

The Board of Trustees of Denton Independent School District, State of Texas, met in a regular meeting at the Denton ISD Central Services building, 1307 N. Locust St., Denton, Texas, on Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at 6:00 PM.

The meeting was called to order by President Doug Chadwick who announced that a quorum was present.

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

Board Members

Absent:

Arrived Late:

Left Early:

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

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

Pledges: The pledges to the flags were virtually led by Newton Rayzor Elementary School students.

Presentations/ Recognitions Chef Megan Gill, a 2014 graduate of Ryan High School, recently participated in the finale episode of *Hell's Kitchen: Young Guns* hosted by celebrity Chef Gordon Ramsay. In the winner takes all style elimination cooking show, Megan lasted through 15 episodes and 16 high pressure eliminations.

Krista Singleton just started her 13th year as a science teacher and cheer coach at Strickland Middle School. Ms. Singleton grew up as part of a military family, living in a constant state of change and exploration. Her ability to be flexible and unique, helps captivate her student's attention through discovery and experimentation in science. Because of her passion for public education and love for learning in Denton ISD, we are highlighting her with our spotlight.

Public Hearing for School First Rating Report Vicki Garcia, Executive Director for Financial Operations presented the District's School Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas "FIRST" Report for the year ending June 30, 2020.

During the 77th regular session of the Texas legislature (2001), Senate Bill 218 was passed, and Governor Perry signed it into law shortly thereafter. This law requires each school district to prepare an annual financial management report within two months of the date of issuance of the final School FIRST ratings. The District received official notification of the 2020-

2021 Preliminary School FIRST rating on August 6, 2021. The purpose of the financial accountability rating system is to ensure that school districts will be held accountable for the quality of their financial management practices and achieve improved performance in the management of their financial resources. For the nineteenth year in a row, Denton ISD continues its financial excellence with a rating of "Superior Achievement" for the 2019-2020 fiscal year, scoring positive responses on all 20 indicators and an overall score of 98 out of 100.

Some of the indicators the District is rated on is:

1. Annual Financial report filed by deadline to TEA
2. Unmodified opinion on annual financial audit report
3. Compliance with payment terms of all bonded debt agreements
4. Timely payments to state and federal agencies (TRS, IRS, TWC, etc.)
5. Total unrestricted net asset balance >0 in governmental activities
6. Amount of sufficient day of cash on hand

No one wished to speak during the Public Hearing for the FIRST Report and President Doug Chadwick closed the Hearing at 6:48 pm.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Open Forum

There were community members that addressed the Board regarding mask mandates and social emotional well-being of students.

#### Student Liaison Board of Trustees – LaGrone ATC

Four Junior and Senior LaGrone Academy students presented and shared their perspectives, suggestions, and recommendations to the Board of Trustees. This group of young college and career ready minded students shared their thoughts as students of the LaGrone Academy and the Advanced Technology Academy. Student engagement in a supported learning environment will allow developing meaningful career paths. Our platform will enhance engagement with a strong leadership foundation while empowering the student work across the campus. Ultimately, preparing our young college and career ready students for lifelong learning experiences. With these models' students will expand:

- Nurturing and Investing in Lifelong Learning
- Connections: Building Community Partnerships
- Professional and Personal Development

Marcus Bourland is the principal of LaGrone Academy as well as the District Leader for the ATC.

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

#### Career & Technology Education Annual Report

Carla Ruge, Director of CTE and Dr. Christina Herrera presented an overview regarding Denton ISD Career and Technical Programs, including legislative highlights, funding, CTE Renovation programs, demographic information and program performance which will include

the LaGrone Academy. CTE enrollment continues to increase as total enrollment increases which will provide additional weighted funding for the district. The district received additional Middle School weighted funding for high school credit courses which will help to maintain and support our middle school courses. This year Weighted funding has changed to a Tiered system per class. CTE continues to offer over 40 Programs of Studies that are tied to high demand occupations and student interest. The ATC has an 86% pass rate for certification and licensing. The ATC is partnering with US Aviation to offer a private pilot and aircraft mechanics courses. Additional new courses are the Dell Tech Help Desk Program, InCubator Program and the Esports Program.

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

Discussion &  
Review of  
Employee  
Grievance  
Regulations

Deron Robinson, General Counsel provided the Board of Trustees an update to the Denton ISD Administrative Regulations reflecting a change to the Employee Complaints/Grievances process. Currently, an informal process is in place encouraging all employees to meet and discuss concerns and/or complaints with their direct supervisor. If no resolution is reached at this informal meeting, an employee may submit a formal written complaint.

