

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, August 25, 2020 at 6:01 PM.

Pursuant to the Governor Abbott's Temporary Suspension of Open Meetings Laws issued on March 16, 2020, this meeting will be conducted via videoconference, which will be audible to the Board and public and allow for two-way communication. The Board President, presiding officer of trustees were physically present at one location, a quorum will be required for the meeting on the videoconference or phone. The public may access this meeting or obtain an electronic copy of the agenda packet at <https://www.dentonisd.org/trustees>.

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

Board Members Present: Alexander, Burns, Chadwick, Price, Sosa-Sanchez, Smith and Stafford

Board Members Absent:

Arrived Late:

Left Early:

School Personnel Present: Wilson, Niven, Mattingly, Pierce, Stripling, Perkins, O'Bara, Rainey, Robinson, Russell, Stewart, Stevenson, Valenta and Zwahr

Others: Marshall Reid, *Denton Record Chronicle*; Randy Stout, Attorney; citizens, staff, and students.

Pledges: The pledges to the flags were led by staff

Presentations/ Recognitions: Bridget Matamoros-Mota, Guyer High School was recently honored the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). Established in 1983, PAEMST is the highest award given by the U.S. Government to K-12 teachers of mathematics and science. A panel of distinguished mathematicians, scientists, and educators at the State and national levels assess the applications before recommending nominees to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Matamoros-Mota began her teacher career at Guyer High School in 2007. She currently serves as the Mathematics Department Chair teaching 11th and 12th grade Statistics, Advanced Placement (AP) Statistics, and Dual Credit Statistics.

COVID-19 Update: Dr. Richardson, Denton County Health Department provided the Trustees with an update on the Coronavirus within Denton County. Denton as of today, there is a total of 9406 confirmed cases, 2109 active cases, 7199

recovered cases, with 98 deaths. COVID-19 cases in Denton County case counts are declining and the curve is flattening. Dr. Richardson provide the Board with an overview of the Covid-19 reporting survey Denton County Health Department has developed. The reporting survey has a parent student reporting and a staff (attendance clerks or registrar) reporting survey. ISD's and campuses are already pre-populated in the survey. The Dashboard will provide public information that can be filtered by the school district and campus levels. The Denton County Health department is hoping to have the survey active within the next week.

Susannah O'Bara, Area Superintendent reviewed the procedures for COVID-19 positive cases for students and employee cases.

Dr. Mike Mattingly reviewed the Connectivity preparation for teachers and parents for virtual learning. A Parent Education Support Hotline is available for Denton ISD parents to call beginning Wednesday, August 26 through September 4 from 9 am until 7 pm. Parents may receive assistance on a variety of issues such as Canvas or Seesaw, log-in issues, attendance, transportation, meal service, safety protocols, etc.

Dr. Gwen Perkins, Area Superintendent provided the Board of Trustees about the Hybrid model for secondary students. The hybrid model assists in supporting teachers and students being safe considering the numbers of individuals they interact with daily. An example of this would be a secondary math class with 32 students in which 5 are connected learners and 27 are face to face. By utilizing the hybrid model, the teacher is interacting synchronously/face-to-face with 5 students (online) and 13 - 14 students face-to-face (in-class) daily versus managing safety protocols while instructing/monitoring 27 students face-to-face in class. Students will be divided into Cohort A-L: attending on Mondays, Wednesdays, and every other Friday. Cohort M-Z: attending on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and every other Friday. Students will be working remotely on their days not on campus. All students will have Universal ID's which include student Cohorts on their ID's.

Chris Bomberger, Executive Director of Risk Management & Child Nutrition provided an update for the Table to Truck meal program as well as the cafeteria service for campuses.

Dr. Robert Stewart, Asst. Superintendent of Human Resources provided an overview of the Ed Covid Leave requests, resignations due to Covid and the contact tracing for Covid cases.

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

Discussion of Legislative Priorities in Preparation of the 87 Legislative Session

Deron Roberson, General Counsel and Gwen Perkins, Area Superintendent reviewed legislative priorities from the 86th Legislative Session and begin discussion with the Board of Trustees in consideration of outlining their legislative priorities for the 87th Legislative Session.

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

Discussion of Asynchronous Learning Plan

Dr. Mattingly, Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction shared the Denton ISD Asynchronous Learning Plan (Connected Learning), a 37-page plan that describes how virtual learning will be implemented in Denton ISD. The plan will require board approval prior to submission to the TEA for further review and approval. The workshop will give a brief description of the eight sections of the Connected Learning Plan:

- The Basics
- Core Principles
- Curriculum and Instructional Materials
- Progress Monitoring and Student Experience
- Academic Delivery and Implementation
- Instructional Schedule
- Staff Deployment and Support
- Family Engagement

Connected Learning allows Pk-12th grade students to stay enrolled at their home campus while taking courses as fully remote option. Students remain connected to their teachers and peers, and the return to school is seamless; all coursework and credits transfer back without complication.

