

**AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC) MINUTES**

Date: January 28, 2021

Location: Held Via Zoom

MEMBER ATTENDANCE: 20

Akweta, Katy, Lisa Flores, Amanda Gonzalez, Angelo San Segundo, Brian Mangum, Chad Johnson, Dr. Cherry Lee, Enrique Trejo, Eric Oyler, Helen Miller, Dr. Joseph Allen, Katie Jordan Maria Hernandez, Ms. Yo, Patricia Carly, Paulette Walls, San Segundo, Shelly Grabe, Vanessa Merida-Crawford,

GUEST ATTENDANCE: 32

Trustee Latisha Anderson, Trustee Noelita Lugo, Joey Cruley, Agnes Karabulut, Angie Wagner, Anna Roch, Anthony Mays, Carly Roebuck, Chad Ouellette, Charlotte Branch, Christa Etheridge, Christina Smith, Christopher Nelson, Daniele Gibson, Dr. Kelli Charles, Elizabeth Casas, Jon Lees, Charlotte Blanch, Kim Oren, Kim Royal, Liena Garcia De Leon, Melanie Bryant, Melody McIntosh, Michelle Wallis, Nu Chanpheng, Ramon Vega, Randi Shade, Dr. Rosena Malone, Tammy Kimmelman, Tongula Kiner, Veronica Arispe, Tamika Williams.

WELCOME

- Dr. Akweta Hickman welcomed the committee back and the meeting began at 6:05pm.

REVIEW OF PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES:

- Mr. Joey Crumley and Michelle Wallis reviewed the bylaws and role of the coordinator and chairs.
- Ms. Miller asked about the amount of district staff vs the amount of parents and staff.
- Noelita asked about more involvement from the committee in writing the bylaws.

ELECTION OF CO-CHAIRS:

- Lisa Flores, Helen Miller, Dr. Cherry Lee, Ms. Paulette Walls
- Each candidate spoke about their background and passions and why they would like to be co-chair.
- Lisa Flores 8-9
- Paulette Walls- 11 to 6

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Look at chat

MEMBER COMMENTS

- Lisa Update bylaws to correct numbers.
- Lisa Membership to include students for bylaws
- Miller Diverse parents for bylaws
- Maria what is the cap of membership?
- Members would like to diversify the group.

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES

- Last Meeting Minutes were approved by board members.
- 9 yes, 1 abstaining, no, no's

INTRODUCTION OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER AND CHIEF OF SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

- Ms. Elizabeth Casas introduced herself and talked about her history with special education. Ms. Casas talked about the commitment to our AISD families.
- Dr. Anthony Mays introduced himself and talked about his passion for students and families. Dr. Mays reassured the committee of his commitment to AISD families and staff. He will be working with closely with Ms. Casas the Chief Academic Officer.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PRIORITY UPDATE

- Dr. Akweta Hickman, Executive Director of Special Education, reviewed a presentation on the special education department initiatives. **Please see attachment.*
- Suggestion of unpacking the strategies in future meetings.
- Ms. Miller asked, What is the SPED department doing to support children with mental health issues?
- Vida Clinic and the new company will support all campuses.
- Trejo asked for employment numbers due the pandemic
- Flores asked how are these items getting to members?
 - All of our initiatives directly impact student needs and their families.
 - She spoke to office hours, PLN meetings, and being available to support staff.
 - We differentiate for teachers as well.
- What can the parents do if teachers aren't following what Dr. Hickman has shared? Dr. Hickman shared that the PLNs are posted and they are welcome to reach out to our staff.
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PARENT COMMUNICATION:

- Liana Garcia De Leon introduced herself and her role in the department.
- She shared her desire to help families, her goal for the department.

CLOSING:

Meeting ended at 8:15pm.