

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, November 16, 2021, 6at 6:00 PM.

The meeting was called to order by President Doug Chadwick who announced that a quorum was present.

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

Board Members

Absent:

Arrived Late:

Left Early:

School Personnel Present:

Wilson, Niven, Mattingly, Pierce, Perkins, O'Bara, Rainey, Robinson, Russell, Stewart, Stevenson, and Zwahr

Others: Cindy Breeding, *Denton Record Chronicle*; Randy Stout, Attorney; citizens, staff, and students.

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

Presentations/  
Recognitions

Denton ISD had four bands from three of its high schools (Ryan, Braswell and Guyer) received awards from The Foundation for Music Education for their performances in 2020-2021.

The 2021 Mark of Excellence project, sponsored by The Foundation for Music Education, seeks to recognize and award outstanding achievement in performance by high school and middle school bands, choirs and orchestras. The project gathers entries from throughout the United States and provides valuable feedback for all entrants.

Each year the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) honors businesses and organizations for their support and exceptional advocacy of local schools. This state-wide honor, as part of "Stand Up for Texas Public Schools," recognizes local businesses and community organizations who partner with districts, making a difference in the lives of local public-school students. The Board of Trustees recognized Texas Health Presbyterian-Denton and the Denton Public Health Department.

As an Adopt-A-School partner, the team from Texas Health Presbyterian - Denton has been involved due to their belief in public education and commitment to providing access and opportunities for all. They donated personal protective equipment for our staff and students in addition to their contribution for classroom supplies. Even during a global pandemic, their

employees volunteered during “Read Across America” and worked with our team to honor students through the Adopt-a-School Art & Essay Contest.

During the past 18 months, representatives from Denton County Public Health have worked alongside district educators providing support and key information that has impacted all areas of our district’s operation. By providing timely updates and case tracking, the team at DCPH added additional transparency for our families and community during the COVID-19 global pandemic. Through their continued support, opportunities for testing and vaccination have been made available to our educators allowing our campus operations to continue.

The Board of Trustees honored Hannah Williams, Ryan High School Class of 2022. In addition to the many achievements, she’s acquired during her public-school career in Denton ISD, she recently added an international distinction. After her selection as one of only 16 young women in the nation to participate in a World Affairs Council Program called MERGE, she started a local chapter at Ryan High School. World Affairs is an independent, non-partisan forum for exploring issues and opportunities that transcend borders, which afforded Hannah the opportunity to connect with students all over the world.

1<sup>st</sup> Open Forum

Several community members addressed the Board.

Discussion of  
Financial Audit  
Report Year Ended  
June 30, 2021

Carl Deaton from the audit firm Hankins, Eastup, Deaton, Tonn & Seay, P.C.A conducted the District’s financial audit. The financial audit is required annually for each school district and is to be made on an organization-wide basis, including all fund types and account groups that are the accounting responsibility of the school district. The audit must be approved and submitted to the Municipal Advisory Council of Texas and the Division of School Financial Audits of TEA within 150 days following the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Deaton stated the report showed no errors and recommended no changes to the district’s business practices.

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

Discussion of  
Elementary  
Boundary  
Modifications

Dr. Jeff Russell, Area Superintendent provided the Board of Trustees an overview of proposed attendance boundary modifications to Paloma Creek Elementary, Savannah Elementary, and Union Park Elementary School. Which will assist with establishing the boundary modifications for Sandbrock Ranch Elementary.

Dr. Lacey Rainey presented information of the proposed attendance boundary modifications to Ginnings and Evers Park. The District explored the impact of future developments on the enrollment at Ginnings Elementary School. With current attendance boundaries, future developments would have significant impact to enrollment capacity at Ginnings Elementary. After review of demographic impact research provided by Zonda Demographics, Dr. Lacey

proposed adjusting the attendance boundaries of Ginnings and Evers Park Elementary Schools to allow this future development to be included in the Evers Park Elementary School boundary.

Dr. Gwen Perkins proposed adjusting the attendance boundaries of Hodge and Stephens Elementary Schools to allow a future development to be included in the Stephens Elementary School boundary. Currently there are no students within the upcoming development that will affect students.

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

Discussion of  
School Calendar  
2022-2023

Susannah O'Bara, Asst. Superintendent for Academic Programs presented the Board with the proposed 2022-2023 school calendar.