Students will receive a combination of:

- **Synchronous** - Students and teachers are in real-time interactive virtual learning.
- **Asynchronous** - Students engage in learning content independently and on their own time. It is not at their own pace.

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

Final Results-Sale of Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2020

Dr. Scott Niven, Chief Financial Officer outlined the results of the final bond sale from the 2018 bond issue. Overall, the District sold \$308 million in bonds with an overall interest rate of 1.93%. These results will save the taxpayer over \$43 million in future interest costs

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

Bond Progress Report

Kathy Lawson, Bond Committee Co-Chair presented the Board with an overview of the Bond Progress Committees meeting held on August 19, 2020.

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

2nd Quarter
Growth Report

Rocky Gardiner, Templeton Demographics provided the Board of Trustees the 2nd Quarter Growth Report. The impact of Covid-19 saw record levels of unemployment rising in May after states began to reopen. Leisure and hospitality and retail trade accounted for the largest share of the employment increase after accounting for the largest declines. Unemployment rate is 13.3%. Texas and DFW's unemployment rates peaked in May and began dropping in June with the largest declines in leisure, hospitality, education and health services.

Median home prices remain near record highs across the state. Home inventory was tight as sales dropped in April. In the month of June total monthly home sales rebounded and surpassed 2019 levels in Austin, DFW, Houston and San Antonio. Low interest rates resulted in a fast recovery for the housing market and we are growing faster than a year ago. Annual starts are up by 15%, annual closings are 12.4 % and builders may exceed their 2020 projections. DFW multi-family market is down about 1% and has not fared as well. Denton ISD is now ranked as the fastest growing school district in DFW based on new housing with 2841 annual closings. Denton ISD has 55 actively building subdivisions with 42 future subdivisions and approximately 4,881 future multi-family units in the planning stages.

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

Construction
Report

Garry Ryan, Executive Manager of Construction, Planning & Growth provided the Board of Trustees an overview of the current construction projects.

Denton High School projects completed within the past 90 days

- East and West Classroom Wings exterior windows installed
- 90% complete on 1st floor slabs & 30% complete on 2nd floor slabs
- Complete structural steel erection for administration space and dome
- Complete CMU on Athletic/Shop Areas
- Complete Public Water & Utilities
- Poured Tennis Court slabs

Within the next 90 days the following items will begin:

- Erect the Structural Steel for the Gyms
- ICF for the Storm Shelter/Band Hall
- Complete Slabs for Field Houses
- Complete Fire Lanes
- Start Baseball/Softball Fields
- Start CMU on Auditorium and Cafeteria

Strickland Middle School renovation and projects completed within the past 90 days.

- Completed installation of brick veneer, dynamic glass and concrete columns at 2 story classroom addition
- Completed bus drive canopy on South side of the school
- Completed above ceiling MEP rough-ins and inspections at 2 story addition, fine arts and athletic areas
- Started installation of science casework, millwork, door and hardware in all areas
- Started finishes including ceramic tile, flooring, paint and ceilings in all areas
- Started demolition of basement and first floor for new library and administration

Within the next 90 days the following items will begin:

- Finish punch list items for all areas completed
- Continue demolition for new library and administration
- Start grading and foundation for new areas
- Start structural steel erection for crawl space
- Pour concrete slabs for new building
- Start structural steel erection for the building

Woodrow Wilson Elementary replacement project and the items completed the past 90 days.

- Crawlspace areas completed
- First Floor Slabs have been completed
- Steel Erection in all areas except 2nd and 5th classroom wing is completed
- Second Floor Slabs in all areas except 2nd and 5th classroom wing is completed
- Exterior Framing & Sheathing in Kitchen/Dining is completed
- West Fire Lane has been poured

Within the next 90 days the following items will begin:

- Complete Steel Erection & Slabs
- Complete Exterior Framing & Sheathing
- Roofing
- Complete CMU at Storm Shelter
- Interior Walls
- Storefronts

Ryan High School renovations and projects completed within the past 90 days.

- Utilities installed
- Existing concession building removed
- Parking paving poured, caulked, and striped
- Electrical rough-in for new lighting and sound system in the gym
- Existing bleachers refurbished and upgraded

Within the next 90 days the following items will begin:

- Parking lot paving

- Foundation for Auditorium
- Install turf, install chain link fence, and gate at the football field
- Building pads for new concessions area, batting cage area, and new storage building area
- Painting of logos in gymnasium and paint practice gymnasium
- Install light fixtures, goals and wall pads, sound system, scoreboards and video monitors in the gymnasium
- Complete new serving line
- Interior metal framing of walls in the Shop

Guyer High School renovations and projects completed within the past 90 days.

