

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, February 11, 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: Brown, O'Bara, Parham, Pierce, Rainey, Robinson, Russell, Schulz, Stevenson, Stewart, Thompson, and Wilson

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

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

Presentations/ Recognitions Counseling teams from six Denton ISD schools were recipients of a Texas School Counselor Association's (TSCA) CREST Award, which annually recognizes the top counselors in the state. Counselors at the Gonzalez School for Young Children, Hodge, and Sam Houston Elementary, and Harpool and Strickland Middle Schools received the prestigious honor – marking the 14th consecutive year that at least one Denton ISD campus has received a CREST award. In addition, counselors at Rodriguez Middle School earned the CREST Leadership Award, which marks the fourth consecutive year they earned the distinction of having an exemplary comprehensive counseling program. CREST stands for Counselors Reinforcing Excellence for Students in Texas and is a program focusing on 10 areas where school counselors have the greatest impact on the achievements, career aspirations, personal gains, and social aspects of students' lives. The program helps counselors evaluate their current counseling guidelines and techniques while also promoting their services to students and parents.

Four Denton ISD students were selected to the Texas Dance Educators Association (TDEA) All-State Dance Team. Amy Campos from Braswell High School, Rachel Crandall from Denton High School, Zoe Young from Guyer High School and Olivia Torres from Ryan High School were each

selected to the all-state team, which is comprised of dancers representing schools from across the state of Texas. All-State dancers participated in the TDEA All-State Convention Jan. 8-11 in Houston. The experience included dance workshops, leadership training, master classes, and networking with other students. The All-State Dance Team experience culminates in a performance choreographed by a master choreographer.

Each year, the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) honors businesses, organizations and individuals for their support and exceptional advocacy of public schools. This statewide honor, as part of “Stand Up for Texas Public Schools,” recognizes local businesses and community organizations that partner with school districts, making a difference in the lives of public-school students. The Denton Black Film Festival has been a longtime supporter of Denton ISD, partnering with the district in a variety of capacities. Over the last two years, the Denton Black Film Festival has collaborated with Denton ISD and the Adopt-a-School program to host the annual art and essay contest where dozens of students are celebrated for their creations. In addition, the Denton Black Film Festival has volunteered at Denton ISD’s Back-to-School Fairs, where thousands of students are provided with school supplies, backpacks and more prior to the start of the school year.

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

Discussion of 2025-2026 Budget

Jennifer Stewart, Executive Director of Budget, will review the enrollment and attendance, Fund Balance, and Operating results. During the years of 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 Denton ISD was “held harmless” on our reduction of ADA enrollment.

The District has always been able to add to its Fund Balance until the 2022-2023 school year when the State did not provide any funding to public schools nor has it to this point. The District’s Local Policy CE(Local) states the District will:

Maintain a total general operating fund balance of 25 percent of the District's total general operating fund expenditures. During the 2023-2024 school year Denton ISD had already dipped down to 22.5% and is at 16.4% for the 2024-2025 school year.

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

Discussion of Teacher Incentive Allotment Update

Jason Rainey, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, provided an overview of the Teacher Incentive Allotment. The Texas Education Agency fully funds the HB 3 Teacher Incentive Allotment. Further, 90% of TIA funds received by the District must be- allocated as

compensation to the assigned campuses of the teachers earning the designation.

TIA was established with the goal of providing outstanding teachers an accessible pathway to a six-figure salary. Unlike previous education programs, the Teacher Incentive Allotment is not a grant. Through approved local designation systems, districts can identify and designate outstanding teachers based on student growth and classroom observation. Employing designated teachers generates extra funding for districts to reward top performers. TIA is built for Texas school districts to designate and reward top-performing teachers. Teachers can earn one of three levels of designation – Recognized, Exemplary, or Master. Teachers with a National Board certification may be designated as Recognized. Districts receive an annual allotment for each eligible designated teacher they employ and may use TIA funds to incentivize effective teachers to remain in the classroom and prioritize high-needs campuses.