Current state law requires that school not begin prior to the fourth Monday in August. With acceptance of the proposed DOI plan, Denton ISD may pursue an exception to this legal requirement. Based upon current survey and feedback from EIC, Principals, City Council PTA and Executive Cabinet, the following considerations were made in developing these calendars:

- HB 2610 requirement of 75,600 instructional minutes.
- Ending the first semester prior to Winter Break.
- Equalizing the instructional days/minutes in each semester to the greatest extent possible.
- Maintaining a consistent holiday schedule with prior years and alignment of spring break with local universities.
- Potential waiver minutes of 2100 for professional development.
- Maximizing use of instructional minutes prior to state testing.
- 180 Instructional Days
- A student/staff holiday at least once per month.
- Ongoing PLC time for professional learning.

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

Discussion of  
Texas Association  
of School Boards  
(TASB) Policy  
Update 118

Deron Robinson, General Counsel presented TASB Update 118 and the local policy changes. Mr. Robinson provided the Trustees with an additional change to be made to policy DFE (LOCAL). This change will allow supervisors not designated by the Board to accept resignations on the employee's behalf, then provide the resignation to the Superintendent or other person designated by Board action.

TASB Policy Update 118 encompasses changes in law from the 87<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session that have an immediate effect on the governance and management of the District. Update 118 contains revisions to 120 legal policies and 12 local policies.

Recommended changes to local policies address the following topics:

- Activity funds
- Cybersecurity

- Resignations by contract employees
- School counselor duties
- Human sexuality instruction
- Accelerated instruction and retention and promotion
- School safety transfers
- Optional excused absences for students and attendance for credit
- Child abuse and neglect reporting
- Student records

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

**Bond Progress Report**

Kathy Lawson, Co-Chair of the Bond Progress Committee presented the Board with an overview of the Bond Progress Committee meeting from the November 10, 2021, held at the new Denton High school.

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

**Construction Report**

Caleb Straughn, Construction Coordinator provided the Board with an overview of the current construction projects which included Braswell High School additions and Carrico Athletic Complex, Sandbrock Ranch Elementary (#25), “new” Denton High School and, Pat Cheek Middle School that are part of the 2018 Bond Authorization.

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

**Health Services Annual Report**

Kathy Malmberg, Director of Health Services provided the Board with the department’s annual report. Covid-19 impacted every aspect of health services on campuses and departments. Denton ISD applied for the state testing program and funds were allocated to conduct Covid tests for students and staff. Funds were used to hire a vendor which sent two nurses that stayed 6 hours per day to perform covid tests for students and/or staff. Due to increase in workloads of the nurses Ryan and Denton High added two LVN’s to help support the health rooms because of Covid. The Health Services department found there has become a greater appreciation for the practice of healthy habits like hand washing.

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

**Annual Investment Performance Report**

This report is to inform the Board of Trustees of the annual investment earnings and performance of the District’s investments for fiscal year 2020-2021. The District will continue to invest district funds in the current investment pools due to prevailing interest rates in the financial markets.

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

**COVID Report**

Susannah O’Bara, Assistant Superintendent provided the Board with the most up to date COVID case data from the Denton County Public Health

Department. Denton ISD's will remain in constant communication with DCPH regarding guidance and protocols for the health and safety of our community.

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

Wi-Fi Connectivity for Buses Using the Federal Emergency Connectivity Fund Report

Robert Pierce, Technology Information Officer informed the Board of Trustees of District efforts to take advantage of an Emergency Connectivity Fund to equip the District bus fleet with Wi-Fi. This initiative is to provide Wi-Fi on District buses using federal ECF funds resulting in a net zero cost to the District. This initiative will provide Wi-Fi service on every active bus in the District fleet and enable students to maximize their utilization of the devices provided in the District's one-to-one initiative by providing them a fully filtered internet connection on their daily bus rides as well as bus rides to events.

