

Dallas ISD Board Meetings—Frequently Asked Questions:

Are the Dallas ISD Board and Dallas County Schools Board the same?

No, they are two separate boards representing two separate entities. Dallas ISD is the second-largest public school district in the state and the 14th largest in the nation, educating almost 160,000 students at over 200 campuses. Dallas County Schools is a provider of services to independent school districts in Dallas County and other counties across Texas.

How often does the Dallas ISD Board meet?

DISD Trustees have two regularly-scheduled meetings each month.

Board Briefings can include topics related to the performance of the district, with the objective of helping the board to measure the performance of various initiatives and objectives as well as guide the administration in providing future performance reports for the Board. Briefings are also where policy items that will be considered for action at upcoming board meetings will be first read and considered. Generally, policies proposed for amendment will be presented for a reading during two Board Briefings before being placed on the agenda for a Board Meeting.

Board Meetings take place once a month (the fourth Thursday of each month), and are where the Board takes action as a governing body. The board president initially approves and posts the meeting agenda on the Friday before the Board Briefing, and it may be amended up to 72 hours in advance of the Meeting.

As needed, the Board president can call additional meetings with 72 hours' notice.

What is a “consent” agenda and why is it important?

Consent Agenda: Items that are packaged together for a vote as one agenda item. The consent agenda is designed to increase the efficiency of board meetings. Consent agenda items are intended to be items that do not require discussion or independent action. Many times the board briefing provides ample opportunity for trustees to have a full understanding of an agenda item and no further questions or information is required before the board votes.

Items Pulled for a Separate Vote: Trustees can request that an individual item be removed from the consent agenda in order to receive independent discussion and a separate vote (see 'Agenda Item Process' below for details on this request)

Can you explain what it means to “pull” an item from the consent agenda?

'Pulling' Items for Separate Discussion and Vote: If a Trustee has a question about an item or wishes it to be discussed and voted on separately during an upcoming meeting he or she must follow the following procedure:

1. Prior to 5:00pm on the Tuesday prior to the Monthly Board Meeting any Trustee requests the item be pulled

for separate consideration.

If this is the only action taken, the item will be voted on separately but not discussed.

In order for the item to be pulled and discussed, the following must also have occurred:

2. A written question was submitted for the item at least five days prior to the Meeting, AND two trustees request the item be pulled from the Agenda, OR A written question was submitted AND a written amendment proposal was submitted.

How is the agenda created?

Submission of Agenda Items: Both administration staff and Board Trustees may submit items for inclusion on a Meeting or Briefing agenda so long as they meet deadlines as prescribed by policy. The Board president and Superintendent collaborate on creating the agenda each month.

Are Dallas ISD board meetings accessible to the public?

DISD board and committee meetings are open to the public with the exception of “closed session” meetings that involve legal or personnel topics. Meetings by the board must be posted 72 hours ahead and those dates, times, and locations can be found at <http://www.boarddocs.com/tx/disd/Board.nsf/vpublic?open>

Board briefings and meetings are also videoed and can be viewed livestream or on the website following the meetings. Minutes with voting information are also posted after the board meetings.

I see people at the meetings that are addressing the board on various topics. How do I do that?

Citizens are welcome to once per 30-day period and can sign up 24 hours ahead of either the briefing or regular meeting to address the board by calling 972-925-3720. There are no limits to the number of speakers at each meeting but there are some basic guidelines for speakers that can be found at <http://www.dallasisd.org/domain/455>

Outside of attending meetings, what else is expected of trustees?

The Dallas ISD Board of Trustees establishes goals and objectives for the District and sets policies to guide the operation of the District. They are tasked with allocating resources according to these priorities and hiring a Superintendent of Schools.

I live in Dallas ISD boundaries but have no idea who my trustee is. How do I find out?

Enter your name and date of birth in the form at this link then click “My Elected Officials” and you can discover all your representatives. You will have to scroll to the bottom for DISD. You can also email us at the address below, supply your residential address and we will help you determine your DISD voting district.

Submit additions and questions to info@dallaskidsfirst.org