

Minutes of Regular Meeting The Board of Trustees Duncanville ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Duncanville ISD was held Monday, February 16, 2026, at 6:30 PM in the Duncanville ISD Education Plaza, 710 S. Cedar Ridge Drive, Duncanville, TX 75137.

1. CALL TO ORDER AT 6:30 PM

President Jacqueline Culton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. This meeting was called under the Texas Government Code 551.045.

Let the record show a quorum of Board of Trustees is present, that the meeting has been duly called and that the notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

The following trustees were in attendance: Jacqueline Culton, Carla Fahey, Dr. LaSonja Flowers, Phil McNeely, and Janet Veracruz.

2. OPENING CEREMONIES

A. INVOCATION

Trustee Janet Veracruz

B. PLEDGE TO US FLAG AND TEXAS FLAG

Hardin Elementary Students

C. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. T. Lamar Goree

1. UPDATE OF CURRENT DISTRICT EVENTS, INFORMATION, OPERATIONS, AND PROGRAMS

Dr. T. Lamar Goree

Dr. Goree presented the Superintendent's Report. Thank you very much Madam President and other trustees. And again, let's give those Hardin Helpers another round of applause.

It is certainly my pleasure to bring you the February superintendent's report. February is Black History Month. Happy Black History Month. This month we honor the history, the culture, and the lasting contributions of black Americans who have shaped our nation and our communities. Happy Black History Month.

Weather makeup days. This is a friendly reminder that due to our recent inclement weather, the two designated makeup days, February 13, which was last Friday, and April 3, will now be regular school days for students and staff. Because our academic calendar had additional hours already built in for instructional minutes beyond the state's requirement, the third missed day will be covered without having to extend the school year.

Community meetings. This month we hosted two Build the Future Raising Champion community meetings at Merrifield Elementary School and PACE High School. Attendees learned about the exciting opportunities ahead for the '26-'27 school year. Be sure to follow us on social media and stay tuned for details about upcoming community meetings.

January Attendance Winners. Please join me in congratulating our January Attendance Winners. Congratulations to the students and staff at Daniel Elementary and Kennemer Middle School for their outstanding commitment to being present and engaged. Each month we will continue to recognize campuses leading the way in attendance. Remember, when our students are in school, they are learning and growing.

Once again, we have students who have qualified for the TMEA All-State Band. Congratulations to 6 Duncanville High School students who earned a place in the TMEA All-State Band and performed this past weekend in San Antonio. Being selected for the TMEA All-State Band is one of the highest individual honors a music student can achieve in Texas. More than 60,000 students across the state competed for this prestigious distinction. Please join me in giving these exceptional musicians a well-deserved round of applause.

National Signing Day. On February 4, we proudly celebrated four Duncanville High School football standouts who officially signed their letters of intent to compete at the next level on National Signing Day. We are incredibly proud of each of you and look forward to cheering you on in the next chapter of your career. Once a Panther, always a Panther. Congratulations to our signees.

And last but certainly not least, Champions Choice is here. Mark your calendars. March 28, 2026, at Duncanville High School, we invite families and community members to attend the Champions Choice School Shopping Event on Saturday, March 28 from 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. at Duncanville High School. This event will feature booths from our Choice Schools, our Choice and Signature Programs, and many other programs across the district. We'll have student performances, kids' activities, and more. Learn more and apply today at DuncanvilleISD.org/Choice. And again, this is an opportunity for you to come out and see, preview all the wonderful Choice opportunities in our district. And again, that application to apply for many of those programs is already open. Please visit the website to apply. That concludes our February superintendent's report. Thank you, Madam President.

President Culton commented. Thank you Dr. Goree and congratulations again to the January attendance winners. We know that you need to be in school in order to learn. We've got a good competition going and we're looking forward to other schools making the cut for this month. Also, we'd like to congratulate the young men who were selected for the All-State Band and the National Signing Day signees. I know that there were four

Dr. Goree commented. Seven previously, this year, yes.

President Culton commented. Yeah, seven, yes. Yes, so that's 11. That means college opportunities. We know that that's only not all of them. Keep up the good work.

D. RECOGNITIONS/COMMENDATIONS

Angela Davis-Henry

1. DONATIONS

Angela Davis-Henry

There were no donations for the month of February.

2. MADE WITH PRIDE

Angela Davis-Henry

Ms. Angela Davis-Henry presented Made With Pride. Today we proudly recognize Shandre' Robinson, a special education lead teacher whose leadership and selflessness truly embodies what it means to be made with pride in Duncanville. She was nominated by Winter Miller. She says that Shandre' consistently supports teachers and students while serving as a trusted mentor, often stepping outside of her comfort zone to lead professional development and ensure educators have the tools they need to succeed. Her commitment was especially evident while a colleague was on leave, and when without being asked or seeking recognition, she quietly supported all secondary campuses to ensure students continue to receive the services they deserve.

As her nominator shared, "Most people never knew the extent of her contributions, but her impact was undeniable. Shandre's leadership shines brightest in the moments of challenge. Whether stepping in at the last minute to support an ARD meeting or standing late to ensure students and staff felt confident and prepared, she doesn't just fill the gaps, she elevates the work. She believes deeply in the potential of every student and colleague. Leading with integrity, resilience, and compassion, through her actions, Shandre' drives growth, values people, and leads change making her truly deserving of this recognition."

Will Shandre' Robinson, please join me at the podium. And will the family and friends of Shandre' please stand to be recognized at this time? And let's give her huge applause for being Made With Pride in Duncanville.

Our next honoree, if she could join me at the podium, Rosa Johnson, can you join me at the podium?

We want to recognize Rosa Johnson, a vital member of our human resources team, whose dedication and expertise helps keep Duncanville ISD running smoothly. Nominated by Pamela Brown-Wynn, Rosa plays an instrumental role in managing position control for the district, ensuring accuracy, consistency, and reliable data that supports both human resources, financial services, and other departments.

Her willingness to assist others, improve systems, and introduce practical solutions reflects her strong commitment to driving growth and strengthening district operation. Rosa also exemplifies what it means to value people through her integrity, professionalism, and outstanding customer service. She works tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure stakeholders across the district have access to accurate up-to-date information. And her nominator said, "Rosa's attention to detail, professionalism, and unwavering dedication makes her a valuable member of the HR team. Her work may be quiet, but her impact is powerful." Rosa, you're truly deserving to be our Made With Pride staff honoree. Will the family and friends of Rosa please stand and let's give her a round of applause?

And lastly, but certainly not least, if Journee Winston can join me at the podium.

Journee Winston is a second grader at Hyman Elementary. We have a lot to say about you, Journee. She's a remarkable second grader whose strength, kindness, and courage leaves a lasting impression on everyone she meets. She was nominated by her teacher, Jana James. Journee faces each day with incredible resilience while navigating life, despite challenges that would overwhelm many. Her determination never wavers, her quick wit fills the classroom with joy, and her compassion shines brightly.

Her nominator shared, "She just doesn't attend school, she elevates the school. What truly sets Journee apart is her selfless heart. This past holiday season, instead of focusing on receiving gifts for herself, she chose to organize a toy drive, which was held on December 6 at Hyman. To collect unwrapped toys for children in need and even declining a gift for herself so she could focus on helping others. Journee truly leads by example with grace and humility, reminding us all that true leadership comes from caring for others. Her courage, generosity, and her unwavering spirit make her a powerful example of what it means to be made with pride in Duncanville ISD." Will the family and friends of Journee please stand to recognize her at this time?

Video played here.

President Culton commented. Thank you, Ms. Davis-Henry, and thank you to the three amazing individuals that were recognized tonight.

3. PERSONNEL INTRODUCTIONS

Pamela Brown

Ms. Pamela Brown presented Personnel Introductions. Greetings board President Culton, Board of Trustees, and Dr. Goree. I'm going to ask Mr. Jeremy Greco to join me at the podium.

