

Austin Independent School District
Multilingual Education Advisory Committee (MEAC)
Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2021

Attendance

MEAC Members:

Travis Barrett
Nu Chanpheng
Brandy Cheung
Tracey Flores
Blanca Galvez-Perez
Krystal Gomez
Dr. Laura Chris Green

Dulce Hernandez
Shelli Hix
Thuy Nguyen
Peter Partheymuller
Vanessa Santamaria Dainton
María Jesús Sebastián
Dariela Villanueva

Central Staff:

Erin Aucoin-Barbier
Pedro Gonzales
David Kauffman
Farid Razavi
Ana Rojas
Leonor Vargas

I. Call Meeting to Order / Review Purpose & Norms

Meeting called to order at 6:02 PM. The Co-chair reviewed the MEAC purpose and norms.

II. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

III. MEAC Member Comments

1. A MEAC member spoke regarding PK registration difficulties for non-English speaking parents. Students entering PK have to go through prescreening by the Early Childhood department first. Registration process begins afterwards. Also commented on cutting of staff positions on campuses. Concern over how this will happen based on seniority.
2. A MEAC member wanted to bring awareness to the support positions that are available on her campus. Questioned if they would be available next year with support from Multilingual dept.
3. A MEAC member spoke (in Spanish) regarding the Adelante conference. Wanted to share her appreciation to all who participated.
4. A MEAC member spoke regarding the Adelante conference and about the many who attended the conference. Acknowledged the support given to the effort.
5. A MEAC member spoke regarding the Adelante conference. The conference was well attended. Many have gone back to view postings of the sessions. A summer conference will be planned for June. Possibly a mental health conference.

IV. Minutes

After review of the March 9, 2021 minutes, Travis Barrett asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Thuy Nguyen moved to approve the minutes with no edits. Peter Partheymuller seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Multilingual Education Team Updates

The Executive Director for Multilingual Education acknowledged the hard work and dedication that went into the Adelante conference.

Second round of interviews will be happening soon for Director of Elementary Multilingual Education.

Video was shared from the announcement of the Bilingual Teacher of the Year, showcasing the students who spoke on her behalf.

2021-2022 Dual Language Programs by Campus

Dual language will be the only bilingual program offered. The 2021-2022 Dual Language Programs by Campus update is not available yet. List will be sent out once it is confirmed, updated and approved.

Per Superintendent's commitment to the resources needed for dual language program, Human Capital department is providing 100+ positions to staff dual language.

Video shared to provide overview of new document – Multilingual Programming Guide. Document will also be shared electronically to members for feedback.

VI. New Business

Performance Acknowledgement

Pedro Gonzales and Erin Barbier provided slides and information on feedback/changes to Language Pathways, Seal and the State requirements for performance acknowledgment.

The Executive Director for Multilingual Education stressed the importance of the social and culture aspect of this language pathway.

VII. 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 – planning meeting 4.14, but may change due to meeting conflicts
- Board Meeting Update - No report at this meeting.
- African American Dual Language Subcommittee - met on 4.12 – Request made to meet with parents in May. Opportunity to ask parents what they really want from the dual language programs. Concern is over discipline and testing. Create a survey for the parents. One meeting reaching out to several campuses. Asking for help with coordination of this meeting to not follow back to back with campus meetings on dual language.

VIII. Review Action Items and Future Agenda Items

1. Pre-k registration
2. Feedback from document Multilingual Programming Guide
3. After a year online – what has been learned, and what is accessible to dual language learning for secondary schools
4. Send in requests for the next agenda to co-chairs or Ana Rojas.

IX. Adjournment

- A. Thuy Nguyen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Nu Chanpheng. Motion approved without objection. The meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.
- B. The next MEAC meeting will be held on May 11, 2021, via Zoom from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.