

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, July 28, 2020 at 6:02 PM.

Pursuant to the Governor Abbott's Temporary Suspension of Open Meetings Laws issued on March 16, 2020, this meeting will be conducted via videoconference, which will be audible to the Board and public and allow for two-way communication. The Board President, presiding officer of trustees will not be physically present at one location, but a quorum will be required for the meeting on the videoconference or phone. The public may access this meeting or obtain an electronic copy of the agenda packet at <https://www.dentonisd.org/trustees>.

The meeting was called to order by President Barbara Burns who announced that a quorum was present.

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

Board Members Absent:

Arrived Late:

Left Early:

School Personnel Present: Wilson, Niven, Mattingly, Pierce, Stripling, Perkins, O'Bara, Rainey, Robinson, Russell, Stewart, Stevenson, Valenta and Zwahr

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

Pledges: The pledges to the flags were led by staff

Presentations/ Recognitions The Texas High School Coaches Association recently honored five school leaders who were inducted into their Hall of Fame. The THSCA named Joey Florence, who joined Denton ISD 20 years ago, as one of their distinguished recent recipients for his work and career in education.

Coach Florence graduated from the University of Texas at Austin in 1989. He served as an assistant coach at Sulphur Springs and Marcus before becoming one of the youngest head coaches in the state when he was named head coach at Cooper in 1994 at age 28. Joey Florence never had a losing season or missed the playoffs in his 20-year head coaching career.

His first head coaching job in 1994 at 2A Cooper saw his teams make the playoffs all 6 years and he amassed a 53-16 record. He quickly established Denton Ryan High as a premier football power when he came in 2000. In his first year, he led a team, who had won only one game the previous year, to a 12-3 record and an appearance in the 2000 Class 4A Division I state championship game.

The next two seasons cemented Ryan High School's stature at the top as the Raiders posted a 30-1 record in route to winning the 4A state championships in 2001 and 2002, becoming the district's first athletic program to win back-to-back state championships. Mr. Florence never stopped winning and led the Raiders to 4A state championship appearances in 2003 and again in 2010.

At Ryan High, Coach Florence became one of only eight active head coaches with 200 or more victories in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, recording his milestone 200th win against Flower Mound Marcus in 2013. His career record is 205-53.

Coach Florence was named athletic director for Denton ISD in January 2014.

Discussion and
Review of
Certified
Property Values

Jennifer Stewart, Director of Budgeting presented the Board the Certified Property Estimates for 2020. Because of COVID-19 the Denton County Appraisal District at this time is not able to provide the Certified Values due to values under protest. We are expecting the Certified Values in September from Denton County Appraisal. TEA is allowing the District to utilize Denton ISD's estimated values for their required submission by August 1st and then Denton ISD will appeal. TEA has stated if an LEA's Refined ADA counts during those first two six-week reporting periods are less than the ADA hold harmless, the first two six-week attendance reporting periods for 2020-2021 will be excluded from the calculation of ADA and student FTEs for FSP funding purposes and will be replaced with the ADA hold harmless projections.

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

Covid-19 Update

Dr. Wilson reviewed the increasing cases within Denton County of COVID-19. Denton County Health Department has recommended school districts move to remote learning through September 8, 2020. TEA announced that local districts could lengthen the time frame they will allow local districts to begin school online for the 2020-21 year to four weeks. The agency added that a school district could extend its exclusively virtual learning start for an additional four weeks, for a total of eight weeks, with approval from its school board and a TEA waiver. TEA also mandated that school leaders must still offer in-person classes to any students who do not have computers and reliable internet access at home. If the District decides to move to remote learning for the first four weeks of school the return date would be September 23, 2020. If the District moves to an additional four weeks of remote learning the return date would be October 23, 2020.

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

COVID-19
Employee Relief
Fund

Dr. Russell, Area Superintendent reviewed the safety and security protocols for students and parents when school begins. Dr. Russell stated Denton ISD will post for parents and the general public, at least one week prior to the first day of instruction, a summary of our plan to mitigate COVID-19 spread in our schools. Dr. Russell reviewed the screening procedures for staff, students, and campus visitors as well as how the District will respond to confirmed or suspected cases of Covid-19.

