

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, September 27, 2022, at 6:00 PM.

The meeting was called to order by President Mia Price who announced that a quorum was present.

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

Board Members Absent:

Arrived Late:

Left Early:

School Personnel Present: Niven, Mattingly, Pierce, Perkins, O'Bara, Rainey, Robinson, Russell, Stewart, Stevenson, and Zwahr
Others: Cindy Breeding, *Denton Record Chronicle*; Deron Robinson Attorney; citizens, staff, and students.

Pledges: The pledges to the flags were led by Evers Elementary School students.

Public Hearing for the School FIRST Rating Report Vicki Garcia, Executive Director for Financial Operations presented the District's School Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas "FIRST" Report for the year ending June 30, 2021.

During the 77th regular session of the Texas legislature (2001), Senate Bill 218 was passed, and Governor Perry signed it into law shortly thereafter. This law requires each school district to prepare an annual financial management report within two months of the date of issuance of the final School FIRST ratings. The District received official notification of the 2021-2022 Preliminary School FIRST rating on August 4, 2022. This rating is based upon analysis of school year data for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021. The purpose of the financial accountability rating system is to ensure that school districts will be held accountable for the quality of their financial management practices and achieve improved performance in the management of their financial resources. For the twentieth year in a row, Denton ISD continues its financial excellence with a rating of "Superior Achievement" for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, scoring positive responses on all 20 indicators and an overall score of 90 out of 100.

President Price opened the Public Hearing at 6:10 pm and no one wished to speak, and the Hearing was closed at 6:12 pm

Presentations/
Recognitions

Denton ISD received a rating of “A” for “Superior Achievement” under Texas’ School FIRST financial accountability rating system, the district’s 20th time to earn the honor.

The “Superior Achievement” rating is the state’s highest, demonstrating the quality of Denton ISD’s financial management and reporting system. School FIRST (Financial Accountability Rating System of Texas) is the financial accountability system for Texas school districts developed by the Texas Education Agency in response to Senate Bill 875 of the 76th Texas Legislature in 1999. It was amended under House Bill 5, 83rd Texas Legislature, Regular Session, in 2013.

The primary goal of School FIRST is to achieve quality performance in the management of the school district's financial resources, a goal made more significant due to the complexity of accounting associated with the Texas school finance system.

At the recent kick-off of the 2022-23 campaign of United Way of Denton County, Denton ISD was honored as a “Pacesetter” for the previous year’s employee giving campaign.

Last May, Texas PTA announced the recipients of the 2022 Outstanding Educator of the Year Awards. Among 300 nominations at the elementary, secondary and district levels, Dr. Chris Rangel, principal of Ann Windle School for Young Children, was selected as 2022 Elementary Principal of the Year.

1st Open Forum

The following community members addressed the Board, Dr. Tomas Sanchez, Wayne Skinner, Ann Jones, Lenry Van Zyl, and Debi Skaggs.

Discussion of Career
& Technical
Education (CTE)
Annual Report

Carla Ruge, Director of Career & Technology presented an overview regarding Denton ISD Career and Technical Programs, including legislative highlights, funding, CTE Renovation programs, demographic information and program performance which will include the LaGrone Academy. CTE enrollment is starting to see a plateau due to maximum class sizes and lab space. This year Weighted funding has changed to a Tiered system per class which will directly impact funding as we see senior level classes level off. Legislative impact for proposed accountability will also possibly decrease the certification numbers for CCMR. CTE continues to offer 52 Programs of Studies that are tied to high demand occupations and student interest.

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

Discussion of Update on Regional Day School Program for the Deaf and Services for the Visually Impaired

Debbie Roybal, Executive Director for Special Education presented the Denton Regional Day School Program for the Deaf (RDSPD) program update. The Denton RDSPD Shared Services Arrangement (“RDSPD SSA”) is a cooperative established by and through a Shared Services Agreement of school districts to operate certain aspects of their special education program for students with disabilities. Members of the RDSPD SSA include Alvord ISD, Argyle ISD, Aubrey ISD, Boyd ISD, Bridgeport ISD, Callisburg ISD, Chico ISD, Decatur ISD, Denton ISD, Era ISD, Gainesville ISD, Krum ISD, Lake Dallas ISD, Lewisville ISD, Lindsay ISD, Little Elm ISD, Muenster ISD, Northwest ISD, Paradise ISD, Pilot Point ISD, Ponder ISD, Sanger ISD, Sivells Bend ISD, Slidell ISD, Valley View ISD, and Walnut Bend ISD. Denton ISD has served and will continue to serve as the fiscal agent for the RDSPD SSA. The Denton Regional Day School Program for the Deaf (RDSPD) provides a continuum of services to students who are Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing (DHH) from birth through age 21 from 26 school districts in Cooke, Denton, and Wise Counties. Currently, these campuses include Ann Windle, McNair ES, McMath MS, and Denton HS. In the past, services were provided to students at the ATC (now known as LaGrone Academy). Denton ISD currently serves 217 students from three counties. Beginning the 2024-2025 school year, Newton Rayzor ES will serve as the Pre-k - 5th grade RDSPD campus and Calhoun MS will serve as the 6th-8th grade RDSPD campus. At that time, Ann Windle, McNair and McMath will no longer host the RDSPD program, the current campuses are not in the same feeder pattern which separates our students from their peers, preventing consistency among the peer groups developed over the years. Denton HS will remain the cluster site campus for grades 9th-12th.

