

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 22, 2020 at 6:00 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 were physically present at one location, 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: There were no presentation or recognitions scheduled

Public Hearing on School "First" Rating: President Burns opened the Public Hearing at 6:10 pm
Vicki Garcia, Executive Director of Business Operations presented the District's FIRST Financial Management Report. The School FIRST Report stands for Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas. In 2001 Senate Bill 218 enacted this report required of school districts. The FIRST holds district's accountable for quality of their financial management practices, provides maximum allocation for direct instructional purposes and evaluates the quality of financial management decisions. Denton ISD received a FIRST rating of 100 or an A Superior rating. 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

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. The system is designed to encourage Texas public schools to manage their financial resources better to provide the maximum allocation possible for direct instructional purposes. The rating is based upon analysis of school year data for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.

There were no public comments submitted. President Burns closed the Public Hearing at 6:30 pm

Public Hearing
on 2020-2021
Tax Rate

President Burns opened the Public Hearing at 6:31 pm

Jennifer Stewart, Director of Budgeting presented the 2020-2021 Tax Rate. Because of COVID there was a delay in receiving the District's certified values. Thus, the District had to estimate or project what the certified values would possibly be. As of September 18, 2020, the District's certified values came in at \$19,654,094,380 which was an increase of \$1,624,325,979 at 9.01% increase over the prior year. The budgeted tax rate based on the estimated certified values is 1.4067 and the proposed tax rate is 1.4076

There were no public comments submitted. President Burns closed the Public Hearing at 6:45 pm

COVID-19
Update

Dr. Richardson, Denton County Health Department provided the Board with a COVID-19 update of 1508 active cases, 11,702, total recovered 10,085 and 109 deaths.

Dr. Gwen Perkins reviewed the middle school student counts that returned to face-to-face instruction on Monday, September 21, 2020.

Chris Bomberger, Executive Director of Risk Management and Child Nutrition stated our learners in all groups are eligible for free breakfast and lunch. (Face to Face, Hybrid and Connected Learning). This has been made available through USDA

Dr. Robert Stewart, Asst. Superintendent of Human Resources reviewed the employee COVID-19 test results. Since June we have had 45 positive cases with 68 pending cases and 56 in active protocol.

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

Discussion of
Bilingual /Dual
Language & ESL
Programs Update

Teresa Taylor, Director of Bilingual ESL Programs presented the annual report for the bilingual/dual language and ESL programs. This year's report highlights new areas of focus for continued strengthening of the Bilingual Dual Language/ESL Programs to meet the demands of serving ELs in more diverse instructional settings and supporting the growing numbers of students and their families reflected in the steady growth of enrollment across all grade levels. The Bilingual/ESL program continues to serve an increasingly diverse population of students speaking 52 other languages, which requires additional focused campus support to encourage communication between home and school and the best learning opportunities for students. The goals of the programs are to:

- Provide research-based professional development and campus support on best instructional practices to meet the needs of Emergent Bilinguals
- Implement academic programs to accelerate the learning of the English language for Emergent Bilinguals and biliteracy of Dual Language Enrichment students
- Increase engagement of Emergent Bilingual parents, families, and members of the community through the provision of information, tools, and online resources to improve academic outcomes for Emergent Bilinguals
- Ensure federal and state guidelines are implemented and supported with proper documentation for each Emergent Bilingual

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

Discussion of
Schematic
Design for
Braswell High
School Additions
and Carrico
Athletic
Complex

Richard Hunt and Jason Blanks, VLK Architects presented the Braswell High School additions and Carrico Athletic Complex. The Carrico Athletic Complex additions will provide an additional large event space for the entire Denton ISD family. The additions to Braswell High School will afford additional educational opportunities. The addition to Braswell High School allows for a total functional capacity of 3,200 students with additional administrative support spaces. Carrico Athletic Complex improvements provide for a seating capacity of 7,000 including new field houses, concession facilities, scoreboards, press box, practice field turf, tennis courts, and additional parking to support these facilities. The project completion is scheduled for summer of 2022.

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

Discussion of Schematic Design for Elementary School #25

Terry Hoyle, Pfluger Architects presented the schematic design plan for Elementary #25. Some of the design principle objectives are:

- Create a school that promotes equity within the district, meets budget and timeline expectations, and is a good neighbor to the community
- Maintain a low maintenance and low-operational cost facility
- Continue to improve on the building's energy performance
- Develop a consistent architectural & interior design response that complements the Sandbrock Ranch development
- Implement strategies to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and other viral infections
- Incorporate measures to improve safety & security for occupants
- Improve on daylighting systems compared to previous iterations of same school prototype
- Develop landscape design approach to improve views to nature, block glare and filter light
- Implement a simple and restrained selection of materials. Develop a design approach that will promote consistency between the exterior architectural expression and interior design

Like Union Park Elementary, Sandbrock Ranch Elementary will have a storm shelter to serve building occupants. The Guaranteed Maximum Price proposal should go to the Board of Trustees in January 2021.

