

The Board of Trustees of Denton Independent School District, State of Texas, met in a regular meeting at the Denton ISD Central Services building, 1307 N. Locust St., Denton, Texas, on Tuesday, October 13, 2026, at 6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by President Barbara Burns who announced that a quorum was present.

Board Members Present: Burns, Dunworth, English, Martinez-Strickland, Petolick, Stafford, and Wright

Board Members Absent:

Arrived Late:

Left Early:

School Personnel Present: K. Cobb, M. Cobb, Boyter, Brownell, O'Bara, Parham, Petito, Pierce, Rainey, Robinson, Schulz, Smith, Stewart, and Thompson

Pledges The Pledges to the flags were led by Bell Elementary School students.

Presentations & Recognitions Rebecca M. Serna and William H. Taylor, seniors at Ryan High School, have been named Semifinalists in the 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program. Fewer than one percent of the nation's graduating seniors earn this distinction. Their scores on the 2025 PSAT/NMSQT® qualified them as Semifinalists, and both now have the chance to advance to Finalist standing this spring.

The University of North Texas hosted Denton ISD Day on September 12, and invited Denton ISD students, families, staff and community members to DATCU Stadium. The event gave hundreds of families a chance to cheer on the Mean Green together, and it celebrated the strong ties between Denton's public schools and its hometown university. The day was made possible by UNT staff members who worked closely with the district to plan a welcoming experience for our community. Denton ISD students also had a special role in the day, performing during the pre-game activities with the support of their directors and the families who cheered them on.

This item is for information only. No action is required.

Public Hearing for Turnaround Plan The public hearing began at 6:10 pm.

Robin Brownell, Area Superintendent, presented the Turnaround Plan for Cross Oaks Elementary School. The primary guiding levers used in forming the plan include high-quality instructional materials and effective instruction.

The Performance Playbook outlines the essential practices and expectations for improving student outcomes across all Denton ISD campuses. Areas of focus provided by the TEA are student outcome goals, observation feedback cycles, curriculum and instruction alignment, capacity building, milestones, and roles and responsibilities.

No one wished to speak and the public hearing concluded at 6:18pm.

Open Forum No community members wished to address the board.

Discussion of Super
Six Campus
Improvement Plans
2026-2027 The Campus Improvement Planning is compiled after each district campus leadership team completes a campus comprehensive needs assessment. The purpose of this report is to share each campus improvement plan with the board to show how our goals and action steps are aligned to board goals, district goals, and campus goals. The plans are a working, living document that provides each campus a pathway for student success. This report will show campus goals, action steps to reach each goal, any financial implications, people responsible, and a timeline for achieving the goal. The CIP's will highlight the great work our district is doing to support student achievement, student engagement, and social/emotional learning. The Campus Improvement Planning process for the 2026-2027 school year supports the following Denton ISD Compass Points: Excellence In Student Outcomes, Exceptional Workplace Environment, Reciprocal Family & Community Partnerships, and Responsible Fiscal Stewardship.

This item is for information only. No action is required.

Consent Agenda Motion by Sheryl English and seconded by Charles Stafford

To approve (the minutes of the September 22, 2026 board meeting; personnel matters, leaves, and absences; Head Start Monthly Compliance Report; Purchases in accordance with Board Policy CH(Local)).

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

With approval of the consent agenda, Dr. O'Bara announced Kristina Nichols as principal of WS Ryan Elementary School.

Closed Meeting The Board convened into Closed Session at 7:25 pm

Open Meeting The Board reconvened into Open Session at 8:30 pm

Motion by Tanya Wright and seconded by Sheryl English

That the Board find that Laci Harvey abandoned her probationary contract without good cause, effective September 25, 3036, after stating she would not return and then failing to report for work. It was further moved that the Board authorize the Superintendent or designee to submit a written complaint to TEA/SBEC with required supporting documents and promptly notify Ms. Harvy.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm

President

Secretary