- Completed demolition of existing softball field
- Completed excavation and starting fill for the softball field, baseball field, tennis courts, weight room addition and field houses
- Started utility work
- Poured concrete for parking additions
- Started CMU installation at track storage and softball dugouts

Within the next 90 days the following items will begin:

- Complete fill for all fields
- Complete foundation work for weight room addition, field house, tennis courts and field events
- Start foundations for scoreboards, foul poles, netting and fencing
- Start installation of CMU block at softball field house, weight room addition and field events area
- Complete utility work

Mr. Ryan also provided an overview of the conceptional design plans for Braswell High School additions that includes a classroom wing addition which is planned for a 9th grade addition. The classroom wing will increase the student capacity from the current 2400 to 3200 students. Garry also reviewed the new stadium complex that will hold approximately 7000. The complex will include a track, food truck area, new home and visitor locker rooms, media suite in the press box and a press box lobby.

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

2020 Summer
School Programs
Report

Dr. Dan Ford provided the Board with an update of the 2020 Summer School programs including Bilingual/ESL and Secondary. Elementary students attended a half day program for 12 instructional days during the month of June. The funding for this program came from Student Success Initiative, Title I funds, and Special Education funds. These funds were used for instructional materials, payroll, and transportation. Students in grades 3-5 attended 12 virtual instructional days during the month of June. The 3rd-5th grade June Summer School was successful at providing meaningful interventions to the students because of the specialized support that is

provided by Teachers, Special Education Teachers, and Curriculum Specialists. Special Education Inclusion teachers were able to support the classroom teachers and provided specialized instruction. Additionally, a Reading Specialist and a Math Specialist worked alongside the classroom teachers in a coaching capacity to ensure instructional time with students was maximized and meaningful.

In July students in grades 1-5th attended 8 days of face-to-face instruction for the jump start program. Every Elementary campus hosted Jump Start with the exception of Wilson Elementary due to construction issues. Wilson students attended Ginnings for their Jump Start program.

Elementary Bilingual ESL upcoming kindergarten and first grade students with online support and instruction using Zoom and other video streaming platforms to connect with students daily, Monday – Thursday, from June 8 – 25. The BE/ESL Department distributed instructional supplies for each student, including 35 chrome books and 15 jetpacks. Every upcoming kindergarten and first grade student in summer school was able to fully participate and obtain access to the curriculum. All students were provided targeted instruction based on their individual needs according to EOY SELI and ELI data. Experienced instructional teachers supported these students by providing targeted language and content instruction on a daily basis.

Middle School Summer School was held virtually in two separate sessions. Session I was held June 1- June 18, 2020 and session II was held July 6- July 23, 2020. Summer School required a combination of collaborative meetings: whole group zoom, small group zoom, and one-on-one zoom meetings. Students had access to google classroom through their SSO portal and were introduced to a variety of activities.

High School Summer School was held 100% online from June 1-July 23, 2020. Summer school was offered as a free educational resource for all students in need of credit repair. Canvas was used as the online classroom where teacher check-ins, announcements, and messaging took place. Edgenuity was used for content delivery. Teachers monitored progress and graded within the Edgenuity courseware.

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

InfoSnap and
Connected
Learning Update

Dr. Gwen Perkins, Area Superintendent provided the Board with the current numbers of student registrations. Denton ISD utilizes an InfoSnap online registration system to manage enrollment/registration of our returning students and our new to Denton students. This report provides an update of completed registrations for returning students and new student enrollment within the system as of August 25, 2020. The report provides the number of returning students, by campus, who have completed online registration,

together with the number of those students who expressed an interest in the Connected Learning program and the number of new students, by campus, who have completed online registration, together with the number of new students who expressed an interest in the Connected Learning program. As of August 25, 2020, we have 30,669 students registered, 14,000 + registered for Connected Learning with a 47% interest in Connected Learning.

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

Open Forum

Candi Harris - My husband and I are parents to 4 boys, ages 14, 11, 6, and 4. We are also full-time employees for organizations that have extended to us the opportunity to work from home during this challenging time. Like many other parents, we are concerned about the current health crisis and are working to be as cautious as we can when moving about our daily lives. Like many other parents, we too hope for the best education for our boys and believe that public school can offer that. However, we have a tiny village here in Denton – the six of us and my mother-in-law and older brother; out of concern for our own health as well as theirs, we’ve decided to enroll our boys in the Connected Learning plan. Unlike many parents, we are in a unique position to be able to work from home while our children learn online. I applaud the district for maintaining an option for those children who need to be in school for whatever reason. We, however, are privileged to be able to choose the CL program. With what little information was sent out, we decided to go with this option hoping for a good teacher-led experience. While school has not yet started, I already have some concerns that I want to share with you tonight.

