

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, April 22, 2025, at 6:00 PM.

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

Board Members Bundgus, Burns, English, Price, Stafford, and Tays

Present:

Board Members Sosa-Sanchez

Absent:

Arrived Late:

Left Early:

School Personnel Brown, O'Bara, Parham, Pierce, Rainey, Robinson, Russell, Schulz,
Present: Stevenson, Stewart, Thompson, and Wilson

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

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

Presentations/
Recognitions Guyer High School's Benjamin Marshall qualified for the American Invitational Mathematics Exam (AIME); a 15-question, three-hour test given only to those who rank in the top 2.5 percent on the American Mathematics Competition (AMC). The purpose of this exam is to distinguish the top math students from across the country to be members of the United States Math Olympiad Team. The use of calculators is not allowed on the test, with only pencils, erasers, rulers, and compasses permitted. Concepts typically covered in the competition include elementary algebra, geometry, trigonometry, number theory and probability. Benjamin is only the third Guyer student to qualify for this exam, and he is the first student to do so as a junior.

The CoServ Charitable Foundation has been a longtime supporter of Denton ISD. This year, the CoServ Charitable Foundation donated \$35,000 to the Denton Public School Foundation (DPSF). The \$35,000 donation will be used for the DPSF to provide various grants and scholarships to students and teachers. Earlier this fall, the DPSF provided \$151,914 across 145 different scholarships and grants. Those scholarships and grants were awarded to 150 Denton ISD teachers and staff members across 42 campuses.

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

Discussion of 2025-
2026 Budget Jennifer Stewart, Executive Director of Budgeting, provided the Board of Trustees with an overview of the District's Debt Service. The District's historical tax rate has been .48 since 2017-2018 school year. The assumptions the district is using for the 25-26 Debt Service budget are the following:

- 10% Property value growth

- No change in debt service tax rate
- Consider refunds of delinquent taxes
- Based on current debt service obligations

All of these assumptions are based on current law. The 2025-2026 Debt Service estimated revenue is \$182,204,763, 2025-2026 current debt obligations are \$155,062,751 with a variance of \$27,142,012.

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

Discussion of Remaining 2023 Bond Financing Plan

Josh McLaughlin, BOK Financial Advisor provided the Board of Trustees with information regarding the Sale of Remaining Bonds from 2023 Bond Program.

Denton Independent School District has actively deployed various debt management practices to lower the borrowing costs of taxpayers. Such actions have reduced the cost of voter-approved bonds and provided District taxpayers with more than \$316.8 million of direct savings since the year 2005.

Each year, Denton ISD's Board of Trustees is required to set two separate tax rates:

- **Maintenance & Operations ("M&O") Tax Rate:** Used for the "day-to-day" operational expenses such as teacher salaries, instructional programs, and services, etc.
- **Interest & Sinking Fund ("I&S") Tax Rate:** Used for annual debt service requirements of bonds approved by voters.

The District's total tax rate has decreased by 31.31 cents over the last five years.

Voters of Denton ISD approved the issuance of \$1,418,481,928 of bonds on May 6, 2023 (the "2023 Bond Program"). The District has completed one (1) sale from the 2023 Bond Program, totaling \$1,036,485,000. Denton ISD has \$381,996,928 of bonds remaining to be sold from the 2023 Bond Program (\$352,307,930 from Proposition A and \$29,688,998 from Proposition B).

The District maintains independent bond ratings of "AA" by both Fitch Ratings and by S&P Global Ratings.

Denton ISD issues the \$381,996,928 of remaining bonds from the 2023 Bond Program utilizing a combination of fixed rates and variable rates of interest.

- **Bond Sale No. 1:** \$181,996,928 – Utilize fixed rates of interest (the "Series 2025-A Bonds");
- **Bond Sale No. 2:** \$200,000,000 – Utilize variable rates of interest (the "Series 2025-B Bonds")

At its Tuesday, May 13, 2025, meeting, the Board of Trustees will consider a "Parameters Bond Order" designating the ability to approve the issuance of the Series 2025-A and Series 2025-B Bonds to the District's Administration.

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

Discussion of
Legislative Update

Dr. Deron Robinson, General Council provided updates and resources to the Board of Trustees regarding the 89th Legislative Session. Denton ISD uses different formats to share its legislative priorities and how they align with our goals. Keeping up with legislative changes and engaging with elected officials can directly impact public education policies. Informing our community strengthens our voice and helps voters make informed decisions. Partnering with advocacy groups reinforces our commitment to supporting public education in Denton.