Chris Bomberger, Executive Director of Child Nutrition and Risk Management provided information on the continued delivery of meal bundles for families.

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

Texas Education
Agency (TEA):
Operation
Connectivity

Dr. Mike Mattingly, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction provided the trustees with information about the Texas Education Agency technology funding opportunity called "Operation Connectivity." The TEA will match the funds that LEAs put towards a bulk order of connectivity equipment and services to close its gap; and an additional/extra match funding is available from the TEA if LEAs can procure local CRF funding from the city or county; and, all funding subject to availability and demand. The TEA will match the LSA \$1 to every \$1 the LEA spends on purchase of connectivity equipment. Additionally, the LEA can seek funding support for the 50% for which they are responsible from the City or County Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF). If the LEA secures this funding, the TEA will pay \$1 for every \$1 paid by the City or County. TEA will be offering a reimbursement program that allows districts to apply for technology connectivity reimbursements for purchases made *on or after May 21 through July 22*.

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

TASB Policy
Update 115

Deron Robinson, General Counsel provided an overview of the TASB Policy Update 115. Update 115 focuses on updating and reorganizing several policies in the FFE series of the policy manual addressing student welfare. FFEA continues to focus on counseling, and a new code, FFEB, focuses on mental health provisions. Update 115 includes new Title IX regulations, effective August 14, 2020, which define sexual harassment under Title IX and establish detailed procedures for how districts must respond to notice or allegations of sexual harassment.

The Office for Civil Rights, or OCR, reviewed over 124,000 public comments on Title IX beginning in November 2018. These are the first regulations to go through the formal notice-and-comment process since 1997. These regulations will have the force of law behind them, unlike guidance issued in 2011 and 2014. Education Department's Office of Civil Rights is no longer taking discrimination cases based on sexual orientation.

The new Title IX regulation establishes that schools and colleges must take sexual harassment seriously, while also ensuring a fair process for everyone involved.

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

Professional
Staff
Appointments,
Resignations &
Employment

During the COVID-19 pandemic the Board of Trustees gave Dr. Wilson the authority to hire any contractual personnel including classroom teachers and administrators. The Board was provided a list of those approved transactions.

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

InfoSnap Update

Dr. Gwen Perkins, Area Superintendent provided the Board with the number of returning students, by campus, who have completed online registration as of July 22, 2020, together with the number of those students who expressed an interest in the Connected Learning program. Denton ISD utilizes an online registration system to manage enrollment/registration of our returning students and our new to Denton students. This system is referred to as our InfoSnap system. The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of completed registrations for returning students and new student enrollment within this system. Additionally, this overview will include the number of students/families who expressed interest in Connected Learning, our online learning program. Currently the District has 21,677 total students registered and 61% expressed an interest in Connect Learning.

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

Open Forum

These comments were provided virtually, and all Trustees were given copies of the submitted comments.

Rachael Barresi - We will not be registering in DISD until in person instruction happens. We have a child in SpEd and will not be participating in virtual learning as it does not meet the needs of her not our IEP.

Elsa Beatriz Pruneda - I have two concerns for the board to consider regarding Covid Safety Protocols: 1. Communication to the community: I have noticed much of the updates concerning the opening of school and the related safety plans by the district has only been presented to the community in English. I believe this is excluding a large part of the community that Denton ISD serves and is causing information to bypass the Hispanic families. This is very concerning because Covid 19 is disproportionately affecting the Hispanic population in Denton County. The current percentage of positive cases for the Hispanic population is 31.2%, while this segment of the county makes up 19.5% of the total population(according to Denton County Public Health and "Data: Denton County Latinos Testing Positive for Covid 19 at Higher Rates", Denton Record Chronicle, July 2, 2020).

