

Continuing Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2025 9:00 am – 10:18 am

CAC Attendees: Tara Cevallos, Adrian Guerra, Diana Nelson, Amy Litzinger, Agatha Thibodeaux, Kevin Markel, Janie Melendez, Lori Brown-Duncan

CAC Members Absent: Claudia Cavazos, Marissa Esquivel, Sheryl Kubala, Susan Nichols, JoAnn Wofford, Aaron Bangor, April Estrada

Texas Education Agency (TEA): Laura Briones, Brittany Brettschneider

9:04 Begin Meeting - Amy Litzinger and reviewed member duties and responsibilities.

9:08 Laura Briones gave TEA updates

- SB57 Student Accommodations During Emergencies and Drills.
- Cameras in the Classroom Survey
- Graduation and Special Education Frequently Asked Questions
- Texas Transition and Employment Guide is updated and posted on SPEDTex
- Upcoming Proposed Rulemaking

9:23 No Public Comments On-Site or Online

9:24 89th Legislative Session: Education Bills Signed

- SB2 ESAs launch for the 2026-2027 school year
- HB1188 Caytling Henley Act, Schools must refer families to the LIDDA for waiver waiting list information and eligibility determination.
- SB1952 HHSC has oversight of SHARS, must enter into an MOU with TEA to train staff and evaluate readiness.
- HB6 School discipline management and access to telehealth mental services in public schools.

Sub Committee Members:

- Digital Access-Adrian Guerra, Kevin Markel, Claudia Cavazos
- Staffing- Janie Melendez, Marissa Esquivel, Adrian Guerra, April Estrada
- Behavior- April Estrada, Adrian Guerra, Marissa Esquivel, Diana Nelson, Amy Litzinger
- Educational Representative- Amy Litzinger, JoAnn Wofford, Agatha Thibodeaux, Lori Brown-Duncan
- Formatting- Amy Litzinger, Aaron Guerra, Agatha Thibodeaux
- Dyslexia- Tara Cevallos, Janie Melendez, Adrian Guerra, April Estrada
- Funding-Adrian Guerra, Amy Litzinger, Janie Melendez
- Justice-Amy Litzinger, Kevin Markel, Lori Brown-Duncan
- Health and Safety-Marissa Esquivel, Amy Litzinger, JoAnn Wofford, Janie Melendez

Sub-Committee Chairs will contact members within a week.

10:03 Adrian Guerra motioned to approve minutes. Lori Brown-Duncan seconded motion. Minutes approved by CAC members.

Upcoming Topics

- Amy Litzinger would like to see a presentation from TEA on how the new behavioral guidelines for suspensions and pathways back to classrooms are being implemented.
- Tara Cevallos would like a presentation from TEA on dyslexia identification from 504 to SpED or any other data that TEA can supply.
- Janie Melendez would like to see a presentation from TEA on Teacher-Student Ratio, specifically on teachers providing services in life skills or self contained classrooms.
- Diana Nelson would like to get information on training or advocating for students that end up in a correctional setting that may fall under the SpEd umbrella.

10:14 Next CAC meeting set for January 28, 2026

*Post meeting update: Next CAC meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2025 to comply with the current by-laws

10:18 Meeting was adjourned.