

# AISD Environmental Stewardship Advisory Committee (ESAC)

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November 19, 2020

*The purpose of the ESAC is to assist the district in being a recognized example of environmental education, stewardship, and sustainability.*





## AGENDA

Welcome & Announcements	5:30-5:40
Public Comments	5:40-5:50
Sustainability Plan Update	5:50-6:00
Action Area Updates	6:00-6:35
Discussion Rooms	6:35-7:10
Share Out	7:10-7:25
Requests for Future Meeting Topics	7:25-7:30

Watch live: [youtu.be/39XKxkNEzuw](https://youtu.be/39XKxkNEzuw) link is also posted on Twitter @AISDGreen



# Tech Tips

1. Thank you for your patience, we are learning together.
2. “Rename” yourself in Zoom so that we can see your first and last name.
3. We encourage you to use your video so we can see one another’s wonderful faces!
4. Please keep your microphone muted unless you are speaking. This helps minimize background noise.
5. This webcast is being recorded and also broadcast on YouTube.



# Tech Tips

6. Please use the “raise hand” button to ask a question or provide a comment.
7. Headphones can help prevent an echo when you speak.
8. *Operation: Pumpernickel!*



# ESAC Vacancies

## ESAC Chair



Prospective chairs, contact:  
[darien.clary@austinisd.org](mailto:darien.clary@austinisd.org)

## Student Members



Students apply!  
[austinisd.org/advisory-bodies](http://austinisd.org/advisory-bodies)



## ESAC Google Group



**Members: Share news and announcements with your ESAC network!**

Link: [AISD ESAC Google Group](#)



# Public Comments

Visit [austinisd.org/advisory-bodies/esac/meetings](http://austinisd.org/advisory-bodies/esac/meetings) to submit public comments by noon the day of the meeting