These parents deserve to have this critical information clearly communicated to them. 2. Clear plans need to be in place to protect staff with health conditions that place them at greater risk for serious complications due to Covid 19. Even with safety protocols in place for the highest level of transmission (which Denton County is now exceeding), there is a high level of risk for these teachers. I ask the board to consider offering waivers to teachers with documented health conditions to be able to work from home when transmission levels are high and instruction is being provided virtually, and also when possible during any high or moderate transmission level periods. This is supported by the CDC, which in its published guidance "CDC Activities and Initiatives Supporting the Covid 19 Response and the President's Plan for Opening America Up Again", which states that "Employers should take particular care to reduce workers' risk of exposure to Covid 19...." Such a waiver would allow teachers to continue working while reducing their exposure to a virus that is more likely to affect them more severely and keeping them out of work longer or causing longer term disability.

Amy Bundgus - I am writing to implore the school board to delay or table reacting to the recent recommendation from the Denton health department to delay School even further. As we are all well aware there have been significant impacts to children across the community with regard to food insecurities, abuse, mental health, and the list goes on. Our children have been out of school since March and this has been hugely detrimental. Delaying two more weeks is nonsense. Look around. The kids are everywhere. At Walmart, at the local pizza place, at Kroger...all delaying does is keep them out of school, but they will be everywhere else. Let's move forward.

Michael Burris - First, thank you for taking the time to read this letter. You taking the input and concerns of those you serve is noticed.

I have been a Texas public educator for over a decade and have spent the last nine of those years teaching the children of Denton ISD- and I absolutely love it. Up until recently, if you would have asked, I would have happily told you I was going to be a lifelong public educator. I truly believe that educating future generations is my calling and also our nation's greatest defense against foes foreign and domestic. However, now I am not sure what my future will hold.

Over the last decade, I have been told the ubiquitous "you got this" when dealing with so many things outside of educating- feeding students, clothing students, summer break check-ins, active shooter drills, purchasing my own supplies- the list goes on and on. However, I cannot teach in a warzone.

Why is the current climate a warzone? More Americans have died in the past 5 months from COVID-19 than all but two American conflicts. (<https://fortune.com/2020/05/15/coronavirus-deaths-us-covid-19-death-rate-covid-19-more-than-korean-vietnam-gulf-afghanistan-iraq-wars-combined/>)

Unfortunately, if teachers are required to return to campus in Denton ISD- according to Georgia Tech's COVID-19 Risk Assessment Tool at the time of this writing- any meeting of over 100 people will have an 88% chance of encountering the virus. My campus has a staff of over 150 people, without students. I do not believe that our military's generals would send personnel into a battle zone with an 88% chance of coming in contact with a bullet. I am disheartened that you are requiring teachers, students, and staff to face these realities.

I have been told by Denton ISD administration that a full closure after face-to-face reopening is "inevitable." I ask- what other than COVID-19 infections will cause this inevitable closure? If we know that people in our community will become infected during face-to-face instruction, I find it highly unethical to continue this course. I have promised my students to do what is in my power to keep them safe- teaching them face-to-face with so little health training, little PPE, and no enforceable social distancing or mask rules in place is a direct contradiction of that.

While I am able to teach from my computer very effectively (if given enough time to adequately plan instruction and delivery) I know that I will not be able to teach face-down on a ventilator. I cannot allow the education of my community's children to cost my own children a life with their father. I know dozens of Denton ISD educators who are actively involved in finding alternative financial resources so that are not required to literally risk their lives. While it is difficult to continue to isolate and keep children at home, it will be more difficult when the Denton community experiences the deaths of beloved teachers, staff, parents, grandparents, students- knowing these deaths could have been prevented. I ask that you make the right decision.

I ask that you let truth, science, and empathy lead your decision. I am unable to see how Denton is in are motely safe position to continue our current plan of blended instruction within Denton ISD.

Amanda Carrell-Munywok - I am writing to the board to express my support for listening to the Denton County Heath Commissioners recommendation to delay in person school until at least September 8th. As both a parent of a DISD student and an elementary school educator for the district, I am invested in the students of our community learning in the safest and least disruptive manner. I feel that if we open in person instruction before we have the current COVID19 outbreak under control we will be putting the

safety of our students, their families, and our school personnel at grave risk. Moreover, if we open too early, we risk having to close down again thus disrupting the students' best learning environment. It is my hope that the school board will act prudently in regards to the safe reopening of our schools.