We are pleased to welcome Jeremy Greco as the Director of Transportation. Mr. Greco brings more than 25 years of experience across transportation operations, vocational education, and technology, including over 9 years in public school transportation. Prior to joining Duncanville ISD, he served in Garland ISD as Transportation Route supervisor, where he supported daily operations, dispatch, state reporting, and department initiatives. Mr. Greco has extensive experience supervising large teams and operational systems.

In Garland ISD, he supervised more than 40 drivers, managing routing, coaching, student management, and service improvement efforts. He played a key role in implementing transportation technology systems that improve route efficiency and parent communication. He also has experience as a teacher and administrator at a vocational college providing technology-focused instruction and leading staff training programs. As a certified Texas pupil transportation supervisor, he brings a strong understanding of transportation standards and safety practices. Throughout his career, his work has included maintaining an open-door policy with drivers, supervising and coaching staff, and leading in-service training initiatives. Mr. Greco's family was unable to attend tonight, but please join me in welcoming him to the Duncanville ISD Panther family.

I'm now going to ask Ms. Shonna Pumphrey to join me at the podium.

We are pleased to welcome Shonna Pumphrey as the Chief Financial Officer. Mrs. Pumphrey brings more than 20 years of financial leadership experience across public education, nonprofit, and corporate organizations. Prior to joining Duncanville, she served as the Chief Financial Officer at the Family Place and in Lancaster ISD. She also served as the Director of Accounting Services in Dallas ISD where she supervised a team of more than 30 professionals for core accounting functions. Throughout her career, Mrs. Pumphrey has provided senior-level oversight of accounting, payroll, grants management, budgeting, audit coordination, internal controls, risk management, and fund stewardship.

Her work includes overseeing investment portfolios, strengthening financial systems and processes, and ensuring strong fiscal accountability. She is recognized for leveraging technology, improving operational efficiency, aligning financial practices with organizational priorities, and developing high performing finance teams. Mrs. Pumphrey holds a Bachelor of Business Administration and Accounting from Texas A&M University, and she is a certified public accountant. Please join us in welcoming her to Duncanville ISD. And then she also has friends and family members, her husband, her parents, her daughter. Would you also stand?

President Culton commented. Thank you, Ms. Brown. We welcome Mr. Greco and Ms. Pumphrey. We feel honored to have you all and we're looking forward to great things because I know that's your track record. Thank you very much for choosing Duncanville ISD.

4. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Board Member

Trustee Dr. Flowers announced. Good evening again. Over the past six years, I've had the privilege of serving this district as trustee. During that time, I've developed a deeper appreciation for the seriousness of board work. The responsibility, the preparation, and the commitment it requires. For the past two years, I've spoken with several parents and community members about what the role truly entails. Board service requires steadiness, discernment, and student-centered mindset. In those conversations, one person consistently stood out, Mr. DeRon Pelton.

He impressed me with his thoughtful approach and his willingness to understand the work before stepping into it. As I conclude my service as trustee, I am confident that this seat will continue to be held with care and intention. It is my honor to introduce the next trustee of Seat 4, Mr. DeRon Pelton. Please stand. Thank you.

3. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS

There were no communication from citizens.

4. CLOSED SESSION as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

The board went into closed session at 7:00 p.m.

A. CONSULTATION WITH THE BOARD ATTORNEY (§551.071)

Private Consultation with the Boards' attorney with respect to pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, and matters where the attorney's duty to the Board, pursuant to the code of professional responsibility of the State Bar of Texas, clearly conflicts with the provisions of the Open Meetings Act.

B. PURCHASE, EXCHANGE, LEASE, OR VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY (§551.072)

C. **PERSONNEL (§551.074)**

Appointments, Discipline, Dismissals, Duties, Employment, Evaluations, Extensions, Leaves of Absences, Non-Renewals and Proposals for Non-Renewals, Renewals, Reassignments, Retirements, and Settlements

1. SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT

2. CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON THE SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION TO APPOINT AND HIRE A CHIEF ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Pamela Brown

5. **RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AT 7:25 PM**

6. **TAKE ACTION ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION**

Trustee Fahey made a motion to adopt the first amendment to the Duncanville ISD Superintendent Employment Contract; Trustee McNeely seconded the motion.

Trustee Fahey commented. I just want Dr. Goree to know that we have full confidence in you and totally easy decision. Totally easy.

Trustee McNeely commented. I want to say amen to that.

President Culton commented. And I second that. We're very pleased with the superintendent and the work that he is doing and the way that he labors to make sure that we reach where we need to reach academically and always. He's very concerned about the affairs of the district, the employees, the students, everybody, and he's very good to work with. So, we're very pleased with him. Thank you.

Trustee Dr. Flowers commented. I would just like to thank you for being an instructional leader and being able to have those instructional conversations and having the capacity to move Duncanville ISD forward instructionally, and that your actions show that your goal is to have champions in every classroom in addition to all the other spaces, but champions in every classroom. So, thank you so much for your instructional leadership.

Motion passes 5-0.

Board Member Vote	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Jacqueline Culton	X		
Carla Fahey	X		
Dr. LaSonja Flowers	X		
Phil McNeely	X		
Cassandra Phillips		absent	
Janice Savage-Martin		absent	
Janet Veracruz	X		

Dr. Goree replied. Thank you.

Trustee McNeely made a motion to approve the superintendent's recommendation to hire and issue a one-year contract to William Mitchell for the position of Chief Athletic Director; Trustee Veracruz seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

Board Member Vote	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Jacqueline Culton	X		
Carla Fahey	X		
Dr. LaSonja Flowers	X		
Phil McNeely	X		
Cassandra Phillips		absent	
Janice Savage-Martin		absent	
Janet Veracruz	X		

7. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (ALL ITEMS MAY BE ACTED UPON AT THE SAME TIME BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES)

Trustee McNeely made a motion to approve the consent agenda; Trustee Fahey seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

Board Member Vote	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Jacqueline Culton	X		
Carla Fahey	X		
Dr. LaSonja Flowers	X		
Phil McNeely	X		
Cassandra Phillips		absent	
Janice Savage-Martin		absent	
Janet Veracruz	X		

A. MEETING MINUTES

Jody Lofton

B. FINANCIAL REPORT

Shonna Pumphrey

C. POLICE DEPARTMENT'S RACIAL PROFILING REPORT PRESENTATION

Chief Max Geron

D. APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD REGARDING WAGE PAYMENTS DURING EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS (INCLUDES PREMIUM PAY).

Pamela Brown

E. APPROVAL OF HAMILTON COUNSELING AND CONSULTING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) - RENEWAL

Tellauance Graham

8. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ACTION AGENDA ITEMS

A. APPROVAL OF PURCHASES OVER \$50,000

Shonna Pumphrey

Ms. Shonna Pumphrey presented Approval of Purchases Over \$50,000. Good evening, President Culton, Trustees, Superintendent Goree. District policy mandates that all purchases exceeding \$50,000 receive board approval to maintain transparency and fiscal responsibility. These purchases support a variety of programs and needs across departments. Each recommended purchase has been reviewed by the appropriate departments and adheres to procurement standards. A summary of each item was included in the board book and today we have four items on the vendor's list.

School technology associates in the amount of \$147,735.75 for district-wide time clock replacements. Southwest International Trucks. \$267,506 for two refrigerated box trucks for our child nutrition services program. Eduphoria. \$63,827.59 for software to support curriculum and instruction. And Yondr, \$92,000 for cell phone lock cases. At this time, if you have any specific questions regarding any of the items, I'll ask the respective department head to come and answer any specific questions.

Trustee Veracruz asked. How many cell phone cases are we purchasing?

Dr. Graham replied. Greetings to President Culton, to all other Trustees, and to Superintendent Goree. We will be purchasing enough for the entire middle school and high school students, over 6,400 cell phone cases.

President Culton asked. Can you elaborate more on the timetable in this program?

