



**DATE:** June 9, 2025

**TITLE:** Asian Student Union

**TYPE:** Action

**PRESENTER:** Activities Director Katie Carter

**BACKGROUND:** A group of students were interested in starting a new club, Asian Student Union. After recruiting students and finding an advisor, the AUS was able to maintain membership throughout the school year, they have met the requirements to make AASA an official AHS Club Offering. For a pilot year group, they have gone above and beyond expectations.

**RATIONALE:** As our student landscape changes from year to year, it is important that we provide diverse opportunities for our students to ensure that all students feel safe and welcome at Austin High School.

**RECOMMENDATION:** I recommend approval of the Asian Student Union to be added to Austin High School's list of activity offerings.

June 9, 2025

APS School Board Members and Dr. Page:

In September 2024, a new club proposal was submitted to the AHS Activities Department; Asian Student Union. The club was being formed with the purpose of creating a vibrant and supportive community for students interested in Asian Cultures. Through cultural events, education initiatives, and community engagement, this club seeks to foster understanding, celebrate diversity, and provide a platform for students to connect and share their experiences. This club serves as a bridge, connecting diverse cultures and forges a sense of unity among students who share a common Asian heritage.

This past school year, ASU maintained the minimum of 20 participants at each monthly meeting; with attendance typically in the 30's. The group is supervised by APS Success Coach, Hsawreh Lyahduku, and Watsana Thiravong. Some of the events this group led include: Chinese New Year Celebration, Donated Tie Blankets to a Senior Center, planned and executed AHS 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Culture Week, participation in the Taste of Nations, among others.

The leadership of ASU is young and determined. They are very well organized: 1) efficient calendar planning, 2) ongoing recruitment of new members 3) innovative ideas on how to plan for future initiatives. The ASU club is also receiving tremendous support from their school community and Asian Community.

It is my recommendation that the Asian Student Union move from pilot status to a school-recognized club, starting in the 2025-26 school year. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your support.

Best,

Katie Carter