Kayla Durham - As a Registered Nurse, I certainly understand the concern regarding the current COVID-19 pandemic as well as the priority for student and teacher safety. I also understand that virtual learning is not an option or effective means of education for all students and parents. I am a single mother to an elementary student within Denton ISD and strongly feel that on campus learning needs to be offered. My son's elementary campus is currently offering a "jump start" program for the upcoming school year, which my son has been participating in. The feedback from the principal as well as my son has been nothing but positive and proves that on-campus learning can be provided in a safe manner. Only offering on-line learning will only put children with learning disabilities at a further disadvantage. Furthermore, who will be expected to educate healthcare workers children while we are physically caring for the members of our community during this crucial time of need? If virtual learning is mandatory for any portion of the school year, I am very interested in hearing the Denton ISD school board's recommendations for a realistic on-line school day schedule that begins at 6:30 PM or later every weekday. Not only would this be challenging for both students and parents, it is unrealistic to think that a full school day of education can be summed up in a matter for 2-3 hours each night. I ask that if you feel you are unable to allow on-campus instruction that you post pone the start date of the school year so that no child is left behind and that healthcare staff can continue to be available to serve our communities during this critical time.

Amelia Emerhirhi - I want to thank the district for working tirelessly for our students. As a parent of a soon to be 2nd grader and Pre-K student, I beg the district to reconsider the recommendations for closing for virtual learning until September 8th. I just left my children's pediatricians office. She reminds us every year to only have a MAXIMUM of 2 hours of screen time per day. Less is even better. She was concerned about virtual learning requirements that would mean significantly more screen time. I would strongly ask the board to consider having schools open for our students who developmentally cannot do virtual learning. How can you honestly say virtual learning is in the best interest of my four-year-old? For my 7-year-old, closing school until September 8th will mark 6th months since she has been in school. It doesn't make much sense to close the school building for a mere 8 school days just to have it open again. Starting the year virtually and then switching to Face-to-Face after 8 days will cause inconsistencies and confusion to start the year. The start of the school year is vital and sets the

tone for the entire year. Texas attorney general Ken Paxton agrees that the local school board should determine what is best for our students. Virtual learning is not developmentally appropriate for our youngest students. Please do not set them up for a shaky educational foundation. Thank you for your consideration.

Emily Florez - Could parents get some information on what upcoming protocols may look like to register students later this school year, or the following. I understand this is very far ahead, thinking about 2021-22 school year; however, the best decision for my son's education for this school year is homeschooling. I also know many other parents who have made similar or transfers to other online schools with the intention that it I sonly for this school year and planning on enrolling our children back into public once the virus is managed or gone. Our decision was simply because homeschooling can offer more stability than the current face to face option could, and personally with 3 younger not yet elementary kids- the online only "connected learning" was not going to be an ideal fit for us. For those parents that are still debating what the best choice is and for those that have decided to temporarily withdraw- intending to enroll later; how will these students re-enroll? Will all of these kids have to take tests? Provide schoolwork from the year? How will this be handled? I'm sure this is a big sway factor for many families. I personally know of 5 families from our local school. 5 families from one school, a school of about 700 students. I don't know everyone in this school and just most are limited to my child's grade or classroom. I can only imagine the total amount of students in our entire elementary school. Then when I consider how many are in all the elementary, then middle school and high school... I can easily assume there will be hundreds of students who are homeschooling or in a different school due to the current economy. How are these many families going to enroll back into public? Will it be proving work, tests or much simpler? Thank you for your time to address this!