Dr. Graham replied. Yes, ma'am. Last year, of course, Senate Bill 1481 was passed and, of course, all students are not allowed to use cell phones on campus. Therefore, TEA created a cell phone grant to help facilitate districts being able to enforce that bill. With that bill enforced with the specific grant that they gave, each district could apply for it, and through Ms. Zamora and the team, we were able to receive the \$92,000 grant through TEA. Therefore, we did. We created a committee to look at certain groups in order to pick the certain company that we wanted to go with, and Yondr had the best program. Therefore, Yondr is who we went with. \$92,000 just to do middle and high school students.

President Culton asked. Will they be issued to the students or how?

Dr. Graham replied. The cell phone case will be issued to the students at the beginning of the year next year. It will start next year. And the cell phone case has a magnet. Once students place the cell phone inside of the case, in order for you to open that case at the end of day or at any point, there's a magnet that they must push the case onto in order to open it to get it out.

Trustee Fahey made a motion to approve the recommended purchases exceeding \$50,000 as presented; Trustee Veracruz seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

Board Member Vote	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Jacqueline Culton	X		
Carla Fahey	X		
Dr. LaSonja Flowers	X		
Phil McNeely	X		
Cassandra Phillips		absent	
Janice Savage-Martin		absent	
Janet Veracruz	X		

B. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE DISTRICT PLAN TO ADDRESS UNCERTIFIED TEACHERS

Pamela Brown

Ms. Pamela Brown presented Consider Approval of the District Plan to Address Uncertified Teachers. Greetings, Board President Culton, Board of Trustees, and Dr. Goree. Tonight, I'm going to present the district's plan to address uncertified teachers in our district. If you can recall the last board meeting, I presented the approval for the application to delay teacher certification requirements, with the House Bill 2, it limits the ability of a district's District of Innovation or DOI plan to waive the certification rights starting with next school year.

In order to apply, the board must approve the uncertified plan, which you have tonight, to meet the certification requirements by the school year '29-'30. The plan must have partnerships with EPPs or Educator Preparation Programs, and Duncanville ISD happens to have several of those. And we also must have goals for reducing the number of uncertified teachers each year.

Pending board approval tonight, the plan would have to be posted on our website where our District of Innovation plan is, and that's where TEA would look for the information pending board approval in order to approve the district's application. This is just some data on the number of uncertified teachers we have in our district. We have about 811 teacher FTEs or teaching positions in our district.

Out of those approximately 811 teaching positions in our district, we have about 112 that remain uncertified teachers. And so, this number is usually approximately around a hundred or so each school year. And this is just the data for pre-K through fifth grade. You can see the number of teachers that are in our core subjects where the state is saying you can no longer have this waiver starting with elementary next year and all other grade levels the year after that.

And then you can see the information about other courses. Those can be elective courses, CTE, fine

arts, and some other areas that don't necessarily apply with that new HB 2 guidelines.

So, how do teachers earn their certification? Well, they must have a bachelor's degree, unless you are a part of a certain CTE certifications or exempt. So, if I am doing cosmetology, I don't necessarily have to have a bachelor's degree if I have the appropriate state license for that area.

Or the same thing with auto mechanics and things of that nature. But for all other teachers, especially the four core areas, they must have a bachelor's degree. They must complete a preparation program. That can be through a university-based program or through an alternative certification teaching program. And they must pass all the required exams. And so, teachers have several exams to pass in order to get their certification and, of course, apply for the background check and pass the fingerprinting stage.

So, this plan that you have before you tonight focuses on strengthening the teacher pipeline. And we are pretty much focusing on how we recruit staff, how do we retain staff, and how do we develop our staff. Currently Duncanville is in partnership with DeSoto, and we have been doing sessions on the weekends to help free of charge to our teachers, the district is paying for it, to help them pass their certification exam. We've had four sessions for EC6, the PPR, SPED, and the STR, which is the Science of Teaching Reading exams. We're offering this free, at no cost to our teachers.

We've also partnered with 240 Education and that's the EPP program. And we provide free modules. The teachers can reach out to the HR department. We send them free access to a module, and they have access to that for 30 days to prepare and study and pass exams. We've gotten some good feedback. So those are just some of the things that the HR department is doing internally to help teachers prepare and pass for those exams.

Additionally, we are working on MOUs, some of which I have already presented to the board with Region 10. I can let you know that there will be some others forthcoming with different universities and EPP providers to help get our teachers certified. And that will be in partnership with the LASO grant, which I'm going to review on a future slide.

So, I'm happy to say that we have been awarded the LASO Cycle 4 Grant, and the HR department went out for two portions of it. And so, we will receive funding for new teacher mentors, and we will receive funding for new teacher residents. With those you must have MOUs in place with universities. And again, I will be before you this spring bringing some of those MOUs. So, some of the universities are waiting for more information from TEA, but we do know that we've been awarded, and so more information will be coming to the board soon about that.

We are just prioritizing the teacher resident. Those are like interns who are near the end of their bachelor's degree, and they're almost serving as paraprofessionals. And they're getting paid by the district so that as soon as they graduate, they can hopefully go right into a teaching position. And we do have some of those currently in the district as well from the University of North Texas at Dallas. But now we will have the grant funding for those.

These strategies hopefully will strengthen the impact of the teacher pipeline with Duncanville ISD. That is the goal. And so the plan addresses some of those items. I did want to let you know that this plan pending board approval tonight is not set in stone. As we get more information from the LASO grant, I mean, it will continue to develop and evolve over time as we develop more partnerships. All this

information is very new with TEA.

We haven't even had our first webinar to outline the details of the grant funding. That comes later this week. As we get more information and as we learn how to better utilize the funding that will now be available to us, the plan will continue to evolve over time. And so, it is recommended that the board approve the plan tonight so that we can complete the application by the March 2nd deadline. Are there any questions?

President Culton commented. Thank you, Mrs. Brown. Thank you to Dr. Goree as well for the way that we support the uncertified teachers to get them across the finish line. It's a good place to be, the district is, yes.

Trustee Fahey made a motion to approve the district's plan to address uncertified teachers; Trustee Veracruz seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

Board Member Vote	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Jacqueline Culton	X		
Carla Fahey	X		
Dr. LaSonja Flowers	X		
Phil McNeely	X		
Cassandra Phillips		absent	
Janice Savage-Martin		absent	
Janet Veracruz	X		

C. DISTRICT RECONFIGURATION PLAN — PHASE 2
Tellauance Graham

Mr. Tellauance Graham presented District Reconfiguration Plan – Phase 2. Greetings once again to President Culton, to all Trustees, and to Superintendent Goree. Tonight, I will present Phase 2 of the reconfiguration plan.

Since the January board meeting, we've continued to execute the timeline with strong focus in transparency and engagement. We met directly with staff that are impacted at Summit, at Merrifield, and at PACE to provide clarity on the next steps.

We addressed staff questions and concern to reduce the uncertainty and reinforced the commitment to supporting employees through this transition. The Naming Committee convened on January the 21st, 2026 to begin proposing the new names for the Merrifield Educational Center and the Duncanville Resource Center. The process involves several community members and staff members.

We hosted three superintendent community meetings at Merrifield, PACE, and the Duncanville Rotary. Building walkthroughs were conducted with impacted principals to assess the facility readiness, program needs, and operational adjustments. The Rezoning Committee has met to review the attendance boundaries, enrollment projections, and the feeder alignment to ensure transportation efficiency.

Overall, we remain on schedule to the aligned goals. As we look at the past in Phase 1 of the district

reconfiguration plan, it focused on renovating all campuses while transforming selected schools into specialized campuses and establishing school choice academies signature programs to expand student opportunities. The phase also reconfigured grade spans to minimize the campus transitions by creating the Early Learning Academy for three-year-olds, shifting schools from pre-K4 to fifth grade and middle schools from sixth grade to eighth grade campuses.

As we look at the reconfiguration and the plan for Phase 2, this slide shows Phase 2 recommended reconfiguration plan, and I'll go through it from top to bottom. First, we'll start off with Central Elementary. It is currently offline and it's planning to become Central Fine Arts Academy.

