

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, March 26, 2024, at 6:00 PM.

The meeting was called to order by President Mia Price who announced that a quorum was present.

Board Members Present: Bundgus, Burns, English, Price, Sosa-Sanchez, Stafford, and Tays

Board Members Absent:  
Arrived Late:

Left Early:  
School Personnel Present: Brown, O’Bara, Parham, Pierce, Rainey, Robinson, Russell, Schulz, Stevenson, Stewart, Thompson, and Wilson

Others: Cindy Breeding, *Denton Record-Chronicle*; citizens, staff, and students

Pledges The Pledges to the Flags were led by Alexander Elementary School students.

Presentations/ Recognitions Thirteen Denton ISD musicians and dancers earned All-State honors for the 2023-2024 school year from the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) and the Texas Dance Educators Association (TDEA). All-State is the highest honor a Texas music student can achieve. Only 1,875 students are selected through a process beginning with over 70,000 students – meaning only the top 2.6 percent of musicians who initially audition become All-State musicians.

The TDEA All-State Dance Team is comprised of dancers representing schools from across the state of Texas. All-State dancers participated in the TDEA All-State Convention Jan. 10-13 in Houston. The experience included dance workshops, leadership training, master classes and networking with other students. The All-State Dance Team experience culminates in a performance choreographed by a master choreographer.

Members of Denton ISD’s Communications and Community Relations Department received a Texas School Public Relations Association (TSPRA) Gold Star Award, as well as a “Best of Category” commendation, for website design, signifying the website is the best in the state of Texas for the 2023-2024 year. Courtney Dunning, Web Content Coordinator and Colby Cervantes, Web Content Specialist, were the recipients of the award in the division of districts serving 15,000-40,000 students. TSPRA’s annual Star Awards provide recognition for the outstanding education communications

and projects of its members, and the entries are evaluated by impartial judges.

Both Ms. Dunning and Mr. Cervantes were instrumental in overhauling Denton ISD's website and implementing a vibrant, visually driven, responsive design in the Spring of 2023. The new design displays each of Denton ISD's branding, which makes it welcoming, while also incorporating more user-friendly features and functionality.

Each year, the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) honors businesses, organizations and individuals for their support and exceptional advocacy of public schools. This statewide honor, as part of "Stand Up for Texas Public Schools," recognizes local businesses, community organizations and individuals that partner with school districts, making a difference in the lives of public-school students.

Lauren Coffey with the Education Retirement Program (ERP) of Texas has made it her mission to support Denton ISD teachers and staff any way she can. Over the last several years, she has partnered with the National Life Group to honor Denton ISD teachers through the LifeChanger of the Year. Ms. Coffey has been instrumental in bringing this program to Denton ISD, which annually honors teachers, staff members and educators nationwide who make a significant difference in students' lives. This year alone, Denton ISD has 13 nominees for the LifeChanger of the Year. Winners of the LifeChanger of the Year have the opportunity to win up to \$10,000 for the grand prize, with a total of \$70,000 awarded yearly across 17 winners nationwide.

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

#### Budget Discussion for 2024-2025

Jennifer Stewart, Executive Director of Budget updated the Board on the 2023-2024 budget outlook, average daily attendance, and adjustments to revenue. Jennifer also provided the Board with the Basic Allotment history from 2018-2019 and how the allotment has not changed since the 2019-2020 school year and remains today at \$6,140 per student. Jennifer stated the district will have a projected budget deficit of \$15,036,946 for 2024-2025 school year before the following items are taken into consideration:

- Property Insurance Increase
- Safety & Security Measures
- Principal Residency Grant (District Match)
- Contractual Obligation Increases
- Natatorium Cost Increase
- Appraisal District Cost Increase
- Potential Adjustment to Meet Substitute Usage Inflation
- No compensation plan included

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

Staff and Family  
Engagement  
Update

Emily McLarty, Director of Staff Engagement and Julia Zwahr, Chief Communications Officer provided the Board of Trustees information regarding the gathering and reporting of feedback on Staff and Family Engagement so that Denton ISD may better understand the perceptions of the staff and the families we serve.

Through a survey instrument used in partnership with Gallup, annual feedback in the following areas will be gained through 24 questions centered on the following areas:

- School Engagement
- School Environment
- Academic Standards
- Strength and Development
- School Communications
- School Leadership

The feedback will be used to identify perceptions within each core area and the ways in which we will measure our progress toward these goals. All information gathered is anonymous and does not match the respondent with individual answers. By measuring and tracking Staff Engagement our goal is to retain high-quality staff. The Gallup Q-12 Engagement Survey allows us to see trends and take positive action. Highly engaged employees have lower turnover rates, decreased absenteeism, and higher rates of student achievement. Engaged employees who feel supported and are developed appropriately make a positive impact on student learning, feel, and convey pride in our organization, and positively impact our community.

