

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, January 10, 2017 at 6:00 PM. The meeting was called to order by president Barbara Burns who announced that a quorum was present.

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

Board Members Absent: Martinez

Arrived Late:

Left Early:

School Personnel Present: Wilson, Mattingly, Stripling, Monschke, Valenta, Lopez, Perkins, O'Bara, Stevenson and Zavala

Others: Caitlyn Jones, *Denton Record Chronicle*; DEA; Randy Stout, Attorney; citizens, staff, and students.

Pledges: The pledges to the flags were led by Ginnings Elementary School students.

Presentations/ Recognitions: The Board of Trustees recognized Dr. Jamie Wilson, Superintendent as being named one of the Top 30 Technologist, Transformers & Trailblazers by the Center for Digital Education.

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

1<sup>st</sup> Open Forum: Willie Hudspeth addressed the board about students not being able to read and the struggle of low income parents which don't always have the time to devote to their children due to having to work several jobs to survive.

Discussion of Elementary Staffing Guidelines: Tracy Johnson, Human Resources Coordinator for provided the Board with an overview of Elementary staffing and additional staffing needs to maintain lower class size ratios. Ms. Johnson proposed a differentiated staffing plan in response to providing lower class sizes at Title I campuses. She also gave an overview of the fiscal impact related to additional staffing to meet lower class size ratios

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

Discussion of Bilingual Teacher Recruitment: Tracy Johnson, Human Resources Coordinator for provided the Board with information regarding the recruiting efforts of the bilingual recruiting committee which is focused on retaining and recruiting highly talented bilingual teachers. Ms. Johnson also informed the Board about the

partnership with TWU 50/50 student teacher program. The Bilingual Recruiting Committee would like to expand the 50/50 program to include 8 student teachers a semester would be equivalent to adding 4 Paraprofessional FTE's. The budget impact would be an annual expense of \$75,278.

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

Discussion of Proposed Policy Update EB (Local) School Year

Susannah O'Bara, Area Superintendent provided the Board with a draft policy change to EB (Local) in response to flexibility provided through TEC 12A and Commissioners Rules - 19 TAC Chapter 102 Subchapter JJ, which allows for exceptions to specific legal mandates through District of Innovation. The policy recommendations in this update will allow for local control regarding the school start and end date, TEC 25.0811 and TEC 25.0812.

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

Discussion of third Party Administrator for Employee Benefits

Karen Almon, Director of Risk Management presented a proposed plan for the 2017-2018 Benefits Plan Year, to have Denton ISD change from US Employees Benefits Service Group (USEBSG) to Financial Benefits Solutions (FBS) as Third Party Administrator. The online benefits enrollment system, *THEbenefitsHUB*, allows employees to use the Internet to securely access information about benefit options, cost and policies. FBS employs in-house programmers and highly skilled Benefit Technology experts who can customize the online benefit enrollment experience. FBS provides power in numbers with 8 employee benefit cooperatives in the State of Texas and is the named consultant for several of these large purchasing cooperatives. A larger risk pool results in more competitive premiums and provides more stability with longer rate guarantees. The cooperatives are governed by a committee of member groups that oversee the proposal process for the benefit cooperative and have an in-depth vetting process, which is required of all vendors. Some of the Coops are: The PACE Coop, Choice Partners and Education Purchasing Coop of North Texas (EPCNT).

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

Discussion of Resolution Concerning the A-F Accountability Rating System for Texas Public Schools

Dr. Jamie Wilson, Superintendent reviewed the A-F Resolution, which calls on the Texas Legislature to repeal the rating system utilizing A through F grades for schools and districts and allow the development of a community-based accountability system that empowers school districts to design their own internal systems of assessment and accountability. In addition, any new system proposed should reduce the use of high-stakes, standardized tests, encompass multiple assessments, reflect greater validity, and, more accurately reflect what students know and can do in terms of the rigorous standards.

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

Discussion of  
State and Federal  
Joint Committee  
Resolutions for  
the 85<sup>th</sup>  
Legislative  
Session

Gwen Perkins, Area Superintendent updated the Board of Trustees on the District's partnership with the State and Federal Joint Committee with Denton County. This report provided a summary of the resolutions adopted by the Denton Chamber of Commerce for the entities represented on the committee. The Denton Chamber of Commerce adopted resolutions reflective of the six entities represented by the State and Federal Joint Committee, which include:

1. Higher Education
2. Public Education
3. Local Control
4. Non-Profit
5. Economic Development
6. Small Business

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Open Forum

No one wished to speak.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Doug Chadwick and seconded by Charles Stafford

To approve (minutes of the December 13, 2016 Board meeting; personnel matters, leaves and absences; Budget Amendments as of December 31, 2016; Investments Report as of November 30, 2016; approval of a proposal for furniture vendors to provide for district needs as they arise for both campus and administrative office locations.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider  
Approval of  
Resolution  
Concerning the  
A-F  
Accountability  
Rating System  
for Texas Public  
Schools

Motion by Charles Stafford and seconded by Jim Alexander

To approve the Resolution Concerning the A-F Accountability Rating System for Texas Public Schools

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider  
Approval of  
Order of Election

Motion by Mia Price and seconded by Jim Alexander

To approve of the Order of Election to be held on May 6, 2017.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

3<sup>rd</sup> Open Forum    No one wished to speak.

Closed Meeting    The Board convened into Closed Session at 8:25 pm

Open Meeting    The Board reconvened into Open Session at 11:15 pm

Adjournment:    The meeting adjourned at 11:40 pm

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President

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Secretary