

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, April 9, 2024, at 6:00 PM.

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

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

Present:

Board Members

Absent:

Arrived Late:

Left Early:

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

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

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

Presentations/
Recognitions Charles Hitchens, Braswell High teacher, and offensive coordinator, has a heart for his students. Mr. Hitchens makes it his mission to build a meaningful connection and relationship with every student who enters his classroom, or who he coaches on the football field.

Mr. Hitchens is passionate about seeing his students succeed, and his students’ success is his greatest reward. In the year that he has been at Braswell, dozens of students have felt the impact Mr. Hitchens has made not just on their academic career – but in their life.

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

Discussion of Early Cecilia Holt, Director of Early Childhood Education provided the Board with
Childhood/Pre-K an overview of the current status of the Denton ISD Early Childhood
Update education programs for the 2023-2024 school year. The Denton ISD Early
Childhood Education program provides an outstanding instructional program and services for the academic and social and emotional development of children ages birth through age 5 and community support and partnerships for parents. Denton ISD has 2 Early Childhood Centers, 1 Head Start Campus, 24 Elementary schools with Pre-K classrooms and six tuition-based campuses. There is a total of 1624 students in the Pre-K program with approximately 19.5% 3-year-olds and 80.5% 4-year-olds. Pre-K registration for 2024-2025 opens on April 10th.

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

Discussion of
Teacher/Principal
Residency
Partnership

Jason L provided the Board of Trustees with information regarding the partnership between Denton ISD and the University of North Texas on two unique Residency programs.

Denton ISD was selected by the University of North Texas as the pilot district for the Teacher Residency Program. The program launched In August 2023 through the collaboration of university professors and Denton ISD administrators. There are twenty-three full-time UNT residents placed at three elementary campuses: Borman, Newton Rayzor, and WS Ryan. Residents are paired with an exemplary teacher; teachers were hand-selected by the campus administrators.

The Teacher Residency objectives are:

1. In partnership with our colleagues at the University of North Texas, develop new pathways for teacher training by removing barriers to clinical teaching and providing employment and compensation to a year-round Residency for future educators.
2. To train future Denton ISD teachers during the residency thereby acclimating them to Denton ISD culture which allows a smooth transition into the first years of employment as a certified teacher.
3. Provide a practical path to recruitment and retention of teachers for Denton ISD by developing a meaningful and innovative model preparing teachers for the future of education.

On March 8, 2024, 12 resident teachers signed their first employment contract with Denton ISD taking a leap towards fulfilling their dream of working as a teacher.

Denton ISD will expand its Residency footprint by adding two campuses, Alexander Elementary and Evers Park Elementary. Denton ISD is engaging with UNT selecting candidates for Denton ISD Residency Cohort 2 with twenty-five students beginning this summer for the 2024-2025 school year.

Denton ISD was selected through a competitive grant process for the Principal Residency Program. The program launches In August 2024 through the collaboration of university professors and Denton ISD administrators. Interest is high with full-time employees being placed at multiple campuses around the district as Administrative Residents. Residents are paired with an exemplary Principals at high needs campuses. Ten residents will be selected through an application process.

The Principal Residency objectives are:

1. In partnership with UNT, provide a pathway for teachers to obtain a master's degree in educational leadership while participating in a full-time, year-long residency program at a high-needs campus.
2. Increase the number of well-prepared, diverse instructional leaders by building sustainable leadership pipelines that can support the continued growth in Denton ISD and anticipated opening of new campuses.
3. Utilize a full-time, year-long residency to fully prepare residents to understand, apply, and experience the role and responsibilities of campus administration.

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

Discussion of Budget 2024-2025

Jennifer Stewart, Executive Director of Budget presented the Board of Trustees with 2023-2024 Fund Balance estimates and 2024-2025 assumptions and how the District's Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) Report could be affected. There are several factors that affect this scenero for Denton ISD:

- 86th Session (2019) – moved to funding based on Current Year Values
- Inflation – up 17-19% since 2019
- No increases to the Basic Allotment (BA) since 2019 increase of \$1000 to \$6160
- ADA vs Enrollment as a basis for School Funding
- ESSER (I, II, III) funds ends this Fiscal Year
- No local control in setting the Maintenance & Operations (M&O) tax rates; additional funding tied only to student enrollment increases.
- 88th Legislature (2023) provided no new funding for public schools despite a significant State budget surplus.

