

Executive Summary

Prepared for Board of Trustees Meeting

August 22, 2023

House Bill 3 Update

Board Goals

Climate and Culture

- Foster a positive, welcoming environment encouraging parent and community partnerships
- Promote mental health, physical wellness, and social-emotional well-being

Growth and Management

- Work with the community in planning and facility development
- Adjust policies and procedures to address rapid grown and changing demographics, nurturing our strong sense of community
- Demonstrate effective and efficient management of district resources
- Provide leadership and/or oversight to ensure District meets all fiscal, legal and regulatory requirements

Purpose of Report

The 88th Texas Legislative Session included the passage of House Bill 3 (“HB 3”). HB 3 amended Section 37.0814 of the Texas Education Code, which now requires an armed security officer on each district campus. Currently, Denton ISD uses School Resource Officers (“SROs”) in all secondary schools and some of the elementary schools. The District has Interlocal Agreements in place with several local municipalities allowing on-duty Police Officers to be placed in schools as SROs. Denton ISD is currently working to grow the number of district armed personnel to meet the state requirements. However, as is happening statewide, there is a shortage of law enforcement personnel along with public education funds to employ them. The District has determined it is necessary to develop an alternative standard with which Denton ISD is able to comply with Sections 37.0814(d) and (e) of the Texas Education Code.

Operational Impact

This plan will impact safety expectations and procedures for the district. Staffing at elementary school campuses will be impacted along with operational costs which includes building maintenance and management.

Other Options

Cost implications for the district in response to HB 3 requirements must be considered with regards to expectations and policy options.