Stephanie Frerich - Good Evening. My name is Stephanie Frerich, and I am a parent of two early-elementary girls in DISD – Ella and Amy-Jean. They're REALLY excited for this school year. Amy's just starting Kindergarten, and she can't wait to go to Pecan Creek. But I'm aware of the challenges to getting started this year, so I'm here to speak about your decision regarding delaying in-person school. I'm concerned that in your focus on COVID prevention, the District may be losing focus on their most important mission: education. Children don't learn as well on-line as in person. Delaying school, even just virtual for two weeks, can be detrimental to our students – I know it will be for mine. Children in kindergarten can't learn to read via Zoom calls. They also can't read instructions on how to read. For these students, the only way to further their education is to start in-person instruction. TEA data confirms this: students fall behind expected milestones by 1 week for every 3 weeks of instruction. Another important

aspect to keep in mind is the social & emotional education that is so very essential to the children's long-term wellbeing. Social interaction is absolutely crucial, and it can't be taught online. More and more children are developing extreme anxiety, depression, and suicidal thoughts because their worlds have been turned upside down. Children crave structure and stability for their emotional wellbeing. Every pediatrician will tell you, that is better for a child to be back in school. However, the decision to delay school starting isn't being done in a vacuum; it's proposed as a trade-off for increased COVID prevention. If you wish to truly evaluate this as a trade-off, please consider the relative risk factors, so that each risk is judged proportionally. The most recent CDC statistics say only about 0.2% of COVID infections in children (age 5-18) are serious enough to need treatment, and the survival rate 99.996% - about 1 in 25,000. This means children are more likely to die in a car wreck, drowning, and other diseases than COVID. In fact, the CDC data shows that it's less deadly than influenza for those age 5-18. This is why, in the CDC's national recommendation, they came out strongly in favor of reopening schools, stating "The best available evidence from countries that have opened schools indicates that COVID-19 poses low risks to school-aged children." "But what about the teachers?" many have questioned. Here too, we should weigh this risk factor with correct judgement. A study by the Icelandic Directorate of Health, published in the prestigious New England Journal of Medicine, traced the infections of 1,991 COVID+ patients to determine how they were each infected. Of those studied, 0 – ZERO – caught the infection from an adolescent – even the parents of those kids. This highly suggests that children are somehow incapable of transmitting the virus, even to those in close and extended contact. The CDC also concludes that "Children are unlikely to be major drivers of the spread of the virus". Therefore, there is more risk teacher to teacher, which can be mitigated through handwashing & masks, just like everyone else. I teach my children, "we can't let our fears keep us from living our lives". We must conquer our fears to be healthy. So, when COVID stopped everything in March, we taught our kids about science, spread, the importance of washing hands and wearing a face mask. We prepared and lived our lives, not in fear but acting proportionally to the risk. Irrational fears lead to bad decisions. I want the district to weigh the risks, and act not out of fear but out of reason. So let's put the two choices on the scale and weigh them. On one hand: An absolute certainty of harming the children's education, with no significant gains in health of the children or teachers. On the other hand: minor increase in likelihood of COVID spread, but huge gains in the children's education. It's clear to me what's in the best interest of my children: a good education. Please, PLEASE give them the opportunity to learn.

Monica Glenn - I am a parent of a new Kindergartner and Second Grader in Denton ISD. I am writing to express my support to continue with the current back to school plan with a choice between in-person learning or connected

learning. The proposed calendar was approved unanimously on July 10, 2020. Since that time period, nothing has changed with Denton ISD's mitigation and safety measures. I believe continuing with that current calendar, with the option of in-person or connected is the right decision moving forward. As a mom of a new kinder student, and also as a former preschool teacher, I know that my daughter needs to learn in a face to face environment. This is true for most young students. They are developing important life skills, such as reading, that are better taught in a one on one atmosphere with a trained professional. When my second grader was not on level with the other students last year in first grade, I was told by administrators and teachers alike that she needs face to face learning with a professional who is trained in teaching reading. Never once did they tell me to download an app or watch a video to help her. It was always encouraged for more face to face. The way kids learn haven't changed over this past year. When my kids ask me when school is going to start and I tell them I don't know, they immediately start crying. It breaks their hearts to think they can't go back. And it's affecting their mental health. All this being said, I believe Denton ISD has a good plan. I realize the Denton County Health Department has made a suggestion to push school back to an arbitrary two weeks from the current start date. I also realize this will not change Denton ISD's safety procedures at all. It also will not change children who have high risk loved ones at home. For those children, there is the option of connected learning. I would ask the board to NOT make any adjustments to the school calendar of beginning on August 26 with the choice of connected or in-person learning.

