

Austin Independent School District
Multilingual Education Advisory Committee (MEAC)
Meeting Minutes
October 25, 2021

Attendance

MEAC Members:

Travis Barrett (co-chair)
Anh Co
Nu Chanpheng (co-chair)
Brandy Cheung
Blanca Galvez-Perez
Shelli Hix
Lindsey Ip

Peter Partheymuller
Dariela Villanueva de Dominguez

Central Staff:

Erin Aucoin-Barbier
Dessynie Edwards
Yvette Cárdenas
Cody Fernández
Farid Razavi
Ana Rojas
Leonor Vargas

I. Call Meeting to Order / Review Purpose & Norms

Meeting called to order at 6:04 PM. The Co-chair reviewed the MEAC purpose and norms.

II. Public Comments

1. A parent from Wynn EL spoke regarding the plan/update availability for dual language in the schools.
2. An AADLC member spoke regarding committee members now including 5 parents. Currently working on creating goals for the year.

III. MEAC Member Comments

1. MEAC members spoke regarding if possible for questions that are asked, to be answered after presentation. Co-Chair responded on format being answers to questions will continue to be answered/addressed at future meetings.
2. A MEAC member asked who was supporting the MET department in the interim. Associate Superintendent of SpEd will continue to do so until the vacancy is filled.

IV. Minutes

After review of the May 11, 2021 minutes, with no questions or comments presented, the minutes were approved.

V. AISD Multilingual Education Team Updates

A. Structure, direction and guidance for Multilingual Education

1. Associate Superintendent of SpEd acknowledged and thanked Dr. Kauffman for his leadership.
2. Structure was discussed as changes will be made in title to vacancy, from Executive Director to Associate Superintendent. The Multilingual Education team will be supervised by the Chief of Academics. Reason for change is due to the goal to have dual language offered at all AISD campuses.

3. During the interim, Assistant Superintendent of SpEd will provide direction to Directors of Multilingual Education.
4. The search for the vacancy will begin soon.
5. Looking at creating a 3-year immediate plan. Structure and plan may change once a new Associate Superintendent of MET is chosen.
6. Survey was sent out to MEAC members regarding this vacancy.
7. Focus for the Multilingual Education team currently on PEIMS data as final reporting is due October 29th. Will validate and verify the programs offered and document the fidelity of the programs.
8. Parent comment/questions:
 - Access to Org chart for district – MET department provided link.
 - Questioned reasoning for title change from ED to Assoc. Sup. and if this will change the instructional structure for Dual Language. – Dual language starting in PK and supported in secondary with advanced academics
 - Clarification on job description for Associate Superintendent of SpEd for support of student programming and interim dual language – SpEd role oversees SpEd, 504, Dyslexia, and homebound. Will continue to be connected to MET after the position is filled as students often overlap under both programs.
 - Confirming Dual Language will be offered at both Elementary and Secondary levels.
 - Recruiting bilingual teacher focus? Focus on growing from within and new initiatives to be offered.
 - Request for addressing both SpEd and Bilingual, and not have the parents have to choose between the two.

B. Elementary Multilingual Education Update

1. Director of Elementary MET shared powerpoint covering topics:
 - a) Introduction of staff
 - b) Shared goals
 - c) Professional learning pathway emphasis
 - d) Certification and Recruitment
 - e) Proposed language award pathways – biliteracy
 - f) TEA update – Spanish 1 credit overview
 - g) Elementary Dual Language curriculum
2. Parent comment/questions:
 - Will Biliteracy pathway professional learning be required – yes.
 - Are staff Spanish courses separate from required learning courses – yes.

C. Secondary Multilingual Education Update

1. Director of Secondary MET shared powerpoint covering topics:
 - a) Introduction of staff
 - b) Shared goals

- c) Multilingual program guide
 - d) Emphasis on Professional Learning
 - e) Certification and Recruitment
 - f) Proposed language award pathways – Biliteracy
 - g) Adjustment to Dual Language student enrollment process
 - h) Curriculum
2. Parent question/comments:
 - What is ELDA? – English language development assessment

VI. District Committee Reports

A. African American Dual Language Committee Update

1. Overview of outreach to 140+ African American families of first graders regarding awareness of Dual Language programs. 95% of these families did not know this program was offered. Discussion on future outreach strategies.

B. Additional District Committee Reports

- Dual Language Family Engagement - No report presented at this meeting.
- DAC - No report presented at this meeting
- BFAC - No report presented at this meeting.
- SEAC - No report presented at this meeting.
- Dyslexia - No report presented at this meeting.
- ACPTA - No report presented at this meeting.

VII. Review Action Items and Future Agenda Items

1. Surveys to be sent out – issues to address at next meeting
2. Discussion on whether to hold meetings monthly or every other month. Decision made to hold monthly as there will also be community events being scheduled.

VIII. Adjournment

- A. Peter Partheymuller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Nu Chanpheng.. Motion approved without objection.
The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.
- B. MEAC will meet next month. Date TBD