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Open Forum

No one wished to speak.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Charles Stafford and seconded by Patsy Sosa-Sanchez

To approve (the minutes of the October 26, 2021 Board meeting; personnel matters, leaves and absences; approval of the Annual Investment Resolution of the Board of Trustees acknowledging the review of the investment policy (CDA Local & CDA Legal) as required by the Public Funds Investment Act, naming the Superintendent, the Deputy Superintendent, the Executive Director of Financial Operations, and the Director of Finance as investment officers for the District, approving the list of investment officer training providers, and approving the list of authorized brokers; Budget Amendments as of October 31, 2021; approval of the updated MOU to allow Fred Moore Day Nursery School to continue as a viable entity and approval of the subcontract with DISD for services for the students that are eligible; approval of RFP #1909-15 Food, General Grocery Items and Catering Services be extended for the first renewal term of one-year beginning November 1, 2021, through October 31, 2022; approval of RFP #1909-15-B Food, General Grocery Items and Catering Services be extended for the first renewal term of one-year beginning November 1, 2021, through October 31, 2022; approval of the RFP #2010-17B Fine Arts Supplies, Services, Equipment, Repair proposal be awarded to all responding vendors that submitted a complete RFP response. The term of this contract, upon governing body approval, shall be for a period from date of award through November 30, 2023, with an option to auto-renew for two (2) one-year extensions. The final expiration date would be November 30, 2025; approval of RFP #2110-14 Bulk Fuel to US Oil; approval of quote from Wenger Corporation in the amount of \$215,046.57 for the Fine Arts classroom furniture and equipment purchase for the new Denton High School; approval

of the quote from Communication Concepts in the amount of \$164,047.47 for the fire alarm renovation purchase for EP Rayzor Elementary School; approval of the quote from Communication Concepts in the amount of \$164,047.47 for the fire alarm renovation purchase for Pecan Creek Elementary School; approval of the quote from Communication Concepts in the amount of \$327,597.58 for the fire alarm renovation purchase for Crownover Middle School; approval of the quote from Communication Concepts in the amount of \$164,047.47 for the fire alarm renovation purchase for Providence Elementary School; approval of the quote from Hellas Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$735,695.00 for the proposed Ryan High School football field renovations; approval of the quotes from Conner Athletic Products, Inc. dba Power Lift in the amount of \$530,940.72 for the indoor gym and West Fieldhouse weight room equipment at Ryan High School; approval of this agreement to grant CoServ Electric use of the easement noted herein for the purpose of maintaining utility services and installing improvements to the area surrounding Cheek Middle School; approval of this agreement to grant CoServ Electric use of the easement noted herein for the purpose of maintaining utility services and installing improvements to the area surrounding Braswell High School; approval of the quotes from Infinity Sound, Ltd in the amount of \$1,620,821.00 for the installation and purchase of the middle school Fine Arts audio visual and lighting upgrade purchases and approval of the quote from Okapi Educational Publishing Inc. in the amount of \$127,136.40 for teacher instructional resources).

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider Approval  
of the Annual  
Financial Audit  
Report

Motion by Barbara Burns and seconded Sheryl English

To approve the Annual Financial Report (Audit) for the year ended June 30, 2021.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider Approval  
of the 2021  
Certified Tax Roll

Motion by Sheryl English and seconded by Jim Alexander

To approve the 2021 Certified Tax Roll with a combined levy of \$305,622,927.52

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider Approval  
of DCAD  
Nomination Voting  
Resolution

This item is being pulled and will be placed on the December 14<sup>th</sup> agenda

Consider Approval of District of Innovation	Motion by Patsy Sosa-Sanchez and seconded by Charles Stafford To approve the update to the current District of Innovation Plan by adding American Sign Language as an exception to the certification requirements of the Texas Education Code Section 21.003 and 21.044  The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.
Consider Approval of Discontinuance of Teachers Retirement Services (TRS) ActiveCare Insurance	Motion by Mia Price and seconded by Jim Alexander To approve the discontinuance of the Teachers Retirement Services (TRS) ActiveCare Insurance Offering for employee medical insurance beginning the plan year on September 1, 2022.  The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.
Consider Approval of Wi-Fi Connectivity for Buses Using the Federal Emergency Connectivity Fund	Motion by Sheryl English and Charles Stafford To approve of the ECF Bus Wi-Fi initiative at a net zero cost to the District for the current fiscal year.  The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.
3 <sup>rd</sup> Open Forum	No one wished to speak.
Closed Meeting	The Board convened into Closed Session at 10:00 pm
Open Meeting	The Board reconvened into Open Session at 12:05 am
Adjournment:	The meeting adjourned at 12:17 am

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President

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Secretary