Valerie Green - I don't mind online, but please don't push back the school year more! Next summer is our last summer before one of the kids graduates and moves away, and with our trips this year getting cancelled, we only have a couple weeks left commitment free as it is. Hoping she doesn't need to cancel her awesome international internship again. I don't mind starting online, but let's start making progress! There are a lot of families getting stressed out with the changes, and talk of pushbacks, we just need to start, however it may be! Thank you.

Jessica Gullion - The TEA has stated that school may be held solely online for the first 8 weeks of the semester. Many of the neighboring school district have chosen this option. Please do the same. The Denton County Health Department, who throughout Covid has been conservative in their recommendations, has stated that they do not believe it is safe to open schools at this time. In addition, please inform parents and schools the details of your plans. I have gone to your website for information, and then when I call the school, they don't understand what is happening for the fall. I am still unclear as to whether or not my student athlete can be in connected learning --- the coach is unable to answer that question. I understand this is an extremely difficult decision for you and I do not envy your having to make

it, but you are in these positions to make the hard choices. The right choice is to keep everyone learning from home until the Covid numbers experience a serious decline.

Michelle Montgomery - Please consider starting Kindergarteners with in-person school (even if other grades may begin with virtual learning. Kindergartners are not familiar with school, don't have much, if any, virtual experience, and generally can't read yet.

Kelley Patel - Could we help teachers who are not able to go back into a work/campus environment due to health or family situations advertise their tutoring services? This would help families who are not great at teaching their children. "Denton ISD Certified Tutor"

Whitney Ransdell - Please do not delay in-class learning for elementary students. Elementary students cannot complete connected learning on their own and their parents cannot work if these students are home, as they are too young to be alone. Please allow them to attend in-person learning.

Daniel Rowe - I strongly request that the school year start as initially planned and not pushed back to September 8. I understand the reasoning for the recommendation by the DCPH officials, however, disagree with it. I have 2 children enrolled in Denton Guyer High School for this year, and they are more than ready for in-person learning. They both are not suited for distance learning and want school to start as soon as possible. One of my children has been participating in school sponsored football training (freshman through seniors) for over a month, and there has been 0 cases of COVID-19 reported, which is due to following safety measures that are in place. From a statistical standpoint, DISD has approximately 30k students. According to the latest Denton County COVID-19 results (7/27/2020), there are 714 cases within the 0-19 age group. While that 714 figure is for all of Denton county, the number of cases for DISD students is likely less than 1%. For the less than 1% of student aged kids that have COVID-19, we should not delay the start of school. Please do not delay the start of school by 2 additional weeks. My children want to go to school.

Julie Seeley - I have taught in the Denton public schools for 24 years. I have many unanswered questions about how it will be possible to adhere to social distancing requirements and maintain proper ventilation, given existing class sizes, facilities, HVAC systems, and classroom windows that don't open. Teachers need to be made to feel that our health and safety, and that of our families, are at least as important as the desire to get back to "normal." Unfortunately, that has not yet happened. Furthermore, given the out of pocket expenses associated with our district health insurance, a hospitalization from Covid 19 would prove financially devastating for most teachers. I would like to see the district stick with virtual learning until

either the Covid 19 case numbers in Denton County are at 5% or below, or a vaccine is available.

Theresa Steele - With the amount of virus circulating through the local population, there really is no safe way to reopen schools for face-to-face instruction or for teachers to congregate at schools for PLCs and to teach remotely from their classrooms. Even if the number of COVID-19 cases and infection rate were half of what it presently is, Denton County would still not be in an adequate position to safely resume in-building teaching and learning. We should focus our attention on making connected learning as robust and effective as possible, and accept that although it is not preferable, it is the safest, most responsible choice for our students, teachers, and families. In-building teaching and learning has been mostly safe in other countries but because their infection rates are very low, especially compared to Texas in particular. Texas leadership has too often failed to meet the safety criteria it set for itself for reopening at the start of the pandemic, even as the situation gets worse. Let's not blow past another safety measure we can and should take when the lives of our kids, parents and teachers are at stake. I encourage the district to go with connected learning and allow teachers to teach from home for the first semester or until a vaccine or treatment can allow us to safely reopen.

