

**District Advisory Council**

In compliance with Education Code 11.251, the District Advisory Council (DAC) shall advise the Board and the Superintendent or designee in establishing and reviewing the District's educational goals, objectives, and major District-wide classroom instructional programs identified by the Board or the Superintendent. The council shall serve exclusively in an advisory role in the areas including but not limited to student performance, planning, budgeting, curriculum, staffing patterns, professional development, and school organization.

The council shall function in accordance with Board policy and the DAC bylaws.

The Superintendent or designee shall be the coordinator of the council and shall perform the duties set out in council bylaws, including maintenance and timely distribution of records, agendas, and minutes. The Superintendent or designee shall meet with the council in its regular meetings.

**Chairpersons**

Two co-chairpersons of the council shall be elected from among the council's members and shall serve two-year staggered terms. Only one of the co-chairpersons shall be a District employee. The co-chairpersons shall perform the duties set out in council bylaws.

**Meetings**

The executive committee of the council shall set the agenda in coordination with the Superintendent or designee and shall schedule council meetings as required by DAC bylaws.

All regular meetings of the council shall be open to the public and shall provide a reasonable opportunity for public comments.

**Duties of the Council**

In addition to the statutorily mandated duties at BQA(LEGAL), the council shall perform the functions established in the council bylaws.

**Composition**

The council shall be composed of members who shall represent campus-based professional staff, District-level professional staff, classified staff, parents, businesses, and the community, as well as advisory members selected as provided by DAC bylaws. At least two-thirds of the District and campus professional staff shall be classroom teachers. The remaining members shall be professional nonteaching District- and campus-level staff and one classified staff member. For purposes of this policy, District-level professional staff shall be defined as professionals who have responsibilities at more than one campus, including, but not limited to, central office staff.

**Professional Staff**

Staff members shall be selected according to DAC bylaws and shall include at a minimum:

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1. Two elementary principals;
2. One middle school principal;
3. One high school principal; and
4. Two teachers from each vertical team.

**Classified Staff** The council shall include a minimum of one classified staff member who is selected in accordance with DAC bylaws.

**Parents** The council shall include the following parent representation selected according to DAC bylaws: two parents from each vertical team.

**Community Members** The council shall include a minimum of two community members selected by the executive committee through a process that provides for adequate representation of the community's diversity, in accordance with council bylaws. The Superintendent or designee shall use several methods of communication to ensure that community residents are informed of the council and are provided the opportunity to participate and shall solicit volunteers. All community member representatives must reside in the District.

**Business Representatives** The council shall include a minimum one business representative selected by the executive committee from business partners, through a process that provides for adequate representation of the community's diversity, in accordance with council bylaws. The Superintendent or designee shall use several methods of communication to ensure that community residents are informed of the council and are provided the opportunity to participate and shall solicit volunteers. A business representative need not reside in nor operate a business in the District.

**Other Advisory Members** The council shall include other advisory members selected in accordance with DAC bylaws, as follows:

1. One or two members of the Austin Council of Parent and Teacher Associations;
2. A minimum of three at-large members;
3. A minimum of two high school students; and
4. The Superintendent and one Board member, both of whom may serve in an ex officio capacity; that is, nonvoting.

**Community Input** The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the DAC obtains broad-based community, parent, and staff input and provides information to those persons on a systematic basis. Methods of communication shall include, but not be limited to:

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1. Periodic meetings to gather input and provide information on the work of the council. These meetings shall be advertised in District publications and through the media.
2. Articles in in-house publications regarding work of the council.
3. Regular news releases to the media in the District regarding the work of the council.
4. Periodic reports to the principals on the work of the council that may be posted on campus bulletin boards.

**Elections**

An employee's affiliation or lack of affiliation with any organization or association shall not be a factor in either the nomination or election of representatives on the council. [See also DGA]

The consent of each nominee shall be obtained before the person's name may appear on the ballot. Nomination and election shall be conducted in accordance with policy, council bylaws, and administrative regulations.

**Terms**

Representatives shall serve staggered two-year terms.

**Vacancy**

A vacancy on the DAC shall be handled in accordance with council bylaws.

**Other Advisory Groups**

The existence of the DAC shall not affect the authority of the Board or its designee to appoint or establish other advisory groups or task forces to assist it in matters pertaining to District instruction.