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

Discussion of Bus Driver, Bus Driver Assistant and Trainee Compensation

Dr. Richard Valenta, Deputy Superintendent presented the Denton ISD Bus driver compensation needs and how it needs to be more competitive with the other school districts in our market. Other transportation services in the area significantly pay a higher hourly rate for their employees. At the time of this workshop submission, the District has lost 40 bus drivers to other districts or transportation services. Dr. Valenta and the Transportation Department are requesting to increase the hourly rate for Bus Drivers and Bus Driver Assistants retroactive to September 6, 2020 to be reflective in the September 25th payroll. The increase of \$3.25 per hour for Bus Drivers and \$1.04 for Bus Driver Assistants will elevate Denton ISD to be in the top quartile of hourly rates compared to our market and other transportation services. This will encourage our current drivers and driver assistants to remain employed with Denton ISD and potentially cause those drivers who have left to return.

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

Enrollment Update

Angela Ricks, Director of Student Support Services reviewed the current enrollment numbers and provided the Board of Trustees with a summary of Denton ISD's current enrollment count, including connected learners and face-to-face learner's enrollment data, for the 2020–2021 school year and to

compare this data to previous years. Denton ISD's 2020 10-day count was 29,880 and our current enrollment is 30,169. When compared to enrollment on the 10th day of school, Denton ISD has enrolled another 289 students in this current school year. When compared to 2019-2020 school year's PEIMS submission data, Denton ISD currently has 504 fewer students enrolled. 11th grade enrollment count increased by 103 students, followed by 12th grade with 96 students. Pre-K enrollment decreased by 197 students, followed by 5th grade with 183 students.

The current enrollment for elementary is 13,730 students, 4,963 students are connected learners and 8,767 students are face-to-face learners. The current enrollment for secondary is 16,439 students, 6,695 students are connected learners and 9,744 students are face-to-face learners.

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

Fine Arts Annual Report Dr. Jackie deMontmollin, Director of Fine Arts along with Eddy Russell, Assistant Director of Fine Arts provide the Board with an overview of Fine Arts enrollment over the past three school years. Student enrollment in Fine Arts programs K-12 has increased by 3,216 students since 2017-18. Also, 2020 was the 14th consecutive year the District has received the BEST Communities for Music Education by NAMM (National Association of Music Merchants).

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

Athletics Annual Report Joey Florence, District Athletic Director provided the Board with an overview of Denton ISD's athletic programs.

- Denton ISD did not complete soccer, tennis, golf, baseball, softball and track due to Covid 19 closure
- Total Number of Sports Offered in Denton ISD: 18 High School – 8 Middle School
- Student Participation: 6,273 total grades 7-12
- Total Number of Male Student Athletes: 3,928 grades 7-12
- Total Number of Female Student Athletes: 2,406 grades 7-12
- Total Number of Teacher/Coaches in Denton ISD: 280

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

Open Forum The Board of Trustees were provided a written comment from the following individual:

Sarah Hustwit – District Teacher

Consent Agenda Motion by Patsy Sosa-Sanchez and seconded by Doug Chadwick

To approve (the minutes of the September 8, 2020 Board meeting; personnel matters, leaves and absences; Investment Report as of August 31, 2020; Budget Amendments as of August 31, 2020; approval of RFP #2008-13 Instructional Supplies, Equipment & Services to all responding vendors that submitted a complete RFP response; approval to extend the RFP #1911-16 (Addendum 1) Print & Sign Services, Supplies, Equipment, Repair award for a term of one (1) year beginning November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2021; approval of the quote from Conner Athletic Products, Inc. dba Power Lift in the amount of \$221,090.43 for gym weight room equipment at Guyer High School; approval of the Interlocal Agreement between ESC Region 14 National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance and the Denton Independent School District; approve the names as submitted of parents, community members and district employees who are willing to serve on the 2020-2021 SHAC Committee; approval of the Mutual Aid Agreement for Evacuations between the Denton Independent School District and University of North Texas. The MOU includes Denton ISDs facilitation of emergency evacuations by providing the temporary use of Denton ISD's buses, other vehicles, equipment, and personnel from its jurisdiction to UNT; approval of the Amendment to the Architectural Services Contract for Stantec Architecture to provide architectural services for the 2018 Bond Elementary Campuses, Borman, EP Rayzor, Sam Houston, McNair and W.S Ryan Elementary Schools; approve the updated Memorandum of Understanding with Fred Moore Day School, Inc. and approval of the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for school resource investigator (SRO) between Denton County and the Denton Independent School District whereas the County provides the District with one (1) certified police officer to serve as school resource officer (SRO) assigned to Harpool Middle School).

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider
Approval of
Certification of
Appraisal Roll,
Collection Rate,
and Voter
Approval Tax
Rates

Motion by Charles Stafford and seconded by Patsy Sosa-Sanchez

To approve the 2020 Certified Appraisal Roll, tax collection rate at 100%, and confirm the voter approval tax rate of \$1.4076.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider
Approval of Tax
Rate Ordinance

Motion by Mia Price and seconded by Charles Stafford

To approve the property tax rate be decreased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$1.4076, which is effectively a 9.53% percent decrease in the tax rate.

The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Consider
Approval of Bus
Driver, Bus

Motion by Charles Stafford and seconded by Patsy Sosa-Sanchez

Driver Assistant and Trainee Compensation To approve a \$3.25 increase for bus drivers and a \$1.04 increase for bus driver assistants retroactive to September 6, 2020.
The motion passed unanimously of Board members present and voting.

Closed Meeting The Board convened into Closed Session at 10:03 pm

Open Meeting The Board reconvened into Open Session at 11:14 pm

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:19 pm

President

Secretary