

**Austin Independent School District**  
**Multilingual Education Advisory Committee (MEAC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 11, 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 6:11 PM. The Co-chair did not review the MEAC purpose and norms.

## **II. Public Comments**

1. Parent spoke regarding Spanish at Lively MS and students from middle school getting credit for this class in preparation for high school. Instruction in dual language not lining up with the district per TEA rules.

## **III. MEAC Member Comments**

1. MEAC member spoke regarding state legislature trying to pass HB4545 and SB2094 on funding of standardized test scores. If the bill passes, how will funding be affected for dual language programs?
2. MEAC member spoke regarding the restructuring of the Multilingual department and dual language support for next year. With the new positions in the district how will they support the campuses?
3. MEAC member spoke against any funding changes for dual language programs.
4. MEAC member spoke regarding positions being cut due to funding in the dual language programs.

## **IV. Minutes**

After review of the April 13, 2021 minutes, Nu Chanpheng asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Thuy Nguyen moved to approve the minutes with no edits. Peter seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## **V. Multilingual Education Team Updates**

- The Executive Director for Multilingual Education provided an update on the new position for Director of Elementary Multilingual Education. Yvette Cardenas has been named for this position and will start June 7, 2021.

- The Executive Director for Multilingual Education provided an update on 2021 Latino Academic Achievement Awards. The event will be held virtually on May 19, 2021 and will be broadcast on AISD TV and Facebook live. Full 6th-12th grade will be recognized.

#### **1. 2021-2022 Dual Language Programs by Campus**

The Executive Director for Multilingual Education presented information on the status of the dual programs that will be available per campus for 2021-2022.

- A. Walnut Creek, Woolridge, Graham, Pleasant Hill, Wynn, Kocurek, Zavala, Norman Sims and Cunningham will begin dual language implementation starting next year 2021-22. At first a one way program then will be provided and will be revisited later based on demand for a two way program. Exception will be Zavala.
- B. Baldwin in discussion on introducing a two way program at the campus instead of bussing to another campus. Community engagement has not happened yet.
- C. Zilker and Bear Creek are immersion language campuses, and a proposal is being recommended to make them dual language campuses.
- D. 22 campuses will remain as ESL campuses to focus on the campuses that will begin as two way language campuses.
- E. Doss Mandarin immersion program proposal being made to convert to dual language campus.
- F. Focus on ratio of staffing to student needs per campus.
- G. Cook and Jordan campuses will be a two way dual program.
- H. Proposal for Oak Springs to offer an ESL program.

### **VI. New Business**

#### **A. Creation of Ad hoc committee to address Pre-K Registration concerns**

The Executive Director for Multilingual Education proposed options on creating an Ad hoc committee. Thuy Nguyen motioned to create an Ad hoc committee and Shelley Hicks seconded the motion. After discussion and no objections, the motion passed to create an Ad hoc committee to address Pre-K registration concerns. Thuy Nguyen offered to join the committee.

#### **B. Discussion of Realignment, Structure, and Roles and Responsibilities of Multilingual Education Team**

The Executive Director for Multilingual Education presented information on the new realignment of the Multilingual Education Team.

1. Human Capital is allocating 127 new positions for mixed classroom relief.
2. Shift in organization with School leadership and Academics teams. Emphasis towards more collaboration in support of dual language programs. Both structural and symbolic changes will occur.
3. New Org chart for the Dual language department presented and discussed.

### **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 - No report presented at this meeting.
- African American Dual Language Subcommittee - Nadia Khan reported the committee is waiting on clarification from the Executive Director for Multilingual Education on the time, place and protocol for an on campus meeting to provide parents with information on dual language programs becoming available for African American students.

**VIII. Reflections on 2020-2021 year and Expectations for 2021-2022 year**

Introduction of this agenda item. An opportunity for MEAC members to share accomplishments and expectations.

1. MEAC member thanked teachers for their hard work this past year.
2. Two MEAC members offered praise to committee members for their dedication to the committee.
3. The Executive Director for Multilingual Education offered his thoughts and praise for the support from parents and staff for the dual language program. Special thanks was offered to the two co-chairs.
4. MEAC member expressed her hopefulness for the future of the program.
5. MEAC member offered praise (in Spanish) for the program, teachers, and committee members for the support of the dual language program, especially during the Pandemic.

**IX. Review Action Items and Future Agenda Items**

1. No items were requested.

**X. Adjournment**

- A. Blanca Galvez-Perez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Laura Chris-Green. Motion approved without objection. The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.
- B. MEAC will resume meetings at the beginning of the next school year, details will be sent in August.