# Sustainability Plan Update

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Darien Clary

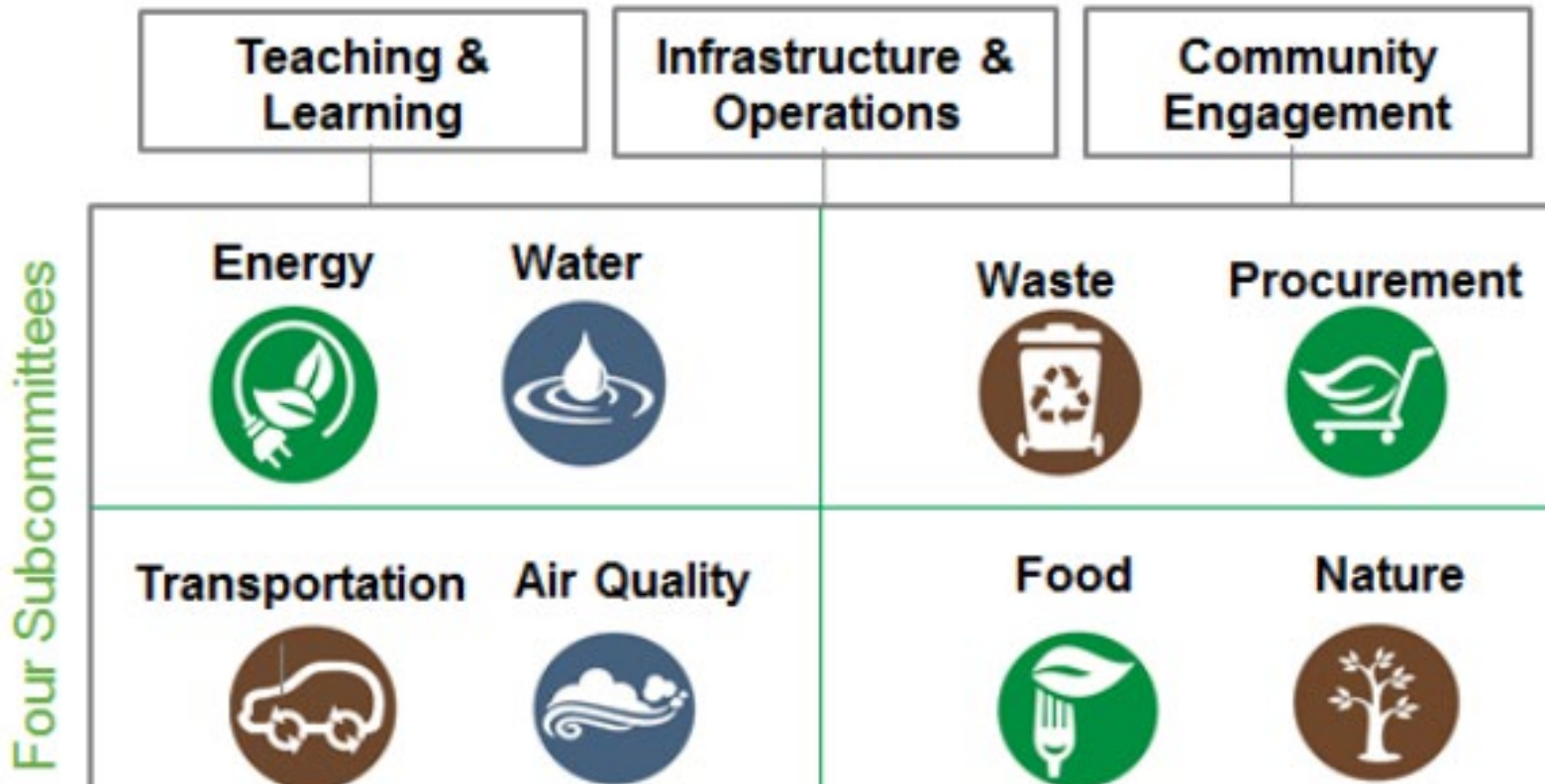




ABOUT  
ME



## Austin ISD Environmental Stewardship Advisory Committee & Sustainability Plan Organization

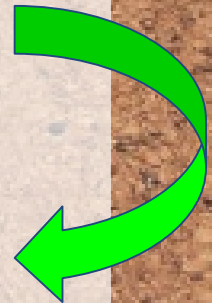


ABOUT  
ME

AISD  
Sustainability  
Plan

AISD Sustainability Tracker

AISD Sustainability Plan Narrative



Intent: The Nature Action Area focuses on providing AISD students, families, staff, and visitors opportunities to access and experience nature at district facilities, as well as via field trips and by integrating learnings about how to experience and create natural settings outside of the school day. The intent is to increase nature-based learning opportunities; improve social, emotional, health, and academic outcomes; and nurture an appreciation for the environment in the next generation of environmental stewards.

Cost (low, med, high)	Impact (low, med, high)	Effort (low, med, high)	Status (Complete, In Progress, blank = not started)	Status Jan 2020 (Complete, In Progress, blank = not started)	Strategy	Action	Group/ District
<b>GOAL : Establish District support and District message for students to access and experience nature</b>							
low	low	low	In Progress			Gain AISD support and promotion of the Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights	Nature sub
low	medium	low	Ongoing			Present Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights Pledge to appropriate AISD administration for approval & signature	
low	medium	medium	In Progress	Complete		Share COBOR content with AISD community through a variety of communication channels (Educa Austin, Principals' weekly, Board Update, social media, Campus Campaign, etc.). Could	
low	medium	medium	In Progress	Complete		Display COBOR in a visible location at each school	
low	medium	low	Complete	Complete		Develop district message on benefits (sel, health, academic) of nature based education and communicate those to administrators to help shape their expectations with campus staff. CNN infographics. AISD Outd	
low	medium	low	Complete	Complete		Develop the message	
low	high	medium	In Progress			Obtain approvals from appropriate AISD administrators or personnel	
low	medium	low		Complete- ongoing		Share via communication channels (AISD Sustainable website, Educa Austin, Principal's' weekly, Board Update, social media, etc.)	
low	high	high				Update the Campus Improvement Plan template to include integrating nature based education, professional development and bringing nature indoors	AISD Acco
low	medium	low	In Progress	Complete- ongoing		Identify opportunities within the existing template	
low	high	medium	In Progress	Complete- ongoing		Craft statement for CIP	
low	high	high		Complete		Meet with appropriate superintendents and administrators for approval	
medium	high	low		Complete		Campuses implement the updated CIP	
<b>GOAL: Support student Access/Experience Nature</b>							
low	high	high	In Progress			Collect baseline data of campus nature features and activities	AISD Outd
low	high	low	Complete			Develop AISD school audit tool	
low	high	high	Complete			Implement Audit	
low	high	high	Complete			Analyze results to identify current garden types in need of district support (habitat gardens, etc.)	
MAY BE ITS OWN STRATEGY			In Progress	Ongoing		Develop strategies to support current nature features and activities	
low	high	high		In progress		re-survey/audit every 2 years, at a minimum	
low	medium	medium	In Progress	Complete		EQ: Generate a nature feature map to identify priority campuses in nature-deficit areas of Austin	
MAY GO UN	high	high		In progress		EQ: Target outreach and programming to schools that lack learning-in-nature spaces and that are in nature-deficient areas of Austin	
low	high	high				Provide resources for schools to develop a Natural Schoolyard Master Plan	AISD Outd