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

Discussion of Innovative Design Campuses

Dr. Lacey Rainey, Assistant Superintendent for School Leadership and Academic Programs, provided the Board of Trustees with an update on the expansion of educational opportunities through innovative design models offered at various campuses throughout the district. Each innovative design model has different requirements that may have a fiscal impact. For example, to become a STEM certified campus, a certain number of staff members must obtain certification, which has a fiscal impact for the campus. In Denton ISD, we aim to provide families, within their high school zoned feeder communities, opportunities to access campuses that use innovative design models to best address their child’s unique learning potential.

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

Discussion of TASB Policy Update 124

Dr. Deron Robinson, General Council provided the Board with an overview of TASB Update 124. TASB Policy Update 124 includes revisions to legal policies based on legislative and regulatory changes that have an immediate effect on the governance and management of the district. Changes to local policies offered for consideration address the following topics: Financial ethics, investments, intellectual property, employee standards of conduct, special programs, gifted and talented students, child abuse and neglect, and conduct on school premises.

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

Quarterly Investment Report-

This report is being submitted to the Board of Trustees for their review, providing an overview of the 2nd quarter investment performance for the fiscal year 2025. As of December 31, 2024, the combined book value of

2nd Quarter
FY2025

investments for the District's General Fund, Debt Service Funds, Capital Projects Funds, and Special Revenue Funds amount to \$1,045,519,607. Earnings from Temporary Deposits and Investments reached \$12,079,664 for the quarter, contributing to a fiscal year-to-date total of \$24,067,547 across all funds. This total includes both accrued earnings yet to be realized and earnings amounting to \$11,979,325 for the quarter.

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

1st Open Forum

No one wished to speak.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Sheryl English and seconded by Charles Stafford

To approve (the minutes of the January 14, 2025 and January 21, 2025 Board meetings; personnel matters, leaves, and absences; Budget Amendments as of January 31, 2025; AWSFYC Head Start Monthly Compliance Reports for November & December 2024; approval of RFP #2412-13 E-Rate Denton ISD Optical Network Upgrade be awarded to Netsync Network Solutions; approval of CSP #2501-01 Calhoun Middle School Mechanical Equipment Replacement be awarded to Veregy TX, LLC; approval of responding vendors on various recurring requests for proposal solicitations (RFP) listed below:

Solicitation Title	Solicitation Period	Most Recent Award	Contract Term
RFP #2209-14C Fundraising Supplies & Services	08/31/2024 to 08/27/2025	None since new proposal issued	Date of award to 08/31/2025 with two (2) one-year auto-renewals
RFP #2209-15C Food, General Grocery Items & Catering Services	08/31/2024 to 08/27/2025	None since new proposal issued	Date of award to 08/31/2025 with two (2) one-year auto-renewals
RFP #2306-08B Miscellaneous Services and Supplies	06/15/2024 to 06/26/2025	12/10/2024	Date of award to 07/31/2025 with three (3) one-year auto-renewals

and approval of the interlocal agreement between the City of Denton and Denton ISD for the joint use of select facilities and transportation services. This agreement provides for the joint use of the following facilities:

- McMath Middle School Gold and Blue Gymnasium & Cafeteria (Denton ISD)
- Borman Elementary School Gymnasium & Cafeteria (Denton ISD)
- Strickland Middle School Small Gymnasium (Denton ISD)
- Evers Elementary School Gymnasium & Cafeteria (Denton ISD)
- Newton Rayzor Elementary School Gymnasium & Cafeteria (Denton ISD)
- Calhoun Middle School Small and Large Gymnasium & Cafeteria (Denton ISD)
- Southlakes Park Football, Track, Tennis Courts, and Softball Fields (COD)

The agreement also provides for the use of Denton ISD Transportation services for City Summer Camp programs.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider Approval
of the Rivera
Targeted
Improvement Plan

Motion by Lori Tays and seconded by Mia Price

To approve the 2024 -2025 Rivera Elementary Targeted Improvement Plan as presented.

Mr. Stafford wanted to let Rivera know how proud he and the Board are of the work going on at Rivera, there has been a lot of hard work, and he wants staff to know the Board appreciates their efforts.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

2nd Open Forum

Community members that addressed the Board are: Dan Burman; Georgiana Bustos; Rebecca Bertoni; Georgiana Kuykendall and Donna Smith. Marian Levinstein submitted a written statement.

Closed Meeting

The Board convened into Closed Session at 7:27 pm

Open Meeting

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 7:58 pm

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm

President

Secretary