Next, we have Brandenburg Intermediate. It's currently offline, with next year planning for it to become Brandenburg Elementary pre-K4 through fifth grade, moving the Merrifield Elementary students to Brandenburg.

The Merrifield Elementary campus is currently a pre-K through fifth grade campus. Proposed for it to become the Merrifield Educational Center that will house both Smithey PACE and Summit. The Smith Elementary campus is offline, but it will open next year as Smith Early Learning Academy for three-year-olds.

And finally, Smithey PACE, PACE High School is a ninth through 12th graded campus. It's proposed to be the Duncanville ISD Resource Center. And our Summit Education Center is currently our DAEP, which is our Discipline Alternative Education Program. We plan to repurpose that building next year for future use.

And now I would like to present another new Choice School that will open next year in Duncanville ISD. This campus represents a key component of our reconfiguration strategy, expanding specialized programs while increasing family choice across our district.

It's planned to be a K through eight campus, but next year it will open as a K through five campus, and we plan to add a grade each year. The building will be renovated and updated with the fine arts theme. School is by application only and transportation will be provided for all district students.

Next, we're excited to introduce another new Choice School to Duncanville ISD, the Smith Early Learning Academy. I'll provide a brief overview this evening, but later in the agenda you'll receive a comprehensive update outlining the program design, the instructional model, and the implementation progress. As you can see, it is planning to open next year with 18 new classrooms, and you can see the different themes that are in those classrooms. The farmers market, zoo animals and pets, plants, my community, outer space, transportation, and ocean, just to name a few.

Brandenburg Elementary. As part of Phase 2, all students currently zoned at Merrifield Elementary will be rezoned for Brandenburg to ensure enrollment stability. The Brandenburg facility will be fully renovated and updated and appropriately serve elementary students aligning with our pre-K5 configuration model. This move also strategically reopens the school in an area experiencing new residential development as identified in our 2025 demographic report. In addition, Brandenburg we'll launch our Collegiate Academy, a signature program, with plans to expand to a Future Choice program.

Next, the proposed Merrifield Education Center. This facility will house both alternative campuses, Mary E. Smithey PACE High School and Summit DAEP, allowing us to consolidate services while maintaining

the distinct instructional environments.

Bringing both campuses into one location, we optimize staffing and improve supervision. Students will have access to a full cafeteria and gym, ensuring equitable access to core student services and extracurricular opportunities. The renovation plans clearly separated the wings and schools will be divided by secure glass storefronts requiring badges to maintain safety.

Next is the proposed Duncanville ISD Resource Center. This center will centralize enrollment, student support, and wraparound services to significantly improve family experience in Duncanville ISD. Beyond enrollment, this will be a comprehensive family support hub. It will include the food pantry with the built-in storage, clothing closet, and coordinated family community support services.

The center will also provide specialized services such as SPED intake coordination, bilingual/ESL services, and counseling and family support. Looking ahead, the facility is designed to support a future school-based health clinic offering preventative care and mental health services through partnerships with county and regional providers.

As we continue to follow the established timeline, I previously outlined the actions completed since the last board meeting. Following board consideration this evening, the next steps will include formal approval of the finalized plan and immediate mailing of notification letters to our impacted families. In March, we will launch the district-wide communication campaign and begin the staffing process for the 2026-2027 school year. At this time, are there any questions?

Trustee Fahey asked. Thank you. With PACE and Summit being in the same building, the staffing will still be separate? There'll still be a principal for one and a principal for another?

Dr. Graham replied. Currently, we are looking at the process for ensuring that we have both leaders in those particular campuses.

Trustee Fahey asked. Will they have equal use of the gym and cafeteria?

Dr. Graham replied. Yes, ma'am.

Trustee Fahey asked. Will they be together? Will the classes be completely separate?

Dr. Graham replied. Completely separated.

Trustee Fahey asked. With the 18 new classrooms at Smith, will those be remodeled rooms? I mean, we're not building 18 new. Those are remodeled.

Dr. Graham replied. All those rooms will be remodeled on that campus. Yes, and later on, she's coming with a complete view of that campus. You'll have them.

President Culton asked. Will there be 18 classrooms total?

Dr. Graham replied. Yes, ma'am.

Trustee Fahey made a motion to approve the proposed Phase 2 reconfiguration plan; Trustee Veracruz seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

Board Member Vote	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Jacqueline Culton	X		
Carla Fahey	X		
Dr. LaSonja Flowers	X		
Phil McNeely	X		
Cassandra Phillips	absent		
Janice Savage-Martin	absent		
Janet Veracruz	X		

D. DAILY PERIOD OF PRAYER AND READING OF BIBLE OR OTHER RELIGIOUS TEXT
 Tellauance Graham

Mr. Tellauance Graham presented Daily Period of Prayer and Reading of Bible or Other Religious Text. Greetings once again. Senate Bill 11 requires the board to take a recorded vote on whether to establish daily designated time for prayer and reading religious text. The vote is mandatory. Adoption is optional. If adopted, participation would be voluntary and would require parental consent for students. It is important to clarify that students already have the right to pray individually or in voluntary groups during non-instructional time if the activity is not disruptive to the school directly. Employees may not lead, organize, endorse, or require prayer. Staff must remain neutral in both conduct and communication. The district must maintain religious neutrality to comply with the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment, ensuring no student feels coerced, excluded, or pressured based on religious beliefs or non-belief. The board’s decision concerns whether to create a new daily operational structure, not whether students are permitted to pray, as the right already exists under current law.

After review, the administration recommends not adopting Senate Bill 11's designated daily prayer framework. The district’s current policies already protect students' religious expression including voluntary prayer, silent reflection, and participation in student-led religious activities during non-instructional time. These protections are aligned to state and federal law and ensure that students may exercise their rights without disruption or coercion. Adoption of Senate Bill 11 would create a new daily operational requirement including consent management, supervision planning, compliance monitoring without expanding student rights beyond what they already have. Because our existing framework already accomplishes the intent of the legislation while maintaining neutrality and operation administration does not recommend adoption at this time.

Are there any questions?

Trustee McNeely made a motion that the Duncanville Independent School District Board of Trustees decline to adopt a formal daily period of prayer and direct administration to continue operating under existing policies that allow voluntary student-initiated prayer in accordance with state and federal law; Trustee Veracruz seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

Board Member Vote	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Jacqueline Culton	X		
Carla Fahey	X		
Dr. LaSonja Flowers	X		
Phil McNeely	X		
Cassandra Phillips	absent		
Janice Savage-Martin	absent		
Janet Veracruz	X		

E. DUNCANVILLE HIGH SCHOOL - PORTABLE COMPLEX SALE/REMOVAL
 Mari Zamora

Ms. Mari Zamora presented Duncanville High School – Portable Complex Sale/Removal. Good evening, President Culton, Trustees and Dr. Goree.

To support the Duncanville High School renovation, portable buildings were installed to accommodate the ninth-grade classes for this school year. With the portable use concluding this summer and to remain in compliance with the city's ordinance of removal, the District's chosen a proposal for the purchase and removal of the portable buildings. The proposal from Shultz House Moving LLC located on pages 176 and 177 of the board book includes the purchase and the removal of the portable buildings as well as the demolition of the associated wood decking awnings and rails.

While it may seem unusual that the district is going to make a payment to a vendor who's purchasing the portables, the proposal reflects the total demolition and removal costs offset by a credit for the sale of the buildings themselves. The net total cost for the purchase and removal is \$86,300. Removal will begin after the school year concludes to ensure that no student instruction is interrupted. All portables are scheduled to be removed by August 1st.

It is a recommendation that the board approve Shultz House Moving LLC for the sale and the removal of the portable buildings from Duncanville High School in the amount of \$86,300. I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Trustee Fahey sked. How much is a used portable worth?

Ms. Zamora replied. They're buying them for \$5,000 each.

Trustee Fahey commented. It just seems strange to me that we're paying somebody to remove it and they're going to resell it, but yet we're paying them \$86,000.

