



FISD SEPTO

MEETING MINUTES

LOCATION: FISD Annex Training Room #1

DATE: 10/27/2026

TIME: 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

1. Liaisons

- Liaisons Handout: A board member offered to pass out forms about looking for Parent Liaisons when that topic was addressed.
- Liaison Strategy: The group agreed to first identify potential candidates who would be a good fit for each school and approach them before broadening the search.

2. Special Education (SPED) Administrator Update

- The administrator provided an update on recent meetings and district initiatives.
 - School Meetings and Feedback
 - Attendance: Attendance at individual school meetings was lower than hoped for, with the Junior High having the most attendees (maybe 12-13), despite it being held on the same night as the Homecoming parade.
 - Junior High Disconnection: There was a feeling that the Junior High feels the most disconnected, which is partly a natural progression as students become more independent. It's the first major drop-off in contact with the school compared to elementary school. This is an aspect the board and administration want to help change. The new building principal stayed for the meeting, which was viewed as a positive sign, as she was one of two principals who stayed.
 - Overall Themes (from meetings and feedback link):
 - Increase in communication: Parents want to feel connected to campuses and know what is happening.
 - Voices being accounted for in meetings
 - Improved Documentation such as accommodation Log Standardization
 - Problem: Currently, accommodation tracking is inconsistent and "sporadic" across campuses (e.g., Bales does it one way, Cline another, and some schools lack a

system entirely). This inconsistency makes tracking and filtering data difficult, which can lead to compliance issues.

- Proposed Solution: The administrator is working on one standardized accommodation log for the entire district to meet the letter of the law. It would black out non-school days to prevent logging accommodations on those dates. It will be subject-specific (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, electives). The Case Manager (moving away from "Monitoring Teacher") would fill out the accommodation for every subject. It will use three specific codes: (1) Provided and utilized, (2) Provided, not utilized, and (3) Absent.
- Purpose of Log: The log tracks daily implementation of accommodations (e.g., preferential seating, chunked assignments, covered overlays) to ensure students can access the general education curriculum. It is separate from daily or weekly communication about behavior or IEP goals. If accommodation is consistently "not utilized," it triggers a review meeting (ART) to discuss the accommodation's suitability with the student and parent.
- Parent Concerns (Shortened Assignments): A parent shared the difficulty in knowing if a student's shortened assignment accommodation is being applied, especially at the high school level.
- Response: The new log should track this. Additionally, a meeting with the teacher to see examples of the shortened assignments was suggested.
- Long-Term Goal (Student Ownership): As students get older (Junior High/High School), there should be a shift toward student ownership, where the student acts as the liaison (e.g., collecting a version of their shortened assignment to bring home).

Feedback Link

- The feedback link is still live and will remain so for a couple more weeks.
- It was sent out via email. Board members were encouraged to share the direct link with parents who may have missed the email.

General Communication

- Teacher Cell Phone Sharing: The administrator raised a concern about teachers sharing their personal cell phone numbers with parents, noting it can lead to confidentiality breaches and a lack of professional boundaries. This is a seed to plant for future policy, not an immediate change,

acknowledging that many parents and teachers currently benefit from it for quick communication (e.g., emergencies).

- Need for District Improvement: If cell phone use is discouraged, the district needs to "up our game" to provide viable, fast, and easy communication solutions for all stakeholders, particularly since direct conversation with teachers is often impossible (e.g., a parent never sees their son's teacher in person).
- Parent Involvement: The board was encouraged to communicate that parents need to get involved and attend meetings to have their voices heard.

3. Federal Legislation and Oversight

- Topic: Recent news suggesting a move of Federal Special Education from the Department of Education to Human Health and Services.
- Impact: The administrator believes the move would have no significant impact on the district's day-to-day services.
- The Law Doesn't Change: School districts are still legally responsible for implementing the IEP and ensuring student progress.
- Potential Changes: Any effect would likely be at the oversight level (response time for escalated issues, delay in fund disbursement). Since the district funds most of SPED out of its general operating budget, this is not a major concern.
- Oversight: The district sees far more active oversight from the State (TEA - Texas Education Agency) than the Federal level.

4. Fundraising Discussion

- Fundraising Notes: The notes for the last fundraising meeting (held Wednesday night) were mentioned.
- Art Show: The board will offer to assist with the Art Show where possible, as it was very successful last year, but will defer to the main organizer (Arielle). Last year, T-shirts and Allie's bread raised a couple hundred dollars.
- Cookies with Santa: Date: December 7th. (Changed from Pancakes to Cookies due to easier donation sourcing).
- Location: The Annex Gym (the one on the street corner).
- Activities: Crafts, a large tent for a fake snowball fight, and a picture with Santa.
- Volunteers: To be sought from Young Life (via Ken) and the Wranglerettes for volunteer hours.
- Cost/Fundraising: A suggested donation of \$10 per family was proposed for access to cookies, activities, and a picture with Santa. This was seen as a good value and would allow the event to serve as a fundraiser as well as a social event.
- Additional Fundraising: A raffle or silent auction with donated baskets was suggested.
- Love Here.org: An organization called Love Here.org was mentioned in relation to fundraising or community support.