I have read the district plan on CL – I wish this was presented to parents earlier in the decision-making process. One section addresses the communication that has been sent out to parents – the videos that included CL info. These videos discussed “predictability and consistency” and mentioned that teachers will be provided with the “best training”. The one specifically about elementary reports that students in CL will have a similar experience to those learning in person. I am concerned about how true this will be in the coming weeks/months.

- While a colleague of mine shared info about a dedicated remote teacher for her school, I have learned that at our elementary school will not have this person for 1st grade specifically. I am concerned that teachers needing to spend dedicated time with students in the classroom will not have enough time to also balance adequate interaction with students at home via synchronous learning time. I anticipated assisting my children with virtual learning, but with the information we’ve received in the last day or so, it seems we will need to be their actual teacher. I would love to see dedicated teachers to the remote learners.

- Our first meet-the-teacher call via Zoom didn't go very well at all. The teacher has a terrible connection (in the classroom) and we, along with others on the call, could not understand most of what was going on. She would call on students, just to talk over them asking if they were there. Then, she would move on to another child while the previous one was still talking. You could see the kids getting frustrated and my own son asked if we could leave about 10 minutes into the call. Several participants didn't know that they were not muted...and the teacher didn't seem to know that she could mute them on her end as a host. Other parents have shared similar stories and as someone choosing virtual learning for their children, this concerns me about the going forward. Allowing exceptions for significant technology issues, I do hope we will see virtual instruction that makes good use of the technology platforms such as Zoom.
- Communication has been absolutely terrible. I know the district has sent out several emails and videos, however if these videos and emails aren't consistent with what we're getting from the campus, we're left to be confused and frustrated. When calling the McNair campus about my confusion, I was told "I guess you'll know something by Tuesday night". Now, we're being told that we'll know something every week about how the schedule for that week will go – that does not seem predictable. It seems like we'll need to spend time every Sunday trying to figure out what the next week will look like.

I know that we are all frustrated and trying to figure this thing out. However, I expected that with a summer to plan moving forward in what is clearly a long-term pandemic, that this would have gone much more smoothly than it has. I expected communication to be much more transparent. This does not leave me feeling very confident in the Connected Learning program. It has only left me grateful that I have the ability to rework my schedule to work with my children for much more of the day than originally planned. Unfortunately, not every parent has this ability and I'm worried that this will continue to widen the achievement gap.

Consent Agenda Motion by Charles Stafford and seconded by Jim Alexander

To approve (the minutes for the August 11, 2020 Board meeting; matters related to personnel, resignations, ; approval of the Investment Report as of July 31, 2020, approval of TASB Update 115 Local Policies and revisions to DEA (Local), DEC (Local) & DEE (Local) on 2nd Reading; approval of the Denton County JJAEP agreement between the Denton Independent School District and The Denton County Juvenile Board, WHEREAS, the Denton County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program acting as the agent for the DCJB continues to educate our students at a separate setting in order for Denton ISD to fulfill their primary mission of education Texas youth; approval of the Option #3 – Purchase Attendance Credits from TEA and the Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credits (Netting Chapter 48

Funding) “For the 2020-2021 school year, we delegated contractual authority to obligate the school district under Texas Education Code (TEC) §11.1511(c)(4) to the superintendent, solely for the purpose of obligating the district under TEC, §48.257 and TEC, Chapter 49, Subchapters A and D, and the rules adopted by the commissioner of education as authorized under TEC, §49.006. This included approval of the Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credit (Netting Chapter 48 Funding).”; approval of an agreement for Medicaid Consultation and Billing with Maine State Billing (MSB) Medicaid to Schools; approve the Region XI Master Interlocal Agreement in the amount of \$253,771.45; approval of the ratification of Flexible Spending Account Amendment extending Grace Period be approved for Section 125 Cafeteria Plans of IRS code; approval of the contract for Stantec Architecture to provide architectural services for the 2018 Bond Elementary Campuses (Davis, EP Rayzor, Evers Park, Ginnings, Hodge, Sam Houston, McNair, Pecan Creek, Providence, Rivera and WS Ryan Elementary); approve the 2020 – 2021 T-TESS certified appraisers as submitted and approval of the NFHS Network School Broadcast Program agreement to allow the live streaming of Denton ISD athletic events.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Closed Meeting The Board convened into Closed Session at 10:44 pm

Open Meeting The Board reconvened into Open Session at 11:53 pm

Motion by Doug Chadwick and seconded by Jim Alexander

To approve the Resolution regarding boundary changes with Aubrey Independent School District.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:04 am

President

Secretary