## AISD Sustainability

An organized approach for the school district, the city, and partner organizations to build a culture of environmental awareness and action together while enhancing educational outcomes for our most precious resource and future leaders: our students.



Screenshot:  
AISD  
Sustainability Plan Narrative:  
[bit.ly/AISDSP2018](http://bit.ly/AISDSP2018)



ABOUT  
ME

## AISD Sustainability Plan

- The tracker is intended to be a living document.
- Goals, strategies, and actions are actively updated and tracked by sustainability staff and the ESAC subcommittee leaders.
- To ensure that AISD remains at the forefront of sustainability, new strategies and actions are evaluated and added to the tracker by the ESAC and AISD Sustainability staff.



ABOUT  
ME



But Wait...  
There's  
MORE!

## Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

Tools and guidance from:

- AISD Equity Office
- City of Austin Climate Equity Plan
- Best practices from other communities and school districts



ABOUT  
ME



But Wait...  
There's  
MORE!

**You are invited!**

## **Task Force: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the AISD Sustainability Plan**

- **When:** 11/20, 12/4, 12/18 8:30-10:00am
- **Goal:** Develop a process and tool to evaluate AISD sustainability strategies with a vision for diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- **Interested?** Let us know in the chat or email Darien Clary at [darien.clary@austinisd.org](mailto:darien.clary@austinisd.org) to receive calendar invites.



# Proposed Timeline

- **By Dec 18, 2020:** All strategies in the Sustainability Tracker Updated
  - Subcommittee input
  - AISD departmental input
  - Additional staff and key stakeholder input
- **By May 20 2021:** Public-facing version complete

# Proposed Timeline

- **By Dec 18, 2020:** All strategies in the Sustainability Tracker Updated
  - Subcommittee input
  - AISD departmental input
  - Additional staff and key stakeholder input
- **By May 20 2021:** Public-facing version complete

# **NEW** Proposed Timeline

- **Now- Dec 18, 2020:**
  - Continue to update strategies with input from:
    - ESAC subcommittee members
    - AISD departments
    - Additional staff and key stakeholders
  - **NEW** Develop a process and tool to evaluate AISD sustainability strategies with a vision for diversity, equity, and inclusion (Task force)

