

# Austin ISD School Health Advisory Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

6:00 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Austin ISD Headquarters with Hybrid option

*The SHAC may take action during the meeting if it relates directly to any discussed agenda item.*

Time	Agenda Item	Presenter or Staff Resource
6:00 p.m.	<b>Call to Order</b> The meeting was called to order at 6:1 pm by Leah Kelly	Leah Kelly, Co-Chair
6:05 p.m.	<b>Approval of the January 15, 2025 Meeting Agenda</b> The agenda was approved.	Belynda Montgomery, Co-Chair
6:10 p.m.	<b>Introductions</b> - Attendees introduced themselves. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● SHAC Members<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Belynda Barkley Montgomery, Co-Chair</li><li>○ Leah Kelly, Co-Chair</li><li>○ Alana O'Malley</li><li>○ Ann Teich</li><li>○ Dr, Michelle Gallas</li><li>○ Francesca Leahy</li><li>○ Juliette Owens - virtual attendee</li><li>○ Leah Kelly</li><li>○ Maria Solis</li><li>○ Mary Renfro</li><li>○ Nina Miller</li></ul></li><li>● AISD Staff<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Dr. Jacob Reach</li><li>○ Alana Bejarano</li><li>○ Dr. Gloria Williams</li><li>○ Dr. LaShanda Lewis</li><li>○ Francina Hollingsworth</li><li>○ Stephanie Hebert</li><li>○ Kari Hazard</li></ul></li></ul>	Belynda Montgomery, Co-Chair

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6:15 p.m.	<p><b>Community Communications*</b></p> <p>Belynda shared a letter in which she thoughtfully expressed her sentiments and experiences regarding the AISD SHAC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Emphasized the importance of SHAC's autonomy and the need for both individual and collective support from trustees. She noted that Suzanne's term may have been extended beyond its intended duration, and stopping her service mid-year was considered unprofessional.</li><li>● The bylaws have been frequently referenced but were not voted on during her tenure, despite being allegedly updated in 2023. She stressed the need to review, modify, and vote on them with all members.</li><li>● Highlighted that the current bylaws do not reflect how SHAC operates now or in the past. With three more meetings before the end of April, she suggested taking action to update the bylaws and make a recommendation to the trustees about prioritizing mental health. Additionally, she mentioned the need to find a new chair to replace her.</li></ul>	Belynda Montgomery, Co-Chair
6:25 p.m.	<p><b>Reading and Approval of the November 20, 2024 Meeting Minutes</b></p> <p><b>Reading and Approval of the October 16, 2024 Meeting Minutes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Leah Kelly asked attendees to review the minutes from the previous meeting.</li><li>● An amendment was noted: Dr. Gloria Williams was incorrectly listed as attending; it was Amanda Toohey.</li><li>● A motion to approve the minutes with the correction was made and seconded.</li><li>● The minutes from the October 16 and November 20, 2024 meetings were approved.</li></ul>	Leah Kelly, Co-Chair