Ms. Zamora replied. A lot of times the big cost in all this is hauling it away. So sometimes you might want to auction them off. The problem is when people buy a portable building, they don't realize

they're not equipped to haul them off. To haul them off costs between &7,000 to \$12,000. So, it costs more to remove them than it does to even buy them. Sometimes at an auction you might sell them, but then the buyer will realize I don't have the equipment or the money to move it. So, they just leave it there. And because we must meet with the city deadline, it's easier just to get them all removed by this vendor. To just get the donnings off, get everything out, it's 163,000. But we're getting \$80,000 in credit. So, the net we would owe him is 86,300.

Trustee Fahey asked. It just seems that some of the items might be reused, whether it's Habitat for Humanity or Wounded Warriors, the ramps, the steps, even the buildings might be used for homes. Didn't they all have restrooms within them or did we all use portable?

Ms. Zamora: Not all of them had restrooms.

Trustee Fahey commented. Maybe in the future we could look into something that would benefit the world as far as reuse. I'm not a diver into dumpsters, but I have been a dumpster diver. But we throw away a lot of good stuff sometimes and I think somebody, another school, I don't know, I just think there are entities like Habitat for Humanity and Wounded Warriors who could maybe use some of the things that we just toss or have to pay somebody to take away. Okay. I've said it.

President Culton asked. Is this a cooperative?

Ms. Zamora replied. Yes, it's a vendor we've worked with before.

President Culton asked. And they're on a cooperative?

Ms. Zamora replied. I don't have which one he's part of, but I'll get that for you.

Trustee McNeely made a motion to approve Shultz House Moving LLC for the sale and removal of portables from the Duncanville High School in the amount of \$86,300; Trustee Veracruz seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

Board Member Vote	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Jacqueline Culton	X		
Carla Fahey	X		
Dr. LaSonja Flowers	X		
Phil McNeely	X		
Cassandra Phillips	absent		
Janice Savage-Martin	absent		
Janet Veracruz	X		

F. REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR AWARDING OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
 Mari Zamora and Marqueis Scott

Ms. Mari Zamora and Mr. Marqueis Scott presented Request for Qualifications for Awarding of Professional Services. Good evening again. So, in accordance with Texas Government Code 2254.003, [inaudible 01:07:02] request for qualifications for four professional services, construction materials

testing, commissioning, engineering, and test and balance. The district received 11 proposals from 11 firms. Now we're asking the board to approve the list of vendors for evaluation. Following the evaluations of all 11 firms, the top five firms will be chosen to perform the four professional services for bond and maintenance related work. If the total for any service from one vendor exceeds \$50,000, we will bring that proposal to you for additional approvals. It is a recommendation of the administration of the board to approve initial conversations but entering negotiations with any firm submitted for professional services with an exit clause within the agreement. I'll be happy to answer any questions you may have.

President Culton asked. Can you explain a little about the selection method that we're using for this particular award?

Ms. Zamora replied. We are going to pull and look at to see which ones have the best price, best service. We'll pick the top five from that list. We are coming to the board first just to get approval to do the evaluation and then we will do the evaluation this week. Because of timing and trying to get things tested for bond for construction, we're putting all the names to you first.

President Culton asked. And then you'll shortlist four firms?

Ms. Zamora replied. We'll choose the top five to do any and one of those four.

Trustee Fahey made a motion that the board approved the list of vendors for evaluation and negotiations for the listed professional services; Trustee McNeely seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

Board Member Vote	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Jacqueline Culton	X		
Carla Fahey	X		
Dr. LaSonja Flowers	X		
Phil McNeely	X		
Cassandra Phillips	absent		
Janice Savage-Martin	absent		
Janet Veracruz	X		

9. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION AGENDA

A. BOND PROJECT UPDATE

Mari Zamora

Ms. Mari Zamora presented Bond Project Update. The countdown to fall 2026 is underway as we prepared to open our doors for new a new school year in new and renovated facilities. This evening we're excited to share some progress updates on Central Final Arts Academy. Smith Early Learning Academy and Duncanville High School. While not included in tonight's presentation, renovation work at Brandenburg has begun, it's progressing very well and it is nearing completion of the demo phase. Our partners at LAN are here with us again tonight and they're going to walk you through the updates,

beginning with Central Fine Arts Academy.

LAN representative #1 continued the presentation. Good evening, Board President, Dr. Goree, and the board members. So, we have Central Elementary, all the demolition has been completed, all the payment has been completed. So now you will see in the picture here we are already building the framing up. That is a picture of the demolition on the interior, also on the side. Everything is moving really good at the building. These photos basically are like two or three weeks old, so most of the framing has been built inside of the school. Roofing is going to start this week over there. So, a lot of people are working in that school. So, we should have that building ready by May or early June.

LAN representative #2 continued the presentation. Good evening, President Culton, Board of Trustees and Dr. Goree. I'm going to give you some updates on Smith. And regarding your question, Trustee Fahey earlier about the classrooms at Smith, this is an existing campus, but everything inside is going to be new. So, it's going to be like a brand-new school. It's not adding 18 classrooms onto the school. It's 18 classrooms inside the school.

Trustee Fahey asked. Is there work on the outside too?

Lan representative #2 replied. Yes. It's going to not look like a new building, but it will be a refresh.

So, as you can see from the pictures, we have some demo going on and some reframing back, but this is a campus that's going to be for our youngest champions. I'd say it is kind of bringing them up in the champion culture. I'll turn it over to Mr. Haque.

Mr. Haque continued the presentation. Good evening, President Culton, Board of Trustees Dr. Goree. The high school is moving along well, and we have framed the building. You can see the section on the west side is the bistro, it's coming along well and right underneath the bistro there's the print shop area. That's the one which is critical, we must get it done because of the moving of the existing equipment from the old building. The salon is coming along, the area which is open on the east side is the salon. These are the exterior. The facade is coming along. The roofing is halfway done, and we are connecting to the existing building.

These are the photos from the snow. These are the areas inside Building M, which is completely done. The contractor is doing punch lists and getting it finished. This is Building J.

We have added a new project manager, Samantha Avela, to our team and she's handling building J. So today is her debut to speak.

Ms. Samantha Avela added to the presentation. Good evening, President Culton, Board of Trustees and Superintendent Goree. Construction has commenced for phase one of area J, which includes nine existing classrooms, make safe and demolition is complete, framing of interior walls, MEP, overhead roofings and adjustment to fire sprinkler are ongoing. Wall rough-ins will proceed with inspections to follow.

Mr. Haque continued the presentation. This is another area that we are working in. The Shine and the Alexander Auditorium. Shine, which is our main performance auditorium, AVPro has started working.

They're doing behind the scenes, the sound system and the theatrical system. In the meantime, we took the opportunity during breaks to replace the flooring and the eye lighting in Shine. Alexander is now moving along also. This is the carpet we have replaced. So, this is coming along. We still have a lot of work in Shine to finish the theatrical lighting, the sound system and the AV system. Alexander is predominantly done. We did the painting, we did the roofing, we had a big rain last weekend and we had no leaks. The Alexander had been leaking in one area for several months in the past.

Our future is the CTE addition. We need to finish that because now you have just approved the portable, so they're sold and that means the ninth grade needs to go back in the building and we finish the addition at high school J. The next phase is going to be the admin suite for the ninth grade. So that's going to be critical. Finish the first phase and do that. Central and Smith, Angel and Kevin are running that and that's our game plan and Brandenburg are going to be right next to that. So, all four of us are focusing on these five projects to get it done over the summer. This summer is going to be the busiest summer we have ever seen in a long time. Thank you.

Ms. Zamora asked. Are there any questions we can answer for you?

President Culton commented. We would like to thank you, Ms. Zamora, and the LAN team, for doing such a wonderful job and we would also like to thank the voters for approving this project so that we can make facilities for our schools to bring them up to first class. So, thank you all very much.

