will have as duties – we don't want them to end up doing all kinds of other things.
 - ☞ We don't want to see CALTs replacing literacy specialists.
 - ☞ There needs to be more specificity about persons who are very close to receiving CALT accreditation – they can't drag it out too long.
- The DAC moved to support the proposed amendments, with three dissenting votes.

Conclusion

- The meeting was adjourned by Andy Anderson at 7:01 p.m.

DAC MEMBER ATTENDANCE
October 13, 2019

Name	Category	Vertical Team	School	Present
Trudy Richards	Parent	Akins	Akins	Yes
Maria Sebastian	Teacher	Akins	Perez	No
Wayne Lopes	Teacher	Akins	Menchaca	Yes
Ryan Hazlett	Parent	Anderson	Murchison	No
Jessica Sanchez	Parent	Anderson	Pillow	No
Christy Cochran	Librarian	Anderson	Murchison	Yes
Thuy Nguyen	Teacher	Anderson	Summitt	Yes
Barbara Knaggs	Parent	Austin	O.Henry	Yes
Vera Muñiz	Parent	Austin	Zilker	Yes
Alyssa Potasznik	Teacher	Austin	Austin	Yes
Matt Heisterman	Teacher	Bowie	Kiker	Yes
Emmaleigh Toto	Teacher	Bowie	Gorzycki	Yes
Zoe Trieff	Parent	Crockett	Sunset Valley	Yes
Kristel Nichols	Teacher	Crockett	St. Elmo	No
Anne Alvarez	Parent	Eastside Memorial	Ortega	Yes
Roland Hutson	Teacher	Eastside Memorial	Allison	No
Isa Boonto-Zarifis	Teacher	Lanier	Lanier	Yes
Griselda Pena	Teacher	Lanier	Burnet	Yes
Reedy Spigner III	Parent	LBJ	Norman-Sims	No
Becky Adams	Teacher	LBJ	Overton	Yes
Blanca Galvez-Perez	Teacher	LBJ	Andrews	Yes
Holly Eaton	Parent	McCallum	McCallum	Yes
Tammara Harrington	Parent	Reagan	Winn	No
Dr. Deanna Mercer	Parent	Reagan	Reagan	No
Maya McElroy	Librarian	Reagan	Graham	Yes
Claudia Torres	Teacher	Reagan	Webb	Yes
Cesar Benavides	Parent	Travis	Travis Heights	Yes
Marcy Morgan	Teacher	Travis	Dawson	No
Jane MacLean	Parent	Special Campuses	Richards	No
Annemarie Read	Parent	Special Campuses	LASA	No
Julia Parker	Teacher	Special Campuses	ALC	Yes
Jennifer Pace	Principal	Not Applicable	Widen	Excused
Rafael Soriano	Principal	Not Applicable	Padron	Yes
Jess De La Huerta	Princioal	Not Applicable	Dobie	No
Dr. Susan Thames	Assistant Principal	Not Applicable	Akins	No
Laurie Solis	ACPTA	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Yes
Lynn Boswell	ACPTA	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Yes
Jimmy Counihan	Community	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Yes
Sondra Marks	Community	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Yes
Cathy McHorse	Community	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No
Heather Shaw	Community	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Yes
Stacey Thompson	Community	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Excused
Drew Bixby	Business	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No
Shannon Gleason	Business	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Yes
Billy Pringle	Business	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Excused
Kathy Winfrey	Classified Employee	Not Applicable	Winn	Yes
Laurie Beaman	District-Level Employee	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Yes
Alonzo Blankenship	District-Level Employee	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Yes
Dr. Jane Ross	District-Level Employee	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Yes
Andy Anderson	At-Large	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Yes

Name	Category	Vertical Team	School	Present
Vickie Black	At-Large	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Yes
LaDonna Massad	At-Large	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No
Shannon Meroney	At-Large	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Yes
Paul Mitchell	At-Large	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Yes
Toni Rayner	At-Large	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Yes
Michael Supancic	At-Large	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Excused
Alternating Trustee	Trustee	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Yes
Dr. Paul Cruz	Superintendent	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No
Paridhi Latawa	Student	Special	LASA	Yes