

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, December 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:

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

Pledges:

The pledges to the flags were led by WS Ryan Elementary school students.

Presentations/  
Recognitions

The College Board honored 192 Denton ISD high school students with distinctions for 2021, according to their annual list of recipients who are named Advanced Placement Scholars.

The national program recognizes individuals who have demonstrated college-level achievement through exceptional scores in AP courses and on AP exams. Students are awarded based on four levels including: AP Scholar, AP Scholar with Honor, AP Scholar with Distinction and National AP Scholar. AP Scholars from Guyer and Ryan High schools were recognized during this Board meeting. *Braswell and Denton High school AP Scholars will be honored at the Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> board meeting.*

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. This past year, Michael and Ellen Enad, who are local folk artisans crafted thousands of masks and donated them to our school children. Early in the COVID-19 pandemic, shortages of personal protective equipment (PPE) and other supplies, was problematic especially for young children.

Concerned for the health and wellness of our students, Mr. and Mrs. Enad went to work and ultimately manufactured and delivered more than 20,000

handmade facial coverings for students of Denton ISD. In addition to directly supporting us, they mentor students at Alexander Elementary through Retired Seniors Volunteer Program (RSVP) working to help student boost academic achievement.

Fred Moore High School was established in 1992 as high school to serve students who are in need of flexibility. The school offers the same high educational standards and graduate diploma options that are available at Denton ISD's traditional high schools, but in a smaller, more personalized setting. The Board recognized the teaching staff at Fred Moore and Fred Younkman, Principal.

1<sup>st</sup> Open Forum

Willie Hudspeth addressed the Board and wants to know why the District does not have an African American head football coach he also stated his concern for students that cannot read.

Discussion of School Safety & Security

Lt. David Mays highlighted security precautions and reviewed enhancements that the district has implemented regarding student and staff safety. Safety Audits are conducted at campuses each 3-year term involving Hazard identification/mitigation; system checks of alarms, phones, and video equipment; review of safety, evacuation and reunification plans; and risk management. Officer Mays also mentioned the DISD Student Resource Officers completed training on: Improvised first aid conducted by Dr. Harry Stinger, Trauma Surgeon Medical City Denton; tabletop scenario development and implementation and crisis negotiations for first responders. Denton ISD appreciates our Student Resource Officers that serve our campuses from the Denton County Sheriff's Office; Denton Police Department; Denton County Water District Police Department; Little Elm Police Department and Oak Point Department of Public Safety. This item is for information only. No action is required.

Discussion of Denton ISD Utility Management Report July 2020-June 2021

This item is being moved to the January 11, 2022, board meeting.

Discussion of 2021-2022 Calendar Modifications

Susannah O'Bara, Assistant Superintendent for Academic Programs presented the proposed modifications to the current 2021-2022 school calendar. The modifications include an early release day on February 9, 2022, and April 13, 2022, so teachers have additional PLC collaboration time with their fellow co-workers.

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

Discussion and Review of LaGrone Academy Renovations & Additions

Jason Blanks, VLK Architect presented the additions and renovations proposed for the LaGrone Academy. May 5, 2018, the Denton ISD community approved a \$750.5 million capital improvement plan to address the district's facility needs for existing and new facilities in Denton ISD for the next several years. The addition to La Grone Academy will allow for an increase in student capacity through at a minimum an addition of one culinary lab, one cosmetology lab, one life science lab, and six classrooms. The addition of these spaces provides instructional space for 172 additional students while providing spaces for core academic courses. These core academic spaces are necessary to provide for students who desire to attend La Grone Academy as their home campus. The LaGrone Academy addition is planned for completion the Fall 2023.

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

Attendance Boundary Modifications Update

Dr. Jeff Russell, Area Superintendent provided the Board of Trustees an overview of proposed attendance boundary modifications to Paloma Creek Elementary and Union Park Elementary School. This will also establish the boundary modifications for Sandbrock Ranch Elementary. During recent attendance boundary discussions, the District explored the impact of future developments on the enrollment at Sandbrock Ranch Elementary. With current attendance boundaries, these future developments would have significant impact to enrollment capacity at Union Park Elementary and Paloma Creek Elementary. After review of demographic impact research provided by Zonda Demographics, we propose adjusting the attendance boundaries of Union Park and Paloma Creek Elementary Schools to allow this future development of the Sandbrock Elementary School boundary. Sandbrock Ranch Elementary is planned to open 2022-2023 school year.