B. IDEAL IMPACT
Mari Zamora

Ms. Mari Zamora presented Ideal Impact. Okay, good evening again. Utility costs represent a significant ongoing operational expense. As we continue to prioritize responsible stewardship of public funds, operational efficiency and sustainability, it's important that we leverage tools that provide greater visibility and control over our energy consumption. So tonight, we're bringing forward information regarding a potential partnership with Ideal Impact. They're an organization that offers a financially risk-free model focused on implementing short-term sustainable energy projects designed to reduce utility consumption and costs.

Ideal Impact CEO Wes McDaniel is here along with Noah Hines, partnership development. They can provide additional details and answer any questions you may have.

Mr. Wes McDaniel added to the presentation. Thank you. So really quick, who we are, we started back in 2009 with a goal of putting a billion dollars back into Christian ministry originally. And we've done that; we've worked with over 740 ministries across Texas. In 2015, we said if we could do the same thing with school districts where we could create money for those, that'd be a good deal. We started at that stage. We've done over 250 school districts now across Texas and Oklahoma. And what we've done there, we've put over a billion dollars back into those also. That's our whole reason for being. We're a mission organization first. We're business also, but we're a mission organization first. And so, at this stage we've put over \$2.2 billion back into schools in Texas and Oklahoma and ministries.

If you look at your electric bill and gas bill here, the green is natural gas. The yellow is how much

electricity you use. The other colors up there are demand, and demand is based on 15-minute periods of use and that's 40% of your total bill, or \$873,000. So, it's not enough to control how much you use. But also controlling that top 15 minutes is a big deal. And there's several categories there. The first thing, the top 15 minutes a month is one category, a second category is the top 15 minutes of the year, and a third one is whatever your 15-minute period is when ERCOT hits their top 15 minutes at each of the months of June, July, August and September.

And then the fourth part is in 2011, the state legislature passed a law that said if you can keep your annual load factor below 0.25 and that's total KWH for the whole year, it's by meter. So, it's on each individual meter divided by 8,760 times your top 15 minutes. Then you drop that annual demand rate from \$6.20 a KW to \$1.08 of KW, which is a huge savings. And a significant portion of your bill is on that higher rate, which again is normal in what we see, but every school district we've done within a year, all their major buildings are off that. So that's additional savings there.

Our goal is to put money back by saving energy. There are some examples here, I'm not going to go through them all, but most of the energy management companies in this industry say the best you can get is about 45,000 BTUs a square foot. And you can see Louis and Freer up there had both done multi-million-dollar projects before we were there. They'd replaced chillers, boilers, air-hailing units, controls lights, and Louis got to 44.8, Freer got to 48.5, we came in later and took them to the 20s. Calhoun County and Kennedale are two others up there. They're some of the lowest we've ever seen originally and we still took those down a lot and that's substantial savings. And the goal here on the savings of putting money back and the savings is done through technology. It's not a behavioral program.

I've seen a lot of districts get somebody on the maintenance side or somebody on whatever and they start really pushing behaviors and they start turning things off and making people uncomfortable. There's no reason to be uncomfortable. One of our districts, we did Stockdale ISD when we first did it, they'd been told they need to spend \$2 million to replace a bunch of air-hailing units. They're down by San Antonio. And when we went in there we said, "You don't need to replace these. We can make them last much longer and be efficient." And they said, "No, all the experts have been out." And I said, "Let us go solve this." And they said, "It can't be done."

They finally said, "Okay, we'll let y'all go start. We're still going to have to replace them. We're sure." That superintendent recently went to Borger ISD called us from there and he said, "Can you come to Borger too?" He said, "I didn't know if y'all were in the panhandle yet." We said, "Sure, we'll go up there." He said, "Because we need money in Borger also." When I got up there, he said, "Do you remember those units you told me we didn't have to replace in 2017?" He said, "Most of them are still working just fine, eight years later." That's a lot of money back to the school district.

And he said, "You know what we did in addition to that?" He said, "We changed our cooling set point to 69 degrees because we really like it cool in the summer and in the spring and fall." 69 degrees in San Antonio, I think it's too cold personally. But anyway, he said, "That effect is we still saved over 40% on our energy bills even though we set it that low." And I see a lot of districts like I said, they think the key is behavior. It's not behavior. There's no reason to be uncomfortable.

We always use two savings numbers. We call it Basic and Committed Steward. Basic is about a B minus level achievement, Committed is an A minus. So, the goal is to be Committed to save over \$800,000 a year. The 15-year number assumes 7% inflation. I don't know what it'd be obviously better than

anybody else. But the net of that, it would put almost \$17 million back in your district just from energy savings. That doesn't include getting you on the better rate because we still multiply the better rate times your deal. So that's just gravy on top of it. It doesn't include all your equipment that you don't have to replace. It lasts longer. And we cover that. We started a long time ago, we started with ministries originally doing what we call an AB20 program where if you're at the Committed Steward level, whatever level you're at, you pay 80% of the savings until you hit the total cost there. 3.8 million. You keep 20% of your savings, but you keep all additional savings. All the fact that now you no longer have to pay that higher demand rate. All the savings of just units lasting longer, from humidity going down. As we improve humidity, that does a lot to improve indoor air quality. All of those are just gravy on top.

And the net is just from energy savings, \$16.9 million. But the rest of it counts a lot too. I've seen districts say they saved as much on additional savings as they saved on energy, which is a big deal also. And then plus the systems we put in are non-proprietary. So, you're not stuck with just buying them from one place. Even if you look at the new units, y'all are going to be adding not to have to buy a proprietary communication board will save you a lot on top of this, probably several hundred thousand dollars going in.

What we're doing. I mean first thing we're rhetorical, we've done thousands of buildings across Texas obviously and many thousands across the world. Our energy fellows that came, when we started this back in 2009, that first year I felt like God was calling me to cap salaries at 20,000 a year because we were trying to put as much back as we can. I said, okay, I'll do that, but that's going to mean I'm the only employee because nobody else is coming and you try to argue things with God, which is kind of silly.

But anyway, net effect, we ended up with some of the top energy conservation people in the world that took 85, 90% pay cuts to be part of this. And when I say top in the world, for example, when the Clinton Climate Foundation, the only time they ever brought their city directors together across two continents is for one of our guys to teach for eight hours in Paris, France, about how to optimize buildings. One of our guys was asked by the head of the Department of Energy to be an advisor for a previous President of the United States on energy conservation. I could tell you 50 stories like that. I won't. But is God bringing together a unique group of people to make a difference? We'll start out control wise. Y'all got a 20-year-old control system that would cost a fortune just for y'all to replace it, and we're going to replace it with a new non-proprietary system. I had dinner with the head of the biggest controls company worldwide a while back and he said, "Wes, your problem is you don't understand the importance of service revenue." He said they make over half their profit on service.

We've got over 140 million square feet across Texas. Our total service call revenue a year is about \$14,000, less than \$14 a client. Which sets savings back to y'all too because every dollar counts. The controls we put in come with a five-year on parts warranty. We leave you some spares, so if one goes out, you can change that immediately. If you reconfigure a building or remove something, you can still connect it to the new unit. The goal is just to continue to say, we do a lot to pull down relative humidity, which not only improves comfort, but indoor air quality. And we do a lot of monitoring and tracking of the results. Everywhere we go, people say there's areas that we've just never been able to get comfortable, that we've been able to solve. And we don't say we can solve everything, but we can solve a lot.

And then we track every room. How fast does this room warm up if it's 60 or 50 or 40 or 30 or 20 or whatever? And how fast does it cool down if it's 80 or 90 or a hundred? Every room's different. A room facing east, totally different, one facing west. Classrooms are different than a gym, but we're understanding all that. We're going to go through all 1,439 pieces of HVAC equipment and optimize those. Controls, we've talked about. Zoning, lot of things we do to improve zoning issues. We do full weatherization on all the buildings. A big key we've got, we've invented over 380 new technologies, but one of the technologies is Campus Optimizer. I'll show you in just a second, but it's patented. We build and tune a detailed plan and document it for all your people. And then we do training, starting with the first project meeting.

