

Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item VII

Meeting Date: December 9, 2024

Meeting Type: Regular

Item Type: Public Hearing

Future Action Required: No

If Yes, Month: N/A

Subject: Public Hearing on 2023-2024 School FIRST Report-based on Fiscal Year 22-23 Data

Background Information: This is the 22nd year of School FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas), a financial accountability rating system for Texas school districts. The Texas Education Agency developed the system in response to the 76th Texas Legislature in 1999. In August 2015, TEA implemented major changes to School FIRST in accordance with HB 5, Section 49, 83rd Texas Legislature. House Bill 5 amended Section 39.082 Texas Education Code to require TEA to combine the financial accountability rating system with the financial solvency system that had been administered separately to evaluate school districts. Beginning with the 20-21 rating system we are now rated with a letter score of “A” (Superior Achievement), “B” (Above-Standard Achievement), “C” (Standard Achievement), or “F” (Substandard Achievement) based on 21 indicators and a total 100 possible points. **In this FIRST report Abilene ISD scored 90 points and earned a Superior Achievement.** Eight of the ten points were deducted because of our outstanding liabilities related to the 2018 Bond Program and other major capital projects approved by the board. The other two points were deducted in the administrative cost ratio indicator.

Attached Supporting Documents: Presentation and Attachments for each indicator not receiving full points, along with the full FIRST report including all required disclosures.

Fiscal Implications: None.

Administrative Recommendation: Hold the public hearing, no additional action is required beyond the hearing.

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