

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, January 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, and Sosa-Sanchez

Board Members Absent: Stafford, Tays, Wright

Arrived Late:

Left Early:

School Personnel Present: Andress, Brown, Brownell, Garcia, Guajardo, Liewehr, O'Bara, Parham, Petito, Pierce, L. Rainey, J. Rainey, Robinson, Schulz, E. Smith, T. Smith, Simpson, Stewart, Thibodeaux, and Thompson

Others: Cindy Breeding, *Denton Record-Chronicle*; citizens, staff, and students

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

**Presentations/Recognitions** The Texas Dance Educators' Association (TDEA) All-State Dance Team represents the highest level of achievement for high school dance students across Texas. Selected through a competitive process, All-State dancers participate in a statewide convention experience that includes dance workshops, leadership training, master classes, and networking with peers. The experience culminates in a performance choreographed by a master choreographer. In January 2026, Denton ISD students attended and performed as members of the TDEA All-State Dance Team during the Texas Dance Educators' Association Convention in Houston.

January is School Board Appreciation month. Trustees spend countless hours ensuring the quality education of Denton ISD students. Books were donated in honor of the Board of Trustees to each campus in the district.

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

**Public Hearing Regarding Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR)**

The public hearing began at 6:13 PM.

Denton ISD held a public hearing regarding the Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR). The overall district accountability score for Denton ISD was a B signifying significant growth. 22 Denton ISD campuses earned either an A or B rating, up from 13 campuses in 2024. 72% of the campuses in Denton ISD demonstrated overall growth in performance. The district performed at or above the state level for students performing at the Master's level in Grade 3 Reading, Grade 4 Reading, Grade 5 Reading, Grade 6 Reading, Grade 7 Reading, Grade 8 Reading, EOC Biology, and EOC US History. Denton ISD's Advanced/Dual Credit course completion in 23-24 increased by 5% over the previous year.

Additionally, Denton ISD attendance and graduation rate is higher than the State and Region 11 averages.

As there were no questions or speakers, the public hearing concluded at 6:26pm.

Community members that addressed the Board: Rebecca Bertoni.

Discussion of Bond Progress Update

Community member, Nancy Chadwick, spoke on behalf of the Bond Progress Committee. The last bond progress meeting was held on November 19, 2025 at W.S. Ryan Elementary School. The committee was given a financial update for the 2023 Bond Program along with a report on network infrastructure projects. The committee also heard a brief construction update on the following projects: Borman Elementary School, Ryan High School, Guyer High School, High School #5, and Ginnings Elementary School.

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

Discussion of 2026-2027 Budget Jennifer Stewart, Executive Director of Budget, provided an overview of the 2026-2027 budget planning process, calendar, and priorities. Discussions will take place from January 2026 through approval in June 2026. The budget priorities include:

- Allocation of resources to meet our greatest needs
- Maintain our primary focus on teaching and learning
- Program sustainability
- Competitive compensation plan
- Fund balance integrity
- Balanced budget

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

Discussion of Middle of Year Progress Update Dr. Lisa Thibodeaux, Executive Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning, and Sandy Brown, Executive Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning, provided a mid-year update on student progress in English language arts and mathematics for students in grades 3-10. The purpose of the update is to examine how students are progressing at the midpoint of the year relative to beginning-of-year diagnostics and established end-of-year expectations.

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

**3<sup>rd</sup> Period Attendance Report** The purpose of this report is to provide campus and district ADA percentages for the 3rd reporting period (RP 3) of the 2025-2026 school year and to compare this data to prior years. This report will also identify current truancy prevention measures being used on Denton ISD campuses to increase student attendance. Overall, the districts ADA has slowly decreased over the 1<sup>st</sup> semester.

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

## Property Tax Report

This report aims to provide an update on delinquent tax collections for the tax year 2024-25. This information is an important part of the ongoing process of monitoring and managing financial revenues in the district. District budget and finance staff use this data for cash flow purposes and to confirm that the District is accurately receiving and maximizing both local and state revenues on an annual basis. For the 2024-25 tax year, and for the previous 13 tax years prior, the delinquent property tax collection rate exceeded 99%.

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

## Intruder Detection Audit Report

The objective of this report is to communicate the recent audits that have been carried out within Denton ISD. Region 11 conducts Intruder Detection Audits pursuant to updated legal requirements. To date twenty-one (21) Denton ISD schools have been reviewed. Further details, if any, have been provided to the Board in executive session and will be provided to the district's Safety and Security Committee in an upcoming meeting for the purpose of safety and security.

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

## Consent Agenda

Motion by Sheryl English and seconded by Patsy Sosa-Sanchez

To approve (the minutes of the December 9, 2025 regular meeting; Matters related to personnel; Approval of leaves and absences; Budget amendments as of December 31, 2025; Interlocal agreement between Denton ISD and the Region 10 Multi-Region Purchasing Cooperative; Purchases in accordance with Board Policy CH(Local); Change Order Number 001 to the contract price for the Denton High School Multipurpose Facility; Approval of Donation in Accordance with Board Policy CDC(Local) to the Child Nutrition Department; Approval of Donation in Accordance with Board Policy CDC(Local) to Guyer High School; Approval of TEA Class Size Waiver Requests; Board Member Resignation)

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

With approval of the Consent Agenda, Dr. Susannah O'Bara announced Erin Staniszewski as principal of McNair Elementary School.

Erika Timmons was announced as principal of Cross Oaks Elementary School.

It was announced that Lori Tays has resigned as Trustee effective immediately.

## Consider Approval of the 2026-2027 Secondary Course Planning Guides

Motion by Sheryl English and seconded by Buddy Dunworth.

To approve the 2026-2027 Secondary Course Planning Guides as proposed.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider Approval of Motion by Patsy Sosa-Sanchez and seconded by Buddy Dunworth.  
Order for Trustee  
Election To approve the Order of Trustee Election on May 2, 2026.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Closed Meeting The Board convened into Closed Session at 7:14 pm.

Open Meeting The Board reconvened into Open Session at 8:07 pm.

Sheryl English nominated Charles Stafford as Board Secretary upon the resignation of Lori Tays. Seconded by Buddy Dunworth.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.

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President

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Secretary