

# **School Finance Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) 2024-2025 Report**



**Robert Navarro**

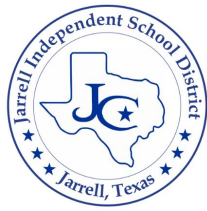
**Chief Financial Officer**

FIRST Report Public Hearing and Regular Board Meeting  
December 17, 2025



## **Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas**

The state's school financial accountability rating system, known as the School Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST), ensures that Texas public schools are held accountable for the quality of their financial management practices and that they improve those practices. The system is designed to encourage Texas public schools to better manage their financial resources to provide the maximum allocation possible for direct instructional purposes.



# School FIRST Indicators for 24-25

## Based on Data from FY 23-24

### Critical Indicators

### Yes or No

1	Was the complete annual financial report (AFR) and data submitted to the TEA within 30 days of the November 27 or January 28 deadline depending on the school district's fiscal year end date of June 30 or August 31, respectively?	Yes
2	Was there an unmodified opinion in the AFR on the financial statements as a whole? (The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) defines unmodified opinion. The external independent auditor determines if there was an unmodified opinion.)	Yes
3	Was the school district in compliance with the payment terms of all debt agreements at fiscal year end? (If the school district was in default in a prior fiscal year, an exemption applies in following years if the school district is current on its forbearance or payment plan with the lender and the payments are made on schedule for the fiscal year being rated. Also exempted are technical defaults that are not related to monetary defaults. A technical default is a failure to uphold the terms of a debt covenant, contract, or master promissory note even though payments to the lender, trust, or sinking fund are current. A debt agreement is a legal agreement between a debtor (= person, company, etc. that owes money) and their creditors, which includes a plan for paying back the debt.)	Yes
4	Did the school district make timely payments to the Teachers Retirement System (TRS), Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and other government agencies? Indicating by receiving NO warrant-holds during the fiscal year.	Yes
	If the district answered No above and received a warrant-hold, did the district clear the hold within 30 days?	
5	THIS INDICATOR IS NOT BEING SCORED	

# FIRST Indicators – cont'd

## Solvency Indicators

6	Was the average change in (assigned and unassigned) fund balances over 3 years less than a 25 percent decrease or did the current year's assigned and unassigned fund balances exceed 75 days of operational expenditures? (If the school district fails indicator 6, the maximum points and highest rating that the school district may receive is 89 points, B = Above Standard Achievement.)	Pass
7	Was the number of days of cash on hand and current investments in the general fund for the school district sufficient to cover operating expenditures (excluding facilities acquisition and construction)? See ranges below in the Determination of Points section.	0
8	Was the measure of current assets to current liabilities ratio for the school district sufficient to cover short-term debt? See ranges below in the Determination of Points section.	10
9	Did the school district's general fund revenues equal or exceed expenditures (excluding facilities acquisition and construction)? If not, was the school district's number of days of cash on hand greater than or equal to 60 days? See ranges below in the Determination of Points section.	0
10	Did the school district average less than a 10 percent variance (90% to 110%) when comparing budgeted revenues to actual revenues for the last 3 fiscal years?	10
11	Was the ratio of long-term liabilities to total assets for the school district sufficient to support long-term solvency? If the school district's increase of students in membership over 5 years was 7 percent or more, then the school district automatically passes this indicator. See ranges below in the Determination of Points section.	10
12	Was the debt per \$100 of assessed property value ratio sufficient to support future debt repayments? See ranges below in the Determination of Points section.	6
13	Was the school district's administrative cost ratio equal to or less than the threshold ratio? See ranges below in the Determination of Points section.	10

# FIRST Indicators – cont'd

14	Did the school district not have a 15 percent decline in the students to staff ratio over 3 years (total enrollment to total staff)? If the student enrollment did not decrease, the school district will automatically pass this indicator.	10
15	Was the school district's ADA within the allotted range of the district's biennial pupil projection(s) submitted to TEA? If the district did not submit pupil projections to TEA, did it certify TEA's projections? See ranges below in the Determination of Points section.	5
16	Did the comparison of Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) data to like information in the school district's AFR result in a total variance of less than 3 percent of all expenditures by function? (If the school district fails indicator 16, the maximum points and highest rating that the school district may receive is 89 points, B = Above Standard Achievement.)	Pass
17	Did the external independent auditor report that the AFR was free of any instance(s) of material weaknesses in internal controls over financial reporting and compliance for local, state, or federal funds? (The AICPA defines material weakness.) (If the school district fails indicator 17, the maximum points and highest rating that the school district may receive is 79 points, C = Meets Standard Achievement.)	Pass
18	Did the external independent auditor indicate the AFR was free of any instance(s) of material noncompliance for grants, contracts, and laws related to local, state, or federal funds? (The AICPA defines material noncompliance.)	10
19	Did the school district post the required financial information on its website in accordance with Government Code, Local Government Code, Texas Education Code, Texas Administrative Code and other statutes, laws and rules that were in effect at the school district's fiscal year end?	5
20	Did the school board members discuss the district's property values at a board meeting within 120 days before the district adopted its budget? (If the school district fails indicator 20 the maximum points and highest rating that the school district may receive is 89 points, B = Above Standard Achievement.)	Pass
	District received 76 total points – Equating to meeting standard achievement.	

# Disclosures

Reporting requirements for the financial management report for School FIRST public hearing are found in Title 19 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 109, Budgeting, Accounting, and Auditing, Subchapter AA, Commissioner's Rules Concerning Financial Accountability Rating System. This rule describes requirements for the six (6) disclosures explained below that are to be presented as appendices in the School FIRST financial management report.

## 1. Superintendent's Employment Contract

The school district is to provide a copy of the superintendent's employment contract that is effective on the date of the school FIRST hearing in fiscal year 2023-2024. In lieu of publication in the School FIRST financial management report, the school district may choose to publish the superintendent's employment contract on the school district's Internet site. If published on the Internet, the contract is to remain accessible for twelve months.

**The current Superintendent's Contract is on the JISD Website.**

## 2. Reimbursements received by Superintendent and Board Members for FY 23-24.

**For the 12 months ended June 30, 2024**

Descriptions	Superintendent	Place 1	Place 2	Place 3	Place 4	Place 5	Place 6	Place 7
Meals								
Lodging								
Transportation								
Fuel								
Other (Registrations, Travel)	\$ 0	\$ 20	\$ 30	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 75
Total	\$ 0	\$ 20	\$ 30	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 75

# Disclosures Cont'd

3. Outside Compensation and/or Fees received by the Superintendent for Professional Consulting and/or Other Personal Services in Fiscal Year 2024. **None reported**
4. Gifts Received by the Executive Officer(s) and Board Members (and First Degree Relatives, if any) in Fiscal Year 2024. **None reported**
5. Business Transactions Between School District and Board Members for Fiscal Year 2024. **None reported**
6. Any other information the Board of Trustees of the school district or open-