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

Bond Progress  
Report

Amiee Jones and Suzanne Danhof Bond Progress committee members presented the Board highlights from the February 28, 2023, Bond Progress committee meeting that was held at the new Newton Rayzor Elementary.

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

Construction  
Report

Brandon Boyter presented the current construction projects as to scheduling and construction progress of Calhoun MS, Hill Elementary, and Martinez Elementary campuses.

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

2023-2024 4<sup>th</sup>  
Reporting Period  
Attendance Report

Leslie Guajardo, Director of Student Support Services provided the Board with campus and district ADA percentages for the 4<sup>th</sup> reporting period (RP 4) of the 2023-2024 school year (January 8 - February 16, 2024) and to compare this data to prior years. There were 29 instructional days in the 4<sup>th</sup>

reporting period. The district ADA% for 2023-2024 reporting period 4 is 93.10%.

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

Intruder Detection  
Audit Report

Region 11 is conducting Intruder Detection Audits pursuant to updated legal requirements. To date 31 Denton ISD schools have been reviewed. Corrective actions, if any, have been completed at this time. Further details have been provided to the Board in executive session and will be provided to the district's Safety and Security Committee in an upcoming meeting for the purpose of safety and security.

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

Professional Staff  
Appointments,  
Resignations &  
Employment

To expedite the hiring of personnel during the Spring and Summer the Board of Trustees gave Dr. Wilson the authority to hire any contractual personnel including classroom teachers and administrators. The Board was provided with a list of those approved transactions.

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

1<sup>st</sup> Open Forum

The following community member addressed the Board: Rebecca Bertoni

Consent Agenda

Motion by Sheryl English and seconded by Charles Stafford

To Approve (the minutes of February 27, 2024 board meeting; personnel matters, leaves, and absences; Budget Amendment as of February 29, 2024; RFP #2402-03 Denton ISD Network Switching Upgrade (E-Rate) be awarded to Netsync Network Solutions; approval of RFP #2403-04 Denton ISD Bus WiFi Service (E-Rate) be awarded as follows: Netsync Network Solutions for 12-month license renewal and CDW Government, LLC for the equipment and data plan; RFP #2203-03 Grounds Maintenance – District at Large Chemical Treatment be renewed for the final two-year term through March 31, 2026; RFP #2203-04 Ground Maintenance – District at Large Facilities Maintenance be renewed for the final two-year term through March 31, 2026; approve the quotes from Dell in the amount of \$168,832.00 for Calhoun Middle School end-user technology; approve the quotes from Dell in the amount of \$451,105.44 for Newton Rayzor Elementary end-user technology; approve Resolution to designate the Deputy Superintendent, the Executive Director of Financial Operations, and the Director of Finance each acting alone, the authority to establish and manage bank accounts on behalf of the Denton Independent School District; Resolution amending authorized representative to add Dr. Jeremy Thompson, Deputy Superintendent; Authorized Representative Add Form for the First Public – Lone Star Investment Pool to add Dr. Jeremy Thompson, Deputy Superintendent; Burlington Stores donation in the amount of \$5,000.00 for the purchase of

educational resources for the students at Rivera Elementary; approval of quotes received from Dell Marketing \$38,400.00 (DIR TSO 3763), CDW-G \$118,750.00 (Sourcewell 081419), Anixter \$948.75 (Omina 192008), Global Asset \$2,850.00 (TIPS 230105) and B&H \$424.41 (Omnia R201202), for the Career and Technical Education (CTE) labs desktop refresh equipment; approval of quote from Lockstep Technology Group (ProComputing) in the amount of \$643,672.28 for the purchase of all equipment for the AV refresh for Rodriguez Middle School; approval of the Total Probable Cost including the Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$ 10,660,780.00 submitted by BWC Education Group for a Total Probable Cost of \$ 12,214,731.00 for the installation of all-weather track surface and artificial turf for the middle school projects; approval of the Total Probable Cost including the Guaranteed Maximum Price submitted by Joeris Construction Company in the amount of \$ 949,245.00 for a Total Probable Cost of \$ 1,205,946.00 for the Ryan High School Softball Field Conversion from grass to artificial turf; approval of waiver of penalty and interest for account number 1005440DEN as recommended by the District's Property Tax Attorney).

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Open Forum      The following community members addressed the Board: Dr. Terry Senne, Donna Smith, Kristine Bray.
- Closed Meeting      The Board convened into Closed Session at 8:20 pm
- Open Meeting      The Board reconvened into Open Session at 9:38 pm
- Adjournment:      The meeting adjourned at 9:52 pm

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President

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Secretary