One thing we'd love to do, totally optional, but we'd love to go to an in-service meeting and talk to teachers about what they can do in their homes. We don't do homes, but my home's 2,500 square feet. I live in Grapevine, Texas, and my electric bill seven months a year is 60 something dollars or less, and a lot of people are paying more than that a month for electricity. And so, we like to go through just easy things you can do. And my wife's retired; she's home all the time. We have grandkids over all the time, and most of y'all aren't old enough to have grandkids yet.

We love to just go teach. These are things you can do cheap and easy in your home that make a difference. And some places have asked us to have a community night even, because again, if we could save people three or \$400 a month in their home, that's a neat deal. Campus optimizer's kind of the end here. Right now, you're trying to manage temperature and comfort across 1,439 pieces of equipment and over 1600 rooms. We didn't count the rooms. Over 1800 events a week. Events, a teacher in classroom, game or practice or whatever. You're trying to also reduce kWh. Well by now, even if you have a math genius doing it all, there's too many variables going on. You're trying to optimize that annual load factor, which is, again, impossible to do for a person, and manage your natural gas use. Your top 15 minutes a month, top 15 minutes a year, whenever. Your 15 minutes when ERCOT hits their peak each month through the summer, which again, you could have a team of math geniuses.

Managing relative humidity, indoor air quality; do it well, you need to know the ramp times, how fast every room cools down or heats up in every weather pattern. And the weather in Texas is nuts. I've lived here all my life. It is what it is. You've got 80 meters to manage and multiple rate schedules, but this is what Campus Optimizer does. Every night, it pulls in your latest event schedule, and then it pulls in the next seven-day weather forecast, and it runs a 20-level mathematical matrix for every one of these variables, for every single room, every single meter, and it sends all the changes out into the systems. We were watching Coppell ISD one night in July. We looked at it the next day, actually, but the system in July, when summer school's over, football and band hadn't started, the system made over 1300 changes in three minutes to optimize it. During the school year, it makes thousands of them.

Anyway, that's the story. We also, one last thing we did: in February of '21, we said, "What can we do to reduce pipe bursts in our clients?" And we created new technologies to do that. We called every client that had Campus Optimizer and said, "We'll put this in for free if you want it." And of course, everybody liked the price. They said, "Go ahead." I was at a school board meeting in Bridge City. Their superintendent had been in North Central Texas when that happened. He told the board, he said, "Every district around me had pipes burst in that freeze." He said, "The only one we had was a concession stand at the football stadium," because of that technology. And again, it was just a free gift to our

schools, but we're trying to put money back. What kind of questions do you have?

Dr. Goree added. Thank you very much for your presentation. I do want to give the board just a little information that we met with, through our operations team, we met with Ideal Impact in the fall, and we began the conversation there. And the conversation began from the space of, as we look at our budgetary needs, looking across all divisions to see what you can bring to the table? And of course, energy costs are a huge cost in operating a school system. We've had an opportunity to meet with them on several occasions. They've met with our operations teams, they've walked schools. Ms. Zamora has led an effort where we've checked references. And we bring this to the Board tonight in the information space so that the Board has an opportunity, of course, to give us any questions that you may have before we determine if this will be something that we will bring back as a recommendation moving forward.

Trustee McNeely commented. If you can get my bill down to \$60, [inaudible 01:33:57].

Mr. McDaniel added. We see so many people see their bills drop drastically. And you think about teachers, they're the front line. And if we can save them a few hundred dollars a year.

Trustee Fahey commented.. Several years ago, our district entered an agreement with an energy saving company. Some of you might remember it. The sales rep, we kiddingly named him Reddy Kilowatt, remember the little character on TV, the little cartoons? And it started out great. First it was just changing light bulbs, but then we named him Reddy Kill a Teacher, because when he got in the lounge and copy rooms and started taking away microwaves, refrigerators and coffee pots, you talking about uncomfortable? Remember him? Were you here?

Trustee McNeely commented. He was a lot of fun to work with.

Trustee Fahey commented. No, he wasn't.

Mr. McDaniel added. Teachers sacrifice enough already. They don't need to give up things like that. They don't need to give up comfort. Our system, every controller has an LCD readout on it so the teachers can walk up to it, move the temperature up and down to whatever level you've chosen. They can come in after hours, or on weekends or whatever, make the rooms comfortable. There's so many benefits like that. I think it's crazy to penalize teachers.

Trustee Fahey asked. Would this be a replacement on that 20-year-old thing that we have?

Mr. McDaniel replied. Yes.

Trustee Fahey commented. That's worth the... So as far as light bulbs and the silly things... I mean, not silly, but-

Okay, so it's a big deal.

Mr. McDaniel replied. Yeah, it's technology improvements.

Trustee McNeely asked. Do you take somebody in our district and educate them on this?

Mr. McDaniel replied. We put it all in. So, we do it all. There's a huge installation effort, obviously. And to optimize 1400 units is a huge effort, too. We use all our own techs for that. We don't subcontract anything. To weatherize all the buildings is a huge effort. But then we actually start training on key things for the people of the district about energy conservation, but also about systems. We had a number of districts, but they've said, "If you could teach our people some basic DX maintenance, where we had to call less contractors out, it would save us a fortune." And so, we do that too if they want to, because our goal is to put money back. And a lot of the money we put back is not going to show up in our numbers or our calculations, but it's real money to you.

And if you cannot replace units for as long, and you can get room classrooms back up and running quicker. Our systems show an alarm if the rate of change is changing from cooling or heating. So, way before this unit's getting to a catastrophe state, you can see a lot. Most of the time it's a little minimal change at that stage before it all blows up. So, lots of savings in addition to what we show in those numbers. But 16.9 million is a lot, but you'll get a lot more than that.

President Culton asked. I believe we replaced a number of our units. Is that correct? And did we replace the system that we use to operate them? And I don't know if that's a Trane or what.

Mr. McDaniel replied. The bulk of your stuff is on an Alerton system. A few things are on a Trane system. So, both of those are proprietary systems. And so, what we're going to change it out, it's actually a Pelican system. It's made in the United States. It's done proprietary, which is going to save you a fortune on anything else you do. So, if you change a unit out in the future, just the mechanical contractor can unattach and reattach this. You don't have to call a control company out to do anything. You've got a five-year parts warranty. We leave you some spares. We show your guys, if one goes out, how to change it so they can have a classroom back up and running in 15 minutes rather than waiting for a couple of days for somebody to show up.

There's a whole bunch of separate benefits like that. It tracks two-year trend logs. It tracks lots of different things. You can see it on your cell phone. So, if you got somebody in your facilities group working on a unit on the roof, they're not having to run up and down the ladder to the classroom and interrupt the classroom multiple times. A whole bunch of benefits like that that make a huge difference.

President Culton asked. When we changed the units out, we didn't upgrade the technology that we use to control it?

Mr. McDaniel replied. Excuse me? So when you changed the units out... Oh, sorry.

Ms. Zamora replied. So not always. We didn't always change the controllers. And so, the HVAC units we purchased, those are still going to be functioning. What we're changing out is the controllers in the rooms that'll be tied to this new technology.

President Culton commented. Oh, I see. And then the weatherization; we're undergoing extensive improvements to our facilities already. So, I'm not sure, for weatherization, what all that would entail with our facilities, since we're upgrading them now.

Mr. McDaniel replied. When you're upgrading facilities, you're not doing weatherization in there. That's a whole separate technology that you go in. I've seen, even new buildings need to be weatherized. And you've got a wide mixture here of different ages of buildings, obviously. And so, weatherizing those is a big deal. We've had buildings we've got into where we've done districts, and they built a brand new building. And what I always tell them to do, if they're doing that, talk to us first. We don't do new construction, but if we can save you money on that new construction job, that's real money back to the district. Plus, then you can expand Campus Optimizer yourself to the new campus if you do it right, which again saves you money, too. We did Godley down there. Their new high school it's about six months from completion when we did it. We said, "If you can make these changes..." They said, "We don't have any more money in our budget."