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6:30 p.m	<p><b>District Updates</b></p> <p><b>Mental Health Board Recommendation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dr. Reach apologized for not attending the October meeting due to a conflict and acknowledged that the information would have been more timely then. He provided an update on the mental health board's recommendations, which were shared with the superintendent and trustees.</li> <li>● The original recommendation was to implement changes by June, but the school staff needed more time to set up the necessary processes. There were delays in implementing the recommendations due to changes and discussions that occurred in October.</li> <li>● Dr. Reach took responsibility for not providing timely updates and assured the committee that efforts were being made to get back on track with the timeline for releasing an RFP and ensuring support from the community and trustees.</li> </ul> <p><b>Immunization Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Alana Bejarano reported on the current status of immunizations within the district, noting a reduction in delinquencies to around 8,100-8,200.</li> <li>● The district scheduled a second clinic at Navarro in February due to low attendance at the first clinic.</li> <li>● Challenges were discussed, including Walgreens and CVS requiring doctor's orders for vaccines, which has created setbacks.</li> <li>● Efforts are ongoing to provide immunizations and avoid excluding students from school due to lack of vaccinations. The district is exploring various strategies, such as summer clinics.</li> <li>● Newcomers are a significant part of the delinquency percentage, and the district is working to address their needs by meeting parents where they are, such as at local markets.</li> <li>● The district has seen success in some schools, with Travis having only nine delinquent students and Bowie.</li> <li>● The district is working to keep students healthy and safe, with efforts to address respiratory and gastrointestinal illnesses.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mental Health Update</b></p>	<p>Dr. Jacob Reach, AISD Chief Officer of Governmental Relations &amp; Board Services</p> <p>Alana Bejarano, AISD Director Health Services</p> <p>Dr. Gloria Williams, AISD Assistant Superintendent of School Support Services</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dr. Lewis introduced herself as the new Executive Director of Crisis and Mental Health Counseling. She has a background in education, having started as a math teacher in Austin ISD and later served as a middle school counselor in Pflugerville ISD for 10 years.</li> <li>● Most recently, she was the Director of School Counseling for K-12 in Round Rock ISD, where she helped open mental health centers and transition from a partnership model to an in-house model.</li> <li>● Dr. Lewis is currently in the learning phase of her new role and aims to identify gaps and best serve all students across the district.</li> <li>● The district has partnerships with the University of Texas and Dell Children's Medical Center, allowing students access to telehealth services. There is also a new partnership with the Lucine Center, which focuses on children in trauma.</li> <li>● The district aims to ensure that staff, including licensed mental health professionals and school counselors, provide productive and healthy support for students.</li> </ul> <p>Discussion on Legislative Advocacy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The importance of advocating for mental health to be included in school safety and security funding was mentioned.</li> <li>● Several bills have been introduced to increase mental health funding specifically for schools.</li> <li>● The committee discussed the possibility of supporting these bills and coordinating with trustees for advocacy efforts.</li> <li>● Dr. Reach encouraged members to sign up for a newsletter by Edna Buds, which provides updates on education-related bills and district priorities.</li> <li>● The newsletter will include information on how to sign up, testify, and support district priorities.</li> </ul>	
7:00 p.m.	<p><b>SHAC 101 Reminders</b> - The presentation has been postponed until the next meeting or until the members are eligible to attend.</p>	<p>Francina Hollingsworth, AISD Assistant Director of Physical Education and Coordinated School Health</p> <p>Stephanie Hebert, AISD Health Education Specialist</p>
7:10 p.m	<p><b>Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (Survey) Pilot</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The YRBS is a national survey created by the CDC to gather data on student health behaviors. It covers topics such as mental health, substance</li> </ul>	<p>Francina Hollingsworth, AISD Assistant Director of Physical Education and Coordinated School Health</p>

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	<p>use, sexual behavior, disease, physical activity, violence, and safety.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The survey helps identify health behaviors and make data-driven decisions to target interventions effectively.</li> <li>● Some of the benefits for Austin ISD to implement the YRBS are:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tailored Interventions: The data helps identify specific needs and target interventions accordingly.</li> <li>○ Tracking Change Over Time: The survey provides trend data to monitor changes in student behaviors and health over time.</li> <li>○ Stakeholder Involvement: Data from the survey drives involvement from stakeholders, including parents and community members, to address student needs.</li> <li>○ Health and Academic Performance: Addressing health issues can improve academic performance.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Possible Implementation Plan:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Pilot Program: The pilot will involve two middle schools and three high schools identified as priority schools. The goal is to test the survey process and iron out any issues before full district implementation.</li> <li>○ Research Department: The research department will ensure compliance with policies and procedures, including obtaining parent permission and allowing opt-outs.</li> <li>○ Survey Administration: The survey will be administered digitally through PE teachers to reduce costs and streamline the process.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Expected Outcomes:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The survey will provide baseline and comprehensive data to gauge student needs and track changes over time.</li> <li>○ Community engagement will be enhanced by sharing statistics with parents to help them understand and address their children's needs.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The committee discussed the timeline for the RFP and the need for further communication and updates.</p>	
7:20 p.m.	<p><b>Items from Members</b> Brief announcements, suggestions for future</p>	<p>Belynda Montgomery, Co-Chair Leah Kelly,s, Co-Chair</p>

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	topics, recognitions, etc.	
7:30 p.m.	<b>Adjourn</b> The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 PM CST.	Belynda Montgomery, Co-Chair Leah Kelly, Co-Chair

**\*Note about public comments:** Speakers and visitors are expected to make respectful comments. If the presiding officer deems a speaker or visitor disrespectful, that person may be warned or asked to cease any further comment or behavior. Noncompliance may result in ejection from the meeting.

***Please note the process for public comments on video conference meetings:*** Persons wishing to provide public comments will be asked to state their name and acknowledge that they have read the 'Note about public comments' listed below. If more than 5 people wish to speak, the Co-Chair will draw 5 names randomly.

### SHAC Resources:

- Additional instructions on how to give public comment at a SHAC meeting:  
<https://www.austinisd.org/advisory-bodies/shac/meetings>
- Instructions on how to give public comment or public testimony at an Austin ISD Board of Trustees meeting: <https://www.austinisd.org/board/meetings>
- Instructions on how to register to testify at the Capitol: House / Senate Witness Registration:  
<https://mytxlegis.capitol.texas.gov/hwrspublic/about.aspx>

### Upcoming meetings:

- February 19, 2025
- March 12, 2025 (earlier than usual due to Spring Break)
- April 16, 2025