

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, March 25, 2025, at 6:00 PM.

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

Board Members Present: Bundgus, Burns, English, Price, Sosa-Sanchez, Stafford, and Tays

Board Members Absent:

Arrived Late:

Left Early:

School Personnel Present: Brownell, O'Bara, Parham, Pierce, J. Rainey, L. Rainey, Robinson, Russell, Schulz, Smith, Thompson, Zwahr

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

Pledges The Pledges to the flags were led by students from Ann Windle School for Young Children.

Presentations/ Recognitions Denton ISD has been named a District of Distinction by the Texas Art Education Association (TAEA) and the Visual Art Administrators of Texas. The award honors school districts that are leading the way in visual arts and is given to districts for outstanding leadership in promoting the arts in their district and community. Less than 110 school districts across the state of Texas earned the distinction, which is judged by a committee of TAEA members and administrators from across Texas.

Denton ISD has earned the Texas Thespians Premiere Communities for Theatre Education Award, which recognizes school districts that make outstanding contributions to raising the standards for theater education. In addition, the district also received the Exemplary District of Distinction and Exemplary High School of Distinction for Braswell High School. Denton ISD was one of only 20 districts statewide to receive the Exemplary District of Distinction award, which is the highest distinction possible. Districts that earn this award provide theatre programs with the resources to achieve above standard, as rooted in the Educational Theatre Association's Opportunity to Learn Standards, Texas Theatre Knowledge and Skills for Fine Arts (TEKS), and support of International Thespian Society Troupe involvement.

Artwork by two Denton ISD students was selected to be featured in the Spring Exhibition at the Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin. Karissa Theile from Denton High School and Kahira Mora-Delgado from Stephens Elementary were two of only 100 students from across Texas to have artwork selected for this prestigious recognition.

The Ryan High School girls basketball team won the Class 5A Division I state championship on March 1. Behind a 24-point performance from Kaylin Jackson, the Lady Raiders beat San Antonio Wagner 58-47 to win the title – becoming the first girls basketball team in Denton ISD history to win a state championship. Kaylin was named the MVP of the title game. In addition to her 24 points, Kaylin also tallied eight rebounds. Ryan ended its season on a 13-game winning streak, with the Lady Raiders’ impressive defense paving the way to them hoisting the trophy. Ryan held its opponents to just 40.1 points per game in the playoffs.

The Guyer High School boys basketball team won the Class 6A Division II state championship on March 8. The Wildcats defeated Katy Jordan 48-47 behind a 20-point performance from Silas Rodriguez. Silas was named MVP of the title game, making the winning 3-pointer with less than 30 seconds left. Guyer ended the season on an 11-game winning streak, finishing the year with a 34-7 overall record.

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

Discussion of 2025-2026 Jennifer Stewart, Executive Director of Budget, provided the Board of Trustees with an overview of property values as they pertain to the district budget. The district relies on certified values in planning the budget. Formulas for calculations and projections were included in the presentation.

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

Discussion of Energy Audit Paul Andress, Executive Director of Operations, and TDIndustries provided an update on the utility management processes in all Denton ISD’s facilities from July 2024 – December 2024. This audit includes the following:

- 1) Total consumption and cost comparison.
- 2) Analysis by utility type.
- 3) Percentage change of energy use.

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

Discussion of Legislative Session Update Deron Robinson, General Council provided the updates and resources to the Board of Trustees regarding the 89th Legislative Session.

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

Bond Progress Report Tanya Wright, member of the Bond Progress Committee, presented the Board with information from the last Bond Progress meeting which was held at the new Martinez Elementary School on March 19, 2025.

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

Construction Report The purpose of this report is to provide information concerning construction projects as to scheduling, progress, and funding and to answer any questions pertaining to construction projects. Projects presented included Borman Elementary School, High School #5, Reeves Elementary School, and Braswell High School Multipurpose Facility.

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

4 Period Attendance Report The purpose of this report is to provide campus and district ADA percentages for the 4th reporting period (RP 4) of the 2024-2025 school year (January 7 – February 21, 2025) 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.

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

Intruder Detection Audit Report Region 11 is conducting Intruder Detection Audits pursuant to updated legal requirements. To date 31 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.

1st Open Forum No one wished to speak.

Consent Agenda Motion by Lori Tays and seconded by Mia Price:

To approve (the minutes of the February 25, 2025 Board meetings; personnel matters, leaves, and absences; budget amendments as of February 28, 2025; AWSFYC Head Start Monthly Compliance Reports; TASB Policy Update 124 with Revisions to DC(Local); Joint Election Agreement and Contract for Election Services between the Denton County Elections Administrator and Denton ISD; Recurring Request for Proposal (RFP) Renewal; RFP# 2403-04 Bus WiFi (E-Rate) Renewal).

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

2nd Open Forum Community member(s) that addressed the Board were Rebecca Bertoni.

Closed Meeting The Board convened into Closed Session at 7:37 pm.

Open Meeting The Board reconvened into Open Session at 8:50 pm.

Consideration of Surplus Property Resolution

Motion by Mia Price and seconded by Patsy Sosa-Sanchez:

That the Board adopt the resolution identifying the approximately 18.29 acres of real estate situated at 1400 Malone Street in Denton, Texas, where Newton Rayzor Elementary School was formerly located, as surplus property.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consideration of Cole Ranch Agreement

Motion by Patsy Sosa-Sanchez and seconded by Sheryl English:

That the Board approve the contract with The Cole Ranch Company for the purchase of additional land for a high school and middle school, and accept their donation of land for two (2) elementary schools, and authorize Superintendent O'Bara to execute the contract and all other necessary documents for the closing of this matter on behalf of the school district.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consideration and Adoption of Resolution Approving Contingent Fee Legal Services Contract, including Findings Needed for Submission of Contingent Fee Legal Services Agreement and Request for Expedited Review by the Texas Attorney General:

Motion by Lori Tays and seconded by Sheryl English:

That the Board of Trustees adopt a resolution approving the contingent fee legal services contract, that includes the findings required by Texas Government Code 2254, Subchapter C, and that are needed for submission of a contingent fee legal services agreement and a request to the Texas Attorney General for expedited review.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

***Consideration and Adoption of Contingent Fee Legal Services Agreement
with O’Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, PC and Eiland & Bonnin, PC:***

Motion by Lori Tays and seconded by Sheryl English:

That the Board of Trustees adopt and approve entering into a contingent fee legal services agreement with O’Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, PC and Eiland & Bonnin, PC to represent the District in youth social media usage and related litigation.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.

President

Secretary