

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 14, 2021, at 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: Marshall Reid, *Denton Record Chronicle*; Randy Stout, Attorney; citizens, staff, and students.

Pledges: The pledges to the flags were virtually led by Sam Houston Elementary School students.

Presentations/ Recognitions

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 District's partnership with the Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) might be a bit surprising since our organization includes a transportation department, but the DCTA has stepped in to fill some of our gaps. In recent years, DCTA has provided passes for our students who reside in areas that lacked sidewalks, encouraging them to not walk along busy thoroughfares. They give all of our Teachers of the Year passes as well.

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

1st Open Forum

Several DISD students and citizens addressed the Board regarding mask requirements.

Bilingual/Dual Language & ESL Programs Annual Report

Teresa Luna Taylor, Director of Bilingual/ESL presented the annual update on the Bilingual/Dual Language & ESL Programs. The Bilingual/ESL program data is from the 2020-2021 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 54 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 2021-2022 school year, as well as an overview of student data driving the selection of resources and professional development efforts and areas where emergent bilingual students continue to demonstrate that a closing of achievement gaps and opportunities for college and career readiness.

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

Legislative Update
from the 87th
Legislative Special
Sessions

Deron Robinson, General Counsel provided updates and resources to the Board of Trustees regarding the 87th Legislative Special Sessions and specifically education bills. Mr. Robinson reviewed the new SB15 Virtual Learning the governor signed on September 9, 2021, and went into effect immediately. SB15 allows school districts to set up virtual learning while keeping state funding, enables districts to exercise local control over programming and will expire September 1, 2023.

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

20201-2022
Enrollment Update

Angela Ricks, Director of Student Services provided the Board of Trustees with a summary of Denton ISD's current enrollment count for the 2021–2022 school year and to compare this data to previous years. Denton ISD's 2021-22 10-day count was 31,351. When compared to the 2020-2021 10-day count which was 30,617, Denton ISD has enrolled 734 more students this school year. The 10-day enrollment for elementary students was 14,709 (979 more students than last school year) and the 10-day enrollment for secondary students was 16,642 (203 more students than last school year). In addition, the 10-day enrollment for the K-8 Virtual Academy was 326 students.

As of September 7, 2021, Denton ISD has 31,618 students enrolled. When compared to the 10-day count, Denton ISD has enrolled 267 more students. In addition, the K-8 Virtual Academy has 345 students enrolled.

Athletics Annual Report

Joey Florence, District Athletic Director provided the Board with an overview of Denton ISD's athletic programs.

- Denton ISD completed all Fall and Spring sports.
- Total Number of Sports Offered in Denton ISD: 18 High School – 8 Middle School
- Student Participation: 6,520 total grades 7-12
- Total Number of Male Student Athletes: 3,997 grades 7-12
- Total Number of Female Student Athletes: 2,523 grades 7-12
- Total Number of Teacher/Coaches in Denton ISD: 278

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

Fine Arts Annual Report

Dr. Jackie deMontmollin, Director of Fine Arts along with Eddy Russell, Assistant Director of Fine Arts provide the Board with an overview of Fine Arts enrollment over the past three school years. Student enrollment in Fine Arts programs K-12 has increased with an overall participation of 92.26%. Based on data collected from the 96% of Fine Arts Faculty who responded to the Gaps and Gains Survey the following 4 recommendations are made by the committee as needs for planning for the coming academic year:

1. Fine Arts digital resources are needed moving forward
2. Fine Arts clinicians would support filling identified gaps in ensemble and artwork
3. Fine Arts private lessons will assist in filling identified learning gaps
4. Fine Arts instruments and equipment are needed to prevent sharing

The data collected from Fine Arts Faculty supports this reasoning for the recommendations:

- Digital resources improved individual assessment capability. Resources provided during the pandemic such as SmartMusic, Music Play online, and Digital Theatre Plus allowed for flipping of classrooms.
- Zoom learning interfered with ensemble work including listening across the ensemble, teamwork, hands-on work, and movement. Clinicians (including musicians, theatre movement specialists, and visual arts teaching artists) to provide sectional and large group support will allow for remediating these gaps.
- Students have had no face-to-face instruction with private lesson teachers which creates gaps for hearing, finger placement, tone production, vowel shaping, etc. Private lesson instruction will allow for remediation and filling individual gaps in music areas.
- Sharing of instruments and handheld supplies is common in instrumental music classes, art classes, and theatre shops. Sharing instruments and equipment poses sanitization challenges. As students return to school one-to-one equipment is needed.

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

COVID-19 Legal Update Deron Robinson, General Counsel provided the Board of Trustees with an update of the most recent current events impacting public education as it relates to the current COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Robinson provided information as to Governor Abbotts' Executive Order No. GA-38: Relating to the continued response to the COVID-19 disaster.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting

COVID-19 Report Update Susannah O'Bara, Asst. Superintendent for Academic Programs provided the Board with the most current information regarding the COVID-19 pandemic from the Denton County Health Department and how it pertains to the public health of the county.

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

2nd Open Forum No one wished to speak.

Consent Agenda Motion by Sheryl English and seconded by Patsy Sosa-Sanchez

To approve (the minutes of the August 24, 2021 Board meeting; personnel matters, leaves and absences; approval of T-Tess evaluators as presented; approval of the quotes from Plano Office Supply in the amount of \$399,913.95 for administrative furniture for the new Denton High School; approval of the quote from TD Industries in the amount of \$444,534.00 for the districtwide JACE (building systems controller) & irrigation controllers upgrade purchase; approval of TASB Update 117 Local Policies Ch (Local), CV (Local) & DEC(Local) and Revisions to CNB(Local) & Deletion of Policy FEE(Local)- 2nd Reading; approval of the amendment to the 2021-2022 adopted budget as presented; approval for the City of Denton Memoranda of Understanding for the LaGrone Academy Practicum of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security Program for student job shadow opportunity with the Denton Police Department and approval of the parents, community member and employees who are willing to serve on the 2021-2022 School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) as required by Policy BDF(Legal) and Title 2, Chapter 28, Section 28.004 of the Texas Education Code).

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider Approval of Certification of Appraisal Roll, Collection Rate & Motion by Charles Stafford and seconded by Jim Alexander

To approve the 2021 Certified Appraisal Roll, tax collection rate at 100%, and confirm the voter approval tax rate of \$1.3620.

Voter Approval Tax Rates The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting

Consider Approval of Tax Rate Ordinance Motion by Patsy Sosa-Sanchez and seconded by Charles Stafford
To approve the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$1.3620, which is effectively a 2.27% percent increase in the tax rate.
The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting

3rd Open Forum Several citizens addressed the Board on mask requirements

Closed Meeting The Board convened into Closed Session at 9:26 pm

Open Meeting The Board reconvened into Open Session at 11:07 pm

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:15 pm

President

Secretary