Amy Taylor - As a parent and a Denton ISD I first want to say thank you for all you are doing. I know decisions are complex and no choice is a good one right now. I also recognize the herculean efforts by administration and leadership. For the safety of our community, please consider delaying start of in-person school to 4 weeks from August 26. I know you are constrained by TEA guidelines, but this is permissible. It is unsafe to open and it will not magically become safe enough to open before mid-September. As difficult as this delay for F2F will be for struggling families, it's better to know they will have four weeks of childcare to work out then have them under the mistaken impression that it will be only two weeks and then find that two weeks turns into four weeks. Additionally, please prohibit large meetings of teachers (I am expected to be at a whole-campus meeting on August 4) and to the extent possible, allow work from home, especially in buildings that have inadequate ventilation.

Emily Williams - Thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name Emily. I am an essential worker. I am a Physician Assistant for a private allergy practice here in Denton. I have not been off work, shut down or closed since the beginning of the COVID 19 pandemic. I help take care of the people in our community. The district reported yesterday that face-to-face learning would not be starting as planned in late August. Instead, children will return to school via "virtual learning" in August with hopes to return to the classroom in September. We all know this will likely be further pushed back. I have a few questions for the board. Who is going to be present with my

children while they are home during the school day while I work? Who is going to educate all of the essential workers' children while we are physically caring for the members of our community? While I do my best to help my children with their studies, I am not a trained teacher. Just I would not ask a teacher to come work in my clinic, I do not think most of us parents are qualified or have the necessary resources to educate our children. Additionally, after a full day of work, I have limited time in the evenings to provide a full day of instruction. I would be interested in hearing the Boards' recommendations on a realistic "on-line" school day that begins at 6:30 and ends at 7:30-8:00 in the evening and meets all of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills standards. We all know the online education that happened during the Spring semester in DISD was suboptimal. It is a fact that some students will excel with online instruction while others will not. The students who are already doing well in school, the high achievers, self-disciplined and motivated students that continue to excel with online learning. Unfortunately, those students who struggle in the classroom, who need extra help, the ones who are not quite to grade level, those with disabilities will continue to fall increasingly behind, quite possibly never catching up or reaching their full potential. Education provides people with opportunities that can get them out of poverty. Education allows us to have choices. Education allows us to develop and master a skill, to dream for a better future than our parents and to live out those dreams. The in-person classroom is the functional unit of education, and without it many students will be left behind. I understand that COVID19 can be a dangerous virus. Failing to educate our children to the best of our ability is even more dangerous with longer lasting consequences. Please consider starting the 2020-2021 school year safely back in the classroom for those students who feel comfortable being there. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Emily Williams PA-C

Thomas Woodard - Denton ISD Trustees, please heed the recommendations of local health authorities. If our scientific health leaders are asserting it is unsafe to return to school, why would we consider anything different? We teach our children to digest facts and make decision based on sound reasoning, and now we are being tasked with doing the same thing. We are dealing with a new enemy that we don't understand completely, we should act on safety first and foremost. Please keep the students' safety in your mind, as well as the teachers and staff that educate and guide them. As a local educator I am ready and able to teach our children, but I can't do it if they are sick, their families are sick, or my colleagues are sick. If our local health authority says it is unsafe to return to school, doing otherwise would put the district at odds with medical advice and would present a liability issue.