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

Discussion of Early
Childhood and Pre-
K Update

Cecilia Holt, Director of Early Childhood Education, provided the Board of Trustees with information regarding the 2023-2024 school year. This program provides an outstanding instructional program and services for the academic and social and emotional development of children ages birth through age 5 and community support and partnerships for parents. This information for the Early Childhood Education department is for the 2023-2024 school year. The current enrollment for early childhood is 1761 students. Pre-K has 670 students enrolled.

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

Discussion of
Board Operating
Procedures

Each year, the Board of Trustees selects a committee of three members to review the Board Operating Procedures in order to keep them up to date and reflective of the responsibilities of the members of the Board. The purpose of the report is to review the proposed revisions to the Board Operating Procedures as recommended by the committee.

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

Announcement of
Board Operating
Procedures

The Board of Trustees must annually announce the name of each board member who has completed the required continuing education, who has exceeded the required hours, and who is deficient in the required continuing education.

President Barbara Burns read the following statement:

The requirements for training are measured as of the first anniversary of the date of the trustee's election or appointment or the two-year anniversary of his or her previous training, as applicable.

There are eight training areas for board member continuing education:

1. Local District Orientation
2. Orientation to the Texas Education Code
3. Post-Legislative Update to the Texas Education Code
4. Team Building
5. Additional Continuing Education
6. Evaluating Student Academic Performance and Setting Goals

7. Identifying and Reporting Abuse, Trafficking, and Other Maltreatment of Children
8. School Safety

An experienced Board member must complete **five** hours plus the Texas Education Code update after a legislative session as well as **three** hours of Evaluating Student Academic Performance training every two years.

I am pleased to inform you that all members of the Board of Trustees Amy Bundgus, Barbara Burns, Sheryl English, Mia Price, Patsy Sosa-Sanchez, Charles Stafford, and Lori Tays have exceeded the required hours of training in continuing education this year.

The following trustees will complete their Evaluating Student Academic Performance training in June.

- Charles Stafford

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

5th Period Attendance Report

Leslie Guajardo, Director of Student Support Services provided the Board of Trustees with a report to provide campus and district ADA percentages for the 5th reporting period (RP 5) of the 2024-2025 school year (February 24 – April 11, 2025) and to compare this data to prior years. There were 30 instructional days in the 5th reporting period. The district ADA for 2024-2025 RP 5 is 94.51%

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

Intruder Audit Report

Region 11 conducts Intruder Detection Audits pursuant to updated legal requirements. To date 36 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 Mia Price and seconded by Lori Tays

To approve (the minutes of the April 8, 2025, Board meeting; personnel matters, teacher contracts and other professional for 2025-2026, leaves, and absences; approval of the firm of Hankins, Eastup, Deaton, Tonn, Seay and Scarborough for the 2024-2025 fiscal year audit; approval of the AWSFYC Head Start Monthly Compliance reports for February; approve Workers' Compensation Administrative Services for one year with a term of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, with Claims Administrative Services through RHSB and hereby authorize the superintendent or designee to facilitate binding services effective June 30, 2025, and termination of the TASB coverage, as required; approve the Workers' Compensation Excess Insurance

for one year with a term of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 with Midwest Employers Casualty through RHSB and hereby authorize the superintendent or designee to facilitate binding coverage effective June 30, 2025 and termination of the TASB coverage, as required and approval of purchases in accordance with Board Policy CH(Local) - Purchasing and Acquisition).

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

With the passing of the Consent Agenda Dr. O'Bara announced the naming of Morgann Hawkins as the next principal of Blanton Elementary. Ms. Hawkins replaces Dr. Landon Turrubiarte, who was recently named the principal of Stephens Elementary. Ms. Hawkins will assume her role as principal of Blanton Elementary beginning July 1.

Marlen Velásquez was named Principal of Borman Elementary effective July 1. Ms. Velásquez is replacing Jesús Luján, who is pursuing another opportunity.

Consider Approval of the Board Operating Procedures	Motion by Sheryl English and seconded by Lori Tays To approve the revisions to the Board Operating procedures as submitted. The motion passed with a vote of 5-1.
2 nd Open Forum	Rebecca Bertonio addressed the Board
Closed Meeting	The Board convened into Closed Session at 7:43 pm
Open Meeting	The Board reconvened into Open Session at 8:10 pm
Adjournment:	The meeting adjourned at 8:17pm

President

Secretary