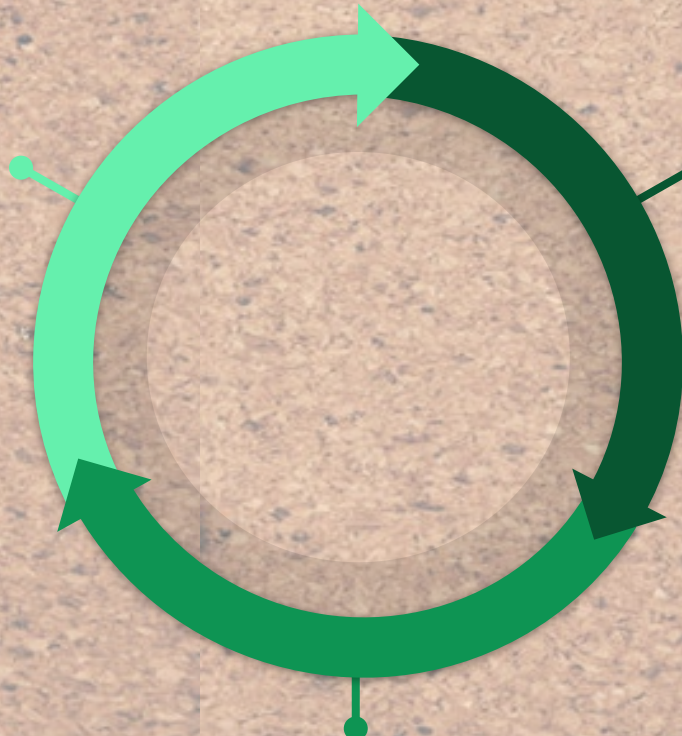
# **NEW** Proposed Timeline

## January - May 2021:

1. Evaluate updated strategies with considerations for diversity, equity, inclusion

2. Modify strategies

3. Continue to seek input, feedback, engagement



# NEW Proposed Timeline

- **June - August 2021**
  - Develop public-facing AISD Sustainability Plan
  - Celebrate!



# Action Area Updates

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**Energy & Water** | Ashley Williams & Rey Torres

**Nature** | Anne Muller

**Food** | Diane Grodek

**Transportation & Air Quality** | Rob Borowski & Kris Hafezizadeh

**Zero Waste & Procurement** | Amanda Mortl

**Community Engagement & Outreach** | Aimee Aubin



# Energy & Water Update

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Ashley Williams & Rey Torres



# Energy & Water

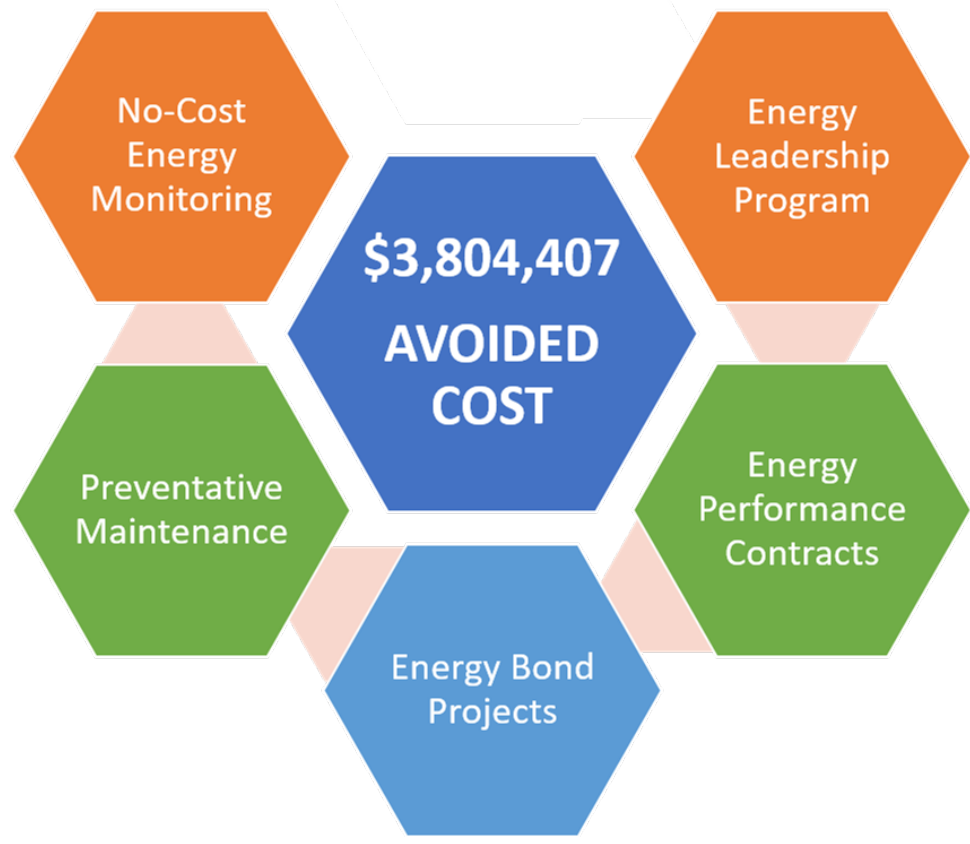
## Use and Cost Comparison

	School Year July 2017 – June 2018	School Year July 2018 – June 2019	School Year July 2019 – June 2020
Electricity (kWh)	163,742,581	149,690,917 -8.6%	134,587,546 -10.2%
Natural Gas (MCF)	173,247	169,888 -1.9%	133,158 -21.6%
Water (Gal)	331,069,303	303,133,776 -8.4%	278,198,726 -8.2%
Total Cost	\$21,210,889	\$19,742,523 -6.9%	\$17,406,482 -11.8%





