

# Board Notes

## DeSoto ISD School Board Meetings



### **Monthly School Board Meeting Notes: 6:30 p.m. | Monday, March 28, 2022**

*Board notes are not the approved minutes of the DeSoto ISD School Board meeting but are just a recap of the major votes/actions of the meeting.*

Click here to [view the meeting](#). To view the official minutes and agenda items, please [click here](#) or check the website at [www.DeSotoISD.org](http://www.DeSotoISD.org).

#### **Closed Session:**

- The community viewed the monthly Celebrations and Recognitions and watched three student performances.
- 2. A. Texas Government Code Chapter Tex. Gov't Code: §551.071(Legal advice with school attorney)
- 2. B. Texas Government Code Chapter §551.072 (Deliberation regarding real property)
- 2. C. Texas Government Code Chapter §551.074 (Personnel matters)
- 2. D. Texas Government Code Chapter §551.076 (Deliberation regarding security devices or security audits).

#### **Celebrations and Recognitions ([Watch Video](#))**

##### **District Highlights:**

- DeSoto ISD Libraries and district campuses celebrated National Reading Month and Read Across America Week through various student and community engagement activities.
- DeSoto ISD celebrated Women's History Month and National School Counseling Week.

# Board Notes

## DeSoto ISD School Board Meetings



- DeSoto ISD trustees held their Bi-Monthly Town Hall to share information on the upcoming budget process and to gain the community's perspective on the spending focus and priorities.
- DeSoto ISD launched its Metaverse Virtual Reality education program in the Career and Technical Education Health Science Technology pathway to provide students with "hands-on" clinical learning experiences alongside healthcare instructions and medical personnel at any time.
- The DeSoto ISD Fine Arts Department celebrated the Black Excellence: K-12 Art Gala which allowed students to showcase the district's dedicated art programs with the City of DeSoto and the Lonestar Belles of the Society in the community.
- DeSoto ISD held its monthly Career Expo to help bring more teachers, support staff, and volunteers to ensure student growth and academic success.

### Student Highlights:

- The DeSoto High School Winterguard won second place in the North Texas Colorguard Association Championships.
- The DeSoto High School Eaglettes Dance team competed in the Crowd Pleaser DFW Dance Competition and won the title of Grand Champion Team.
- Thirteen Ruby Young Personalized STEAM Academy (RYPSA) students received certificates of completion for successfully passing the first courses of instruction in the RYPSA Drone Academy in partnership with the DeSoto Police Department.
- DeSoto High School junior Jailen Boehm was selected for two major academic and career development programs which promote future readiness - the Summer Pre-College Program at Brown University and the Tisch Summer High School Filmmaker's Workshop at NYU.
- Thirteen DeSoto High School choir students earned a superior rating on their UIL Choir Solo and Ensembles and advanced to the UIL State Solo and Ensemble Contest.

# Board Notes

## DeSoto ISD School Board Meetings



- The students of DeSoto High School Wind Symphony were selected as the feature band to perform at the HBCU National Band Directors' Consortium in Atlanta.
- DeSoto High School Band students participated in a recruiting visit with the Texas State University Jazz Band and choir members led by recent DHS graduates and former Eagle band members.
- Six students who earned placement in the SWACDA National Honor choir performed in Little Rock, Arkansas for world-class conductors and college students who worked to recruit them.
- The DeSoto High School Varsity Ladies Treble choir was selected as the SWACDA Honors Demonstration Choir and made history as the first all-black choir to have this honor. Additionally, the students worked with world-class conductors and received additional honors, a certificate for outstanding performance, granted to groups who demonstrated excellence during their visit.
- The DeSoto High School Lady Eagles Basketball team won back-to-back consecutive UIL- 6A State Championships and received additional state and district honors:
  - All-State Tournament and Championship Game MVP: Ja'Mia Harris
  - All-State Tournament: Jiya Perry
  - District 11-6A Tri-MVP: Sa'Myah Smith, Amina Muhammad, Tionna Herron
  - District 11-6A 1st Team Honors: Jiya Perry, Ayanna Thompson, Ja'Mia Harris

### Staff Highlights:

- DeSoto ISD congratulates the following staff:
  - DHS Choral Director Pamela Dawson on earning the *2022 Black Conductor You Need to Know* distinction in March, from 2021 Grammy Music Educator Dr.

# Board Notes

## DeSoto ISD School Board Meetings



Jeffery Allen Murdock in collaboration with the University of Arkansas Choral Department during the Texas Music Educators Association Convention.