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

Attendance Reporting Period 2 – 2021-2022

The purpose of this report is to provide campus and district ADA percentages for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reporting Period of the 2021-2022 school year (September 27, 2021, through November 5, 2021) and to compare this data to prior years. This report will also identify current truancy prevention measures being used on Denton ISD campuses to increase student attendance. There are 28 instructional days in this 2<sup>nd</sup> Reporting Period. The district ADA % for 2020-2021 Reporting Period 2 is 93.72%, this is a decrease from last school year when the ADA % was 97.41%. Because school districts have reported to TEA that attendance rates have declined due to COVID-19, the agency is implementing an adjustment to operational minutes to address attendance issues caused by COVID-19 during the first reporting period. EP Rayzor had the highest ADA percentage for elementary campuses in Denton ISD at 96.76%. Harpool had the highest ADA percentage for middle school campuses in Denton ISD at 95.51%. Guyer had the highest ADA percentage for high school campuses in Denton ISD at 93.51%.

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.

2021 Taxable Bond Refunding Update            Dr. Scott Niven, Deputy Superintendent provided the Board with an update on the 2021 Bond refunding. On Tuesday, December 7, 2021, Denton Independent School District (“DISD” or the “District”) sold its Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, Taxable Series 2021 (the “Series 2021 Refunding Bonds”) to refund a portion of its existing bonds (the “Bonds to be Refunded”) at a lower interest rate. Denton ISD was able to reduce the interest rate on a portion of its existing debt from 4.48% to 1.90% which generated a direct savings of \$8,401,015 (net of all costs) for the District and its taxpayers. Denton ISD has now lowered its overall borrowing cost by \$187,852,629 since year 2005 by refinancing its outstanding bonds at a lower interest rate. Moreover, the District’s aggregate savings (inclusive of refunding’s, prepayments, the use of variable rate bonds and the swaps) is now \$290,638,113 since year 2005.

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 Sheryl English and seconded by Mia Price

To approve (the minutes of the November 16, 2021 Board meeting; personnel matters, leaves and absences; Budget Amendments as of November 30, 2021; Investment Report as of October 31, 2021; Head Start Compliance Reports for August, September and October 2021; approval of the 2020-2021 Head Start Program Information Report (PIR) and the 2020-2021 Head Start Annual Report (End of Year); approval of the quote from ProComputing Corporation in the amount of \$324,560.07 for the classroom display and audio-visual technology purchase for the Braswell High School instructional wing addition; approval of the quote from Follett School Solutions in the amount of \$167,678.24 for the Sandbrock Ranch Elementary School library book collection; approval of surplus property to be recycled, auctioned, or disposed of and requests approval of a Remote Homebound Instruction waiver to provide general education homebound (GEH) services virtually to a Denton ISD student).

With the approval of the Consent Agenda Lacey Hailey, principal of McNair Elementary School, was named the principal of Crownover Middle School

and will begin on Jan. 1. Mrs. Hailey replaces Charlene Parham, who was recently named Area Superintendent of Academic Programs for the Guyer Zone.

Jeffrey Panter, assistant principal at McMath Middle School, was named principal of Strickland Middle School. Mr. Panter takes over for Kathleen Carmona who served as principal at the school for the past 14 years. Recently, Mrs. Carmona was named Director of Facilities Projects. Mr. Panter will begin serving in his role as campus leader on Jan. 1, to begin the second semester.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider Approval  
of Attendance  
Boundary  
Modifications

Motion by Sheryl English and seconded by Charles Stafford

To approve of proposed boundary modifications to Paloma Creek Elementary, and Union Park Elementary School. This will establish the boundary modifications for Sandbrock Ranch Elementary. This item also requests approval of proposed attendance boundary modifications to Ginnings, Evers Park, Hodge, and Stephens Elementary School boundaries.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider Approval  
of 2021-2022  
Calendar  
Modifications

Motion by Mia Price and seconded by Patsy Sosa Sanchez

To approve of a modification to the 2021-2022 calendar.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider Approval  
of 2022-2023  
School Calendar

Motion by Barbara Burns and seconded by Patsy Sosa Sanchez

To approve of the traditional 2022-2023 calendar as presented.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider Approval  
of Denton Central  
Appraisal District  
(DCAD)  
Nomination Voting  
Resolution

Motion by Patsy Sosa Sanchez and seconded by Mia Price

To approve and give all the DISD votes allotted to Mr. Charles Stafford for the DCAD resolution

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider Approval  
of TASB Update

Motion by Sheryl English and seconded by Patsy Sosa Sanchez

To approve the TASB Update 118 local policy revisions as presented.

118 Local Policies

– 1<sup>st</sup> Reading      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 8:15 pm

Open Meeting      The Board reconvened into Open Session at 10:10 pm

Motion by Patsy Sosa Sanchez and seconded by Charles Stafford

To approve of granting an Option to Purchase approximately 1.409 acres of real estate to Corey W. Graham in consideration of Mr. Graham conveying real estate to the Denton Independent School District needed for the construction of Pat Cheek Middle School.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Adjournment:      The meeting adjourned at 10:25 pm

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President

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Secretary