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

Announcement of Board Continuing Education Hours

The Board of Trustees must annually announce the name of each board member who has completed the required continuing education, who has exceeded the required hours, and who is deficient in the required continuing education.

The requirements for training are measured as of the first anniversary of the date of the trustee's election or appointment or two-year anniversary of his or her previous training, as applicable.

There are eight training areas for board member continuing education:

1. Local District Orientation
2. Orientation to the Texas Education Code

3. Post-Legislative Update to the Texas Education Code
4. Team Building
5. Additional Continuing Education
6. Evaluating Student Academic Performance and Setting Goals
7. Identifying and Reporting Abuse, Trafficking, and Other Maltreatment of Children
8. School Safety

Lori Tays, as a first-year board member, has completed all her required training except the Evaluating Student Academic Performance which will be completed in June. A first-year board member must complete a minimum of **25 hours** and Ms. Tays has a total of **33.5** hours.

An experienced Board member must complete **five** hours plus the Texas Education Code update after a legislative session as well as **three** hours of Evaluating Student Academic Performance training every two years.

I am pleased to inform you that all members of the Board of Trustees Amy Bundgus, Barbara Burns, Sheryl English, Mia Price, Patsy Sosa-Sanchez, Charles Stafford, and Lori Tays have exceeded the required hours of training in continuing education this year.

The following trustees will complete their Evaluating Student Academic Performance training in June.

- Charles Stafford
- Sheryl English

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.

1st Open Forum

No one wished to speak.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Charles Stafford and seconded by Sheryl English

To Approve (the minutes from the March 26, 2024 meeting; personnel matters, leaves, and absences; Budget Amendments as of March 31, 2024; approval of quotes from KLC Video Security in the amount of \$243,000 for Transportation Camera Systems solution and Education Logistics for the Edulog GPS solution in the amount of \$536,208.70; approval of the quote

from Fred J. Miller Company in the amount of \$180,326.25 for the Braswell High School Band Uniforms; approval of the quote from Lea Park & Play in the amount of \$157,538.00 for the purchase of Blanton Elementary's silver playground refresh; approval of RFP #2306-08 Miscellaneous Services and Supplies; approval of the quote from Newsela in the amount of \$166,854.88 for the purchase of a two-year agreement for digital access to Secondary ELA TEKS-aligned literacy instructional and assessment resources; approval of the quote from SchoolLinks, a college and career readiness platform, in the amount of \$328,076; approval of Administrator Contracts; approval of Teacher and other Professional Contracts; approval of the University of North Texas (UNT) Police Department 2013 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor Utility vehicle donation; approval of quote from ProComputing in the amount of \$256,514.24 for the purchase of ActivPanel & Extron PA system from Hodge Elementary).

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider Approval
of School Funding
Resolution

Motion by Charles Stafford and seconded by Lori Tays

To approve a Resolution of the Board of Trustees outlining the guiding principles which are aligned to the district mission and cornerstones being utilized in making decisions on how to address a \$17 Million dollar deficit budget.

The motion passed with a vote of 6-1.

2nd Open Forum

The following community members addressed the Board: Chloe Ross, Rebecca Bertoni, and Donna Smith.

Closed Meeting

The Board convened into Closed Session at 8:30 pm

Open Meeting

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 9:15 pm

Motion by Amy Bundgus and seconded by Patsy Sosa-Sanchez

To approve and accept the bid we have received from Rise Commercial Investments, LLC for approximately 17.88 acres, known as Lot 5, Block A of the Pat Cheek Middle School Addition #9, situated in the J. Morton Survey as the bid is within the Fair Market Value of the land.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Motion by Amy Bundgus and seconded by Patsy Sosa-Sanchez

To approve and accept the bid we have received from TCDFW Acquisitions, LLC for approximately 10.95 acres, known as Lot 2, Block A of the Pat Cheek Middle School Addition #9, situated in the J. Morton Survey, subject

to retention of an easement for Denton I.S.D.'s necessary fiber optic cable system.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:29 pm

President

Secretary