- DeSoto High School Girls' Basketball Coach Andrea Robinson on her recent selection as the district 11-6A Coach of the Year, the Dallas Morning News Coach of the Year, and the team coach of the upcoming Jordan Classic.

### Recognitions:

- DeSoto ISD recognized Absolute Allied Health for offering a Childhood Immunization Clinic for district students and their families.

## Public Session

### ● Public Comments

- Two public comments were heard during the meeting on non-agenda items.

### ● Board Monitoring

#### ○ Board Goals Assessment

- This monthly progress monitoring session is designed to discuss student and teacher progress in selected areas as it relates to the board's goals. Interim Superintendent Dr. Larry Lewis presented the district data along with potential solutions to meet the progress measures.
- This monitoring session centered on Board Goal 3: Early Numeracy & Math (GPMs 3.1, 3.2 & 3.3)
- The District celebrated first and second grade students' success on the NWEA MAP Math Assessment development of early learning students. The students recognized surpassed the recommended 60th percentile and were ranked in the 90th percentile in the nation for students in these grade levels at this

# Board Notes

## DeSoto ISD School Board Meetings



mid-year touchpoint. The selected teachers had the highest number of students who met the required indicators.

- **Superintendent Constraint Monitoring- Constraint 1 (GPM: 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3)**
  - Interim Superintendent Dr. Larry Lewis presented this agenda item that governs how the superintendent will monitor the educators' impact on individual student growth. Dr. Lewis informed the board that GPM 1.1 is on track and has currently exceeded the mid-year 2022 target while GPM 1.2 and 1.3 are slightly off track.
- **Board Corrective Action Plan**
  - The item was presented by President Fleming.
- **Administration Corrective Action Plan Update**
  - This item was presented by Interim Superintendent Dr. Larry Lewis.
- **Information (Discussion Only)**
  - **Monthly Board Financials Update**
    - Chief Financial Officer Joey Jones presented the monthly financials for the district's general fund, debt-to-service ratio, and child nutrition accounts as of February 28, 2022.
  - **Committee for Uniforms Dress Code**
    - This item was presented by Deputy Superintendent Gene Morrow who informed the board of the district's plan to convene a committee to explore the district's dress code.
  - **Resolution for Women's History Month**

# Board Notes

## DeSoto ISD School Board Meetings



- This item was presented by Chief Academic Officer Dr. Mya Asberry in recognition of Women's History Month.
- **Plan Update: SPED/ EL RDA**
  - This item was presented by Chief Academic Officer Dr. Mya Asberry and focused on the 2021 Results Driven Accountability Special Education action plan.
- **Proclamation for Diagnostician's Week**
  - This item was presented by Chief Academic Officer Dr. Mya Asberry and Executive Director of Special Populations Dr. Kendahl Owoh to recognize the district's education diagnosticians.
- **Consent Items**
  - The Board unanimously **approved** all Consent Agenda Items
- **Action/Discussion Items**
  - **8.A. Consideration and possible approval of Board Financial/Bank Depository Contract**
    - This item was presented by Chief Financial Officer Joey Jones
    - The Board **approved** this item.
  - **8.B. Consideration and possible approval of Footsteps2Brilliance**
    - This item was presented by Interim Superintendent Dr. Larry Lewis
    - The Board **approved** this item.
  - **8.C. Consideration and possible approval of Beable**
    - This item was presented by Interim Superintendent Dr. Larry Lewis
    - The Board **approved** this item.
  - **8.D. Consideration and possible approval of Budget Amendment**

# Board Notes

## DeSoto ISD School Board Meetings



- This item was presented by Chief Financial Officer Joey Jones
- The Board **approved** this item.
- **8.E. Consideration and possible approval of MOU between DeSoto ISD & Big Thought**
  - This item was presented by Chief Academic Officer Dr. Mya Asberry.
  - The Board **unanimously approved** this item.
- **8.F. Consideration and possible approval or MOU between DeSoto ISD and S.W.A.P.**
  - This **item was pulled** from the agenda. Therefore, the Board did not take any action.

### Next Meeting Information

- The next monthly meeting of the DeSoto ISD School Board is scheduled for **April 26 at 6:30 PM**. The meetings are held at the DeSoto ISD Administration Building located at 200 E. Belt Line Road in DeSoto, Texas.
  - In-person public comments must be submitted at least (15) fifteen minutes before the start of the meeting to be considered. During the Board Meeting, the public will read their comments to the board.
  - Viewers can access the meeting via the DeSoto ISD website or at this direct link: <http://desotoisdtx.swagit.com/live>.