Denton ISD continues to provide a continuum of services to students, ages birth through 21, who qualify as a student with a visual impairment or as a student with Deaf blindness. Denton continues to collaborate and partner with the Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) program to provide services for students, ages 0-through 2, in their natural environment. The Denton ISD Visual Impairment Program currently serves more than 50 students and families in homes (in collaboration with ECI) and on multiple campuses throughout Denton ISD. The district employs three certified Teachers of the Visually Impaired (TVI), two Orientation and Mobility Specialists (O&M) and a Braillist.

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

Discussion of Bilingual/Dual Language & ESL Programs Annual Report

Teresa Luna-Taylor, Director of Bilingual & ESL Programs presented the annual update on Denton ISD Bilingual/Dual Language & ESL Programs. This report consists of Bilingual/ESL program data from the 2021-2022 school year which addresses program participation of emergent bilingual students, academic performance, staffing of bilingual and ESL certified

teachers, and professional development and other support services funded through bilingual allotment/local budget and Title III funds. Continued growth across the district has resulted in increasing numbers of emergent bilingual students being served through Bilingual/Dual Language & ESL programs. This growing population continues to reflect the diversity of 57 languages spoken by the students and their families. This year's report highlights opportunities for continued strengthening of the Bilingual Dual Language/ESL Programs to meet the demands of serving emergent bilingual students within the various instructional settings available across the district, ensuring that teachers and students have equitable access to instructional resources that meet the needs of the learner, and that district stakeholders are supported through professional development with the identification, instruction, and reclassification of emergent bilingual students. This report also highlights ongoing parent engagement and partnership efforts that will be expanded through the 2022-2023 school year. An overview of student data driving the selection of resources and professional development efforts is also provided with a focus on areas where emergent bilingual students can demonstrate the closing of achievement gaps and opportunities for college and career readiness through AP exams.

This item is for information only. No action is required

Denton ISD Facility Usage for November 2022 Election

Dr. Scott Niven, Deputy Superintendent provided the Board information in relation to the planned facility usage by Denton County for the upcoming November General Election. For the November 8, 2022, election the County requested 17 sites (14 student campuses and 3 administrative sites without students). The County was able to locate a church to use as a polling site and reduced our campus usage to 13. Registered voters have increased from March 11, 2022 (140,357) to 596,749 as of August 16, 2022.

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

2nd Open Forum

No one wished to speak.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Barbara Burns and seconded by Patsy Sosa-Sanchez

To approve (the minutes of the September 13, 2022, board meeting, personnel matters, leaves, and absences, Investment Report as of August 31, 2022, Class Size waivers as submitted, RFPs 1909-15 and 1909-15-B Food, General Grocery Items and Catering Services be extended for the final renewal term of one-year beginning November 1, 2022, through October 31, 2023, RFP #2209-13 Addendum 1 Print & Sign Services, Supplies, Equipment, & Repair awarded to all responding vendors that submitted a complete RFP, RFP #2209-14 Fundraising Supplies & Services awarded to all responding vendors that submitted a complete RFP and met the scope of the RFP, RFP #2209-15 Food, General Grocery Items & Catering Services

awarded to all responding vendors that submitted a complete RFP and met the scope of the RFP, Approval to apply for the Grade 7 Reading Diagnostic Instrument State Waiver for the 2022- 2023 school year, approval of the Denton County JJAEP agreement between the Denton Independent School District and The Denton County Juvenile Board and approval of the amendment to the 2022-2023 adopted budget as presented.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider Approval of Certification of Appraisal Roll, Collection Rate and Voter Approval Tax Rates

Motion by Sheryl English and seconded by Charles Stafford

To approve the 2022 Certified Appraisal Roll, tax collection rate at 100%, and confirm the voter approval tax rate of \$1.3446.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider Approval of Tax Rate Ordinance for 2022

Motion by Sheryl English and seconded by Charles Stafford

To approve the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$1.3446, which is effectively a 22.46% percent increase in the tax rate.”

Additional comments from Dr. Niven: All additional tax revenue generated above the no-new-revenue tax rate (or the entire 22.46% increase) only benefits the state budget and does not benefit the District budget or local taxpayers. The District tax rate is set by TEA and is set at the lowest possible rate for this budget year. The proposed tax rate is not increasing by 22.46% over the prior year adopted tax rate. This motion (required by law to be stated) represents the increase as compared to the No-New-Revenue Tax Rate. The No-New-Revenue Tax Rate is the rate that would produce the same amount of taxes if applied to the same properties taxed in both years. It is essentially the tax rate that would produce the same revenue as the prior year.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider Approval of Order Authorizing Redemption of the Denton Independent School District Variable Rate Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2013,

Motion by Jim Alexander and seconded by Barbara Burns

To approve of the Order Authorizing Redemption of the Denton Independent School District Variable Rate Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2013, and a Portion of Denton Independent School District Variable Rate Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2014-B.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

and a Portion of
Denton Independent
School District
Variable Rate
Unlimited Tax
School Building
Bonds, Series 2014-
B

- 3rd Open Forum The following community members addressed the Board Courtney Whistler, Carolyn Raehaner, and Susanne Gilbert,
- Closed Meeting The Board convened into Closed Session at 8:49 pm
- Open Meeting The Board reconvened into Open Session at 9:47 pm
- Motion by Sheryl English and seconded by Patsy Sosa-Sanchez
- To approve of the Resolution authorizing Dr. Scott Niven to sign all necessary papers for the purchase of real estate from Volunteer Enterprises.
- The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.
- Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:01 pm

President

Secretary