Mario Zavala Jr. - I have had the pleasure of knowing Joey Florence for more than two decades, first as reporter/cameraman and then as colleague in

Denton ISD. I can safely say with an objective eye that he treated me with the same respect and friendly manner every time we crossed paths – which was often - just as he did his players and their families. I got to know many of his players as students, befriending many of them as they grew into young men that still live and support this community. Many of them have gone on to successful careers in law, business, or education, while others have found blue-collar work that makes a difference for others. Regardless of their career path, I believe these Ryan High grads are successful because of what they learned from Coach Flo on and off the field. He is beloved by his players and their families, not because of the number of games or state titles he helped them win, but because he made a difference in their lives. I've witnessed plenty of gripe sessions,, "what were you thinking's" and moments of tough lough with his players, but I've also witnessed even more hugs, pats on the back and "I love you' s" over the years. As a former journalist, I know that wins - especially playoff victories - and playing for state titles are what gets you inducted into your sport's hall of fame. Coach Flo's resume speaks for itself in that department - I mean how many coaches go 20 years without ever posting a losing season? But in my book, he's a hall of famer because he's always done what people in education strive to do - give students an opportunity to taste success and better their lives. You'll be hard pressed to find a better representation of what this district strives to do each day - empower lifelong learners - than what Coach Flo accomplished during his time at Ryan and now as the district's AD. Trust me, I know because despite never playing a down for him, I, like the majority of his players, have learned a lot from him and am a better person from the lessons he's taught all of us on and off the field. Congrats on this honor Coach Flo, you've earned it!

Consent Agenda Motion by Mia Price and seconded by Doug Chadwick

To approve (minutes for the June 23, 2020 and July 10, 2020 Board meetings; Investment Report as of June 30, 2020; approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Denton ISD and Argyle ISD, Aubrey ISD, Krum ISD, Lake Dallas ISD, Pilot Point ISD, Ponder ISD and Sanger ISD for students to attend Career and Technical Education courses in Denton ISD; approval of quote from College Board in the amount of \$159,853.00 for College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) with an anticipated reimbursement from the state of \$79,994.00 for the SAT Suite of Assessments; approval of the contract renewal for the services performed by Templeton Demographics, LLC.; approval purchasing cooperative membership fees and rebates be accepted for the District's fiscal year 2020; RFP #2006-06 Fiber Engineering Construction & Maintenance be awarded to HMI Services Inc. dba HMI Utilities, LLC for a term of one (1) year from July 29, 2020 through June 30, 2021 with the option to auto-renew for four (4) one-year extensions; quotes from Follett School Solutions, Inc. in the total amount of \$235,764.18 for the English I, English I Honors, English II,

and English II Honors teacher instructional resources; approval of the quote from TD Industries in the amount of \$657,875.00 for the replacement and installation of two (2) chillers and eight (8) chilled water air handler units at Rivera Elementary School; approval of the quote from Epic Solar Control in the amount of \$440,000.00 for the purchase and installation of 3M impact resistant film at all school campuses and the C.H. Collins Athletic Stadium; approval of the quote from TD Industries in the amount of \$351,641.00 for the replacement of the existing INet HVAC and Access Controls at Rivera; Elementary School; approval of an Interlocal cooperation agreement between the Denton ISD (Joe Dale Sparks) and the Juvenile Board of Denton County; approval of “First Amendment” to Sandbrock Ranch donation agreement between Horizon/Deer Creek Development Corp and Denton ISD; approval of the resolution identifying 2020-2021 hazardous bus routes operated by DISD; approval of the amendment to the Verizon Wireless contract in the amount of \$531,000.00; approval of the low attendance day waivers for Pecan Creek, Cross Oaks, Rivera & Union Park Elementary’ s and Bettye Myers and Rodriguez Middle School campuses, the average daily attendance for these days will be utilized in determining ADA and FSP funding calculations without consideration of the health-related low attendance days and approval of Denton County Extension Agents as Adjunct Faculty Members for 4-H extra- curricular activities and 4H Resolution for the 2020-2021 school year).

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider
Approval of
Student Code of
Conduct 2020-
2021

Motion by Charles Stafford and seconded by Jeanetta Smith

To approve the Student Code of Conduct for 2020-2021.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider
Approval of
COVID-19
Employee Relief
Fund

Motion by Charles Stafford and seconded by Jim Alexander

To approve the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund be established immediately and \$200,000 be reserved which would allow the application process to open for employees for the 2020-2021 school year, ending June 30, 2021.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Closed Meeting

The Board convened into Closed Session at 9:53 pm

Open Meeting

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 11:15 pm

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 11:16 pm

President

Secretary