# Energy & Water Conservation Measures



**It takes EVERYONE to make a difference!**



# Nature Update

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Anne Muller



# Outdoor Learning Features Mapping



- Habitat Garden
- Vegetable Garden
- Livestock
- Ponds
- Rain Garden
- Rainwater Collection
- Outdoor Classroom
- Solar



# Off Campus Green Spaces



# Outdoor Learning at Allison



# Outdoor Learning 2017 Bond











# Linder Outdoor Learning











# Nature

## Ann Richards Tree Relocation - November 30

- As part of the modernization, a 30 foot tall live oak will be moved almost 800 feet to a new home
- Instead of waiting for new trees to establish and grow, the campus will retain the many benefits this mature tree provides (shade, energy savings, runoff reduction, mental health benefits, etc.)
- AISD.TV plans to produce a video to convey the importance of preserving trees at AISD schools and highlighting student voices



# Food Update

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Diane Grodek

AISD TV and Food Services just finished taping a video featuring our Texas vendors, including the ranch that provides our beef and our bread and tortillas companies. The video lays out our efforts to reduce our carbon footprint by sourcing locally and stretching our quality ingredients with resourceful ideas!





# Food

- **1.4+ million meals served from 9/7-11/13**
  - Averaging around 39,000 meals per day (*week of 11/9*) vs. 77,000 PY
- **Winter menu cycle - Dec. 7**
  - **Breakfast additions:** Breakfast Tacos, Peach Overnight Oats, Banana Smoothie
  - **Lunch additions:** Vegan Lentil Chili Frito Pie, Meatloaf, BBQ Chicken Drumstick, Crispy Chicken Tacos, Cheese Enchiladas, Cheese Ravioli, and Bean Dip with Fritos.
- **Holiday meal pack distribution with Central Texas Food Bank**
  - Nov. 23 at Burger
  - Dec. 21 & 30 at Nelson
- **[New AISD.TV video highlighting local food, sustainability](#)**



# Transportation & Air Quality Update

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Kris Hafezizadeh & Rob Borowski



# Transportation & Air Quality

1. 2017 Bond school bus purchase on track. We will receive last phase of the buses by the end of January. Our Bond funds are on track.
2. We are still looking into funds for piloting 3 electric school buses.
3. Austin Energy, possibly legislation and TCEQ may all help with the electric buses.



# Zero Waste & Procurement Update

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Jennifer Evans & Kristi Hibler-Luton



# Zero Waste & Procurement

- Eco-teams can start their zero waste eco-audit projects in BLEND, where they can find campus recycle/compost weights, dumpster service schedule, and a dumpster observation form.
- Zero Waste Zoom guest lectures and work sessions can be reserved for any student groups, contact [Amanda.mortlwalker@austinisd.org](mailto:Amanda.mortlwalker@austinisd.org) for details.



# Zero Waste & Procurement

- Kristi: Ecorise opportunity [Eco-audit grants](#) for waste reduction
- Jenn Evans (Austin Creative Reuse):
  - Hosting S.W.A.P. clothing swap and upcycling demos with Austin HS - Saturday, November 21st from 10 am - 4 pm at ACR (2005 Wheless Ln)
  - Educators and schools can now order bulk reuse school supplies through the "Teacher's Lounge" section of ACR's online store (<https://www.shopacr.org/teachers-lounge>) or email [educators@austincreativereuse.org](mailto:educators@austincreativereuse.org) for custom orders
  - Actively seeking input from teachers about their changing needs
- Jen Cregar:
  - CCCN Green inventory
- Student and teacher participants in the new monthly "Zero Waste problem solving" zoom are helping make changes already :-). We are seeing:
  - Students studying the impact of adding outdoor recycling bins in their lunch area, making them eligible for Bronze NWF award- Bowie
  - Producing a sorting video to post in BLEND- Eastside/International HS
  - Composting for spring butterflies- Dobie MS