A formal process was added to the Administrative Regulation to state that once a complaint is filed, the lowest level administrator who has authority to remedy the alleged complaint shall serve as the Level One Hearing Officer. In the event a Level Two complaint is filed, the Level Two Hearing Officer will not be the direct supervisor of the Level One Hearing Officer. An additional change is that Level One and Level Two hearings may be held in-person or virtually, as agreed upon by the parties.

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

Discussion &  
Review of the HB 3  
Teacher Incentive  
Allotment

Jason Rainey, Executive Director for Human Resources reviewed the Teacher Allotment that was discussed prior to the pandemic. The purpose of the Teacher Incentive Allotment are: Recruitment, Equitable Distribution of Effective Teachers, Retention

- Local Education Agencies (LEAs), if they choose, can designate high performing teachers as Master, Exemplary, or Recognized based on statewide performance descriptors for these designations.
- LEAs will receive \$3,000 - \$32,000 per year for every designated teacher they employ.
- LEAs receive greater funding for designated teachers who work on rural and/or high-needs campuses.
- At least 90% of the Teacher Incentive Allotment funds must be used on teacher compensation on the campus where the designated teacher works. The remaining funds could be used for costs associated with

implementing the local designation system or to support teachers in obtaining designations.

- National Board-Certified Teachers will automatically earn a Recognized designation.

HB 3 Teacher Incentive Allotment is fully funded by the Texas Education Agency. Further, 90% of TIA funds received by the District must be allocated, for compensation, to the assigned campuses of the teachers earning the designation. The 2021-2022 school year will be the application process and approval by TEA. Year 2 – 3 will be the System Approval with a Designation approval at a later date.

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

Denton Central  
Appraisal District  
(DCAD) Board of  
Directors  
Nomination Report

The Denton Central Appraisal District (DCAD) has requested its taxing jurisdictions to nominate up to five people to be considered for their Board of Directors. According to Section 6.03 of the Property Tax Code, it is the chief appraiser's responsibility to initiate this process. The chief appraiser does not have the authority, or duty to investigate, or judge, the qualifications of the nominees. The nominations must be returned to the Denton Appraisal District by October 15, 2021. An individual that is serving on the governing body of a city, county, or school district is eligible to serve as an appraisal district's director.

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

COVID Report

Susannah O'Bara, Assistant Superintendent for Academic Programs provided the Board with the current COVID data from the Denton County Health Department. The COVID cases for Denton ISD are trending downward.

2<sup>nd</sup> Open Forum

No one wished to speak.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Charles Stafford and seconded by Sheryl English

To approve (the minutes of the September 14, 2021 Board meeting; personnel matters, leaves and absences; Budget Amendments as of August 31, 2021; Investment Report as of August 31, 2021; approval of the 2021 – 2022 T-TESS certified appraisers as submitted; approval of the quote from Netsync Network Solutions in the amount of \$342,894.56 for Sandbrock Ranch Elementary School technology infrastructure project; approval of the quote from The Clavier Group dba Steinway Piano Gallery in the amount of \$164,170.00 for Steinway concert grand piano for the new Denton High School Fine Arts Center; approval of the quote from The Clavier Group dba Steinway Piano Gallery in the amount of \$164,170.00 for Steinway concert grand piano for the Ryan High School Fine Arts Center; approval of the quote

from Netsync Network Solutions in the amount of \$2,646,170.52 for the purchase of equipment for the network infrastructure additions & refresh project; approval of the AWSFYC Head Start Monthly Compliance Reports for December 2020, April and May 2021 and approval of the designation of the Board President as signer for the Community MOU's as follows: Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home Inc., Denton County WIC, Friends of the Family, Interfaith Ministries, Kiwanis Club Children's Clinic, Nuby Pediatrics, United Way of Denton County, Inc.).

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider Approval  
of Resolution  
Regarding Local  
Remote Learning

Motion by Charles Stafford and Barbara Burns seconded by

To approve the Resolution written in response to Senate Bill 15, allowing Districts to operate a local remote learning program in accordance with the requirements set forth in Education Code 29.9091.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

3<sup>rd</sup> Open Forum

No one wished to speak.

Closed Meeting

The Board convened into Closed Session at 9:46 pm

Open Meeting

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 10:31 pm

Motion by Patsy Sosa-Sanchez and seconded by Sheryl English

To approve of the Resolution to sell DISD property described as DCAD Property ID 23631 to the abutting property owner.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 10:42 pm

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President

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Secretary