I said, "That's okay. It won't cost you more money to build it better in the first place." And then they said, "We finished," and they had 177 units. They said, "What would it take to expand Campus Optimizer?" I said, "You built it right, so you can do it yourself." And they said, "What would you charge us?" We said, "\$15,000." And you imagine if you guys trained to expand 177 units, my guess is it's a lot more than \$15,000. But it's, every dollar we save you counts, whether it shows up in our energy numbers or not.

President Culton asked. I noticed that there was a 15-year savings estimate. So, is that the period of the contract that?

Mr. McDaniel replied. No, I would expect you to pay it off. If you keep 20% of the energy savings, keeping all the additional savings, it would pay it off in a little over five years. But we also expect we'd get an energy rebate here that could be as much as \$800,000, which would pay off quicker. That'd knock off another year of it, real easy.

President Culton asked. So, would the cost be 827,000? Or how much would the cost be?

Mr. McDaniel replied. The cost is 3.8 million. If you saved at 827,000, you'd pay 80% of that savings toward payoff of it, and you'd keep the 20%, but you keep all the additional savings. And the rebate would go toward paying it off, too.

President Culton asked. So, 3.8 million for the improvements that are proposed?

Mr. McDaniel replied. Correct. But you only pay it out of savings. So, if you don't save, you don't pay it.

President Culton asked. And how does that work? Because if we're only paying from savings, that's a 3.8... How many years is that?

Mr. McDaniel replied. That would be 5.7 years if you were at 827,000 in savings a year. And our bank makes us put a minimum quarterly payment in, but if your savings doesn't cover that, then we write you

a check for the difference each time.

Ms. Zamora added. They'll look at the bills, and then the savings compared to what the bill would've been without this new technology. And what it is savings themselves. Then we take those savings, they get 80% to pay off the 3.8 that they gave us, and then 20% would go back to the district fund. And then it continues that way until we pay off the full debt, the full 3.8 million.

President Culton asked. Out of curiosity, have we netted any savings when we upgraded all the equipment? Because I would suspect that we did, right?

Ms. Zamora Replied. We did, yeah. We had some savings in there, but what this technology does, it helps reduce the humidity, and it'll actually help even do more savings for the district.

President Culton asked. So, is Coppell one of your clients?

Mr. McDaniel replied. Yes.

President Culton asked. And you all have been in their schools for?

Mr. McDaniel replied. Three years, four years? It kind of runs together over time.

Trustee Fahey asked. If we were to choose your service, how would this effect, or would it interfere with all the brand new buildings, the renovations? With nothing. We would just go on as planned and then you would come in. You're mostly about weatherizing?

Mr. McDaniel replied. No, we're mostly about technology to pull down the energy use of demand. Weatherization helps also, but that's not the big thing.

Trustee Fahey asked. But that could be done now, right?

Mr. McDaniel replied. Yes, it could be done as soon as we get in, as soon as we get going.

Ms. Zamora added. In our new buildings, the thermostats that go on the walls, if we were to partner with them, those thermostats would be the Pelican thermostats. We would install those at all the new buildings or the renovated buildings.

Trustee McNeely asked. When are you going to bring this back?

Dr. Goree replied. Thank you very much. What I'd like to do is we will continue to visit with them and continue to collect information from the Board, and determine when to bring this back at that time.

President Culton asked. So, are you Mr. McDaniel?

Mr. McDaniel replied. Yes.

President Culton commented. Thank you very much for your presentation, and we appreciate you.

C. SMITH EARLY LEARNING ACADEMY UPDATE
Dr. Sam Nix and Darrian Miller

Dr. Sam Nix and Ms. Darrian Miller presented Smith Early Learning Academy Update. Good evening, Madam President, members of the board, and Dr. Goree. Earlier this evening, Dr. Graham presented a high-level overview of our upcoming Smith Early Learning Academy. And then just recently, LAN provided some current real-time images of what it looks like. And so, I would like to invite to the podium Ms. Darrian Miller, who is our coordinator of early childhood, to give you a comprehensive overview of what the instructional and programming update will be for our, and I love this term that was used for our youngest champions. So, Ms. Miller.

Ms. Darrian Miller added to the presentation. Good evening, Madam President, members of the Board of Trustees, and Dr. Goree. I'm pleased to share updates on the progress of our new Smith Early Learning Academy. The school represents a unique and innovative opportunity for our families, and it is the first of its kind in our Southwest region. Smith Early Learning Academy is scheduled to open in fall of 2026, and it has been intentionally designed specifically for our three-year-old learners. As a result, our routines, our learning spaces, the furniture and daily schedules are all developmentally aligned to meet the needs of our youngest champions. Our instructional model centers on play-based learning experiences that support language development and social-emotional growth. Through purposeful play, our students will be actively engaged in meaningful learning that builds foundational skills in authentic and engaging ways.

Because our early learning academy is designed exclusively for our three-year-olds, we understand the challenge this may present for our families. So, to support them, our school hours would differ slightly from our elementary campuses, in that the hours will be full-day program from eight o'clock to 3:30, instead of 8:15 to 3:45. This will allow our families with children on multiple campuses to benefit from a staggered schedule.

This building has 18 classrooms. Nine of those classrooms will be standard and nine of them will feature innovative, experience-based learning spaces. The building is organized into four color-coded neighborhoods, each representing one of the four seasons. A visual wayfinding system, using colors and paw prints, will help our students and the families be able to navigate through the building. As shown on the legend on the left, our nine experience-based classrooms are Farmer's Market, Marvelous Me, Construction, Zoo Animals and Pets, Plants, and more. Students and teachers will rotate through these learning environments, spending approximately four weeks immersed in each experience. These spaces are designed to promote hands-on, immersive learning, targeted skill development, and high engagement through exploration.

Here are a few examples of our experience rooms. You'll see the design concepts of Space, Transportation, Zoo Animals and Pets, and My Community. These rooms will not feature traditional furniture. Instead, students will engage in high-engagement, purposeful play learning experiences. This means students will not do worksheets. Instead, you will see our students engaged in learning the pre-K guidelines through real-world experiences, layered with engagement opportunities that incorporate

movement, dramatic play, sensory, exploration, and meaningful speaking and writing opportunities.

To support enrollment and community awareness, we have partnered with our communications department to develop our marketing campaign, with enrollment beginning April 1st. Students must be three years old on or before September 1st and must meet the eligibility requirements. Tuition-based pre-K will also be available. As pre-K was designed to serve our most at-risk students, students are eligible to attend for free if they meet those eligibility requirements. Children of district employees attend at no cost. Based on our pre-K enrollment trends, we are projecting enrollment at 255 for this pre-K3 campus.

Smith Early learning represents a strong investment in our youngest learners and in the families we serve. By intentionally designing a school centered on developmentally appropriate play-based learning, we are creating a foundation that supports long-term academic success and social-emotional growth. We are proud of the thoughtful planning that has gone into this work, and excited to continue partnering with our families and the community as we prepare to open our doors in fall of 2026. Are there any questions I can answer?

President Culton commented. Thank you, Ms. Miller. We're very excited about this new school and the opportunities that it will afford three-year-olds, and district employees will have the opportunity for their kids to attend free of charge.

Dr. Goree added. And Madam President, if I may add too, I just want to thank you publicly, Ms. Miller. It seems that as we approach the opening of this school, every day there's probably five new questions that we didn't think of. And you've just done a wonderful job of stepping up, working with Dr. Goodman, too, of course, with this, just really stepping up and really helping to bring this project to life. And just thank you for your organization.

Ms. Miller replied. Thank you for the opportunity.

10. ADJOURNMENT AT 8:47 PM

Trustee McNeely made a motion to adjourn; Trustee Veracruz seconded the motion.



Dr. T. Lamar Goree
Superintendent of Schools

Board President

Board Secretary