# Community Engagement & Outreach Update

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Aimee Aubin



# ~~Community Engagement & Outreach Update~~

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**NEW NAME:**

**Equity & Community Engagement Update**





# Equity & Community Engagement

- **New name:** Equity and Community Engagement Subcommittee
  - Based on the scope of work being defined by the Subcommittee around diversity, equity, and inclusion within the ESAC's structure, membership, governance, etc.
- Working with the ESAC leadership to create an equity tool to use during the Sustainability Plan revision process.
  - **Reminder:** If you would like to support this process, **indicate so in the chat**. Next meeting is tomorrow, **Friday, Nov. 20 at 8:30 am**.
- Working on building a section of the Sustainability Tracker to outline our work around communications, engagement, and on focusing all our collective work with an equity-centered lens.



# Equity & Community Engagement

- ***Creating Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training opportunities...***
  - An idea that came up in our ESAC leadership conversations at the beginning of this year.
  - We recognized that this work is a ***continuous*** journey of learning and unlearning and that each of us may be entering at a different moment in our own understanding.
  - We'll be working to incorporate space in all our full ESAC meetings to consider the intersections of our work in advancing sustainability *with* advancing racial equity.
- ***What this means:*** Sharing pre-reading/watching before each meeting; dedicated time in meetings to discuss, share, and listen.



# Discussion Rooms

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1. How do you see the characteristics of white supremacy culture showing up in our committee work and/or organization, if at all?
2. What, if anything, are you doing now or will you carry with you from the "Antidotes" sections to begin shifting culture and creating more inclusive spaces?
3. How might we carry ideas from the "Antidotes" sections into our collective work of revising the Sustainability Plan?



# Agreements\*

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1. Listen with an open mind.
2. Be open to others' opinions and feelings; confront people with compassion.
3. W.A.I.T.: Ask yourself: Why am I talking? or Why am I not talking? Be cognizant of the space that each person takes up, allow for time for all people.
4. Everyone participates.
5. Experience discomfort: We create a space that is BRAVE (not safe), but possibly uncomfortable; Embrace being uncomfortable, this is where growth happens. Silence can be okay.
6. Expect/Accept Non-closure: Be okay with not having clear answers or solutions at the end of this short conversation. Our *short* conversation today is a small step in a continuous journey.
7. We're all in this together. We are not singling anyone out, rather working collectively to improve things for everyone.
8. Whatever is said here stays here. Whatever is learned here leaves here.
9. We have a mutual obligation for continuous education (at work, outside of work, not just right now, but this is a forever task; no one is a forever ally: allyship is a daily, moment-by-moment effort).

\* Adapted from the Akins H.S. Park Ranger Cadet Class and CCCN Youth Leadership Working Group



# AISD Environmental Stewardship Advisory Committee (ESAC)

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**The ESAC members are currently in breakout rooms.  
We will be back at approximately 7:10pm.**

*The purpose of the ESAC is to assist the district in being a recognized example of environmental education, stewardship, and sustainability.*



# Discussion Rooms - Share out

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1. How do you see the characteristics of white supremacy culture showing up in our committee work and/or organization, if at all?
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**CENTER FOR**  
**RACIAL JUSTICE**  
**IN EDUCATION**  
DISMANTLING RACISM.  
TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES.

**This Holiday Season**

PROTECT YOURSELF  
PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

 A graphic showing a family of four (two adults and two children) in silhouette, standing in front of a large, stylized virus particle. The virus particle is blue and green with a circular center.

PROTÉJASE Y  
PROTEJA A SU FAMILIA

 Austin Public Health  
PREVENT. PROMOTE. PROTECT.

A Racial Justice Guide to Thanksgiving  
[centerracialjustice.org/resources/lorem-ipsum-dolor-sit-amet/](https://centerracialjustice.org/resources/lorem-ipsum-dolor-sit-amet/)

Austin Public Health Holiday  
Safety Guidance  
[austintexas.gov/holidaysafety](https://austintexas.gov/holidaysafety)  
Centers for Disease Control & Prevention  
[www.cdc.gov/](https://www.cdc.gov/)







## Mark your calendars for the 2020-2021 ESAC meeting dates!

All meetings will take place online from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

- October 7, 2020
- November 19, 2020
- **January 28, 2021**
- **March 25, 2021**
- **May 20, 2021**



