Pflugerville ISD School Closure Task Force

Meeting 3 Summary

Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2026
Location: LTC-Cougar/Panther
Facilitator: Dr. Chrysta Carlin

Purpose and Charge

The School Closure Task Force supports students, families, and staff at the four Pflugerville ISD elementary campuses scheduled to close: Dessau Elementary, Parmer Lane Elementary, Pflugerville Elementary, and Windermere Elementary. The task force gathers feedback, plans meaningful ways to honor each school's legacy, and helps shape the transition process for students, families, and staff.

Membership and Operating Norms

Task force members include campus staff and community members from the four closing campuses. District staff support the work. Members follow norms that include starting on time, keeping discussion productive, and debating ideas rather than people.

Meeting Schedule and Public Engagement

This was the task force's third working meeting. The next meeting, on Wednesday, September 30, 2026, will be a public hearing. At that hearing, any community member may speak about the task force's work. Task force members will attend to listen.
The task force will then meet again to consider public feedback and refine its work. The Rezoning Task Force will hold its own public hearing on Tuesday, September 29, 2026.

Legacy Event Recommendation and Cabinet Response

At its previous meeting, the task force identified shared elements for spring legacy events at each closing campus. District staff drafted these ideas into a recommendation, which went to the Executive Cabinet on Thursday, September 17, 2026. The Executive Cabinet includes the superintendent, the deputy superintendent, the chief of staff, the district's chiefs (including human resources, communications, facilities, and finance), and general counsel.
Funding approved. Cabinet approved $10,000 from the district's general budget for each closing campus.
Event dates. Proposed dates for legacy events were based on the current district calendar.

They will be cross-checked against other major spring events before campuses select final dates. The goal is to offer a daytime event for students and a time when former students and community members can also attend.

Graduation cords. A single-color cord costs about $6. Providing cords to all current kindergarten through fifth grade students at the four campuses would cost just under $10,000, and that figure does not include former students now in middle or high school. Members discussed several concerns about cords:

- Young students may move away before graduating.
- Cords may be lost over many years.
- It is difficult to commit future budgets for students who will not graduate until well into the 2030s.

As an alternative, the district could work with its graduation regalia vendor so that campus-specific cords are available for purchase.

Campus perspectives.

- One campus team chose to invest about $3,000 in cords for its current students, citing students' desire to carry a piece of their school with them.
- Another campus team was undecided, especially about cords for its youngest students. That team was interested in splitting funds between a daytime student event and an evening community event.
- A third team preferred to focus on preserving memories through yearbook materials.
- Members stressed that campuses have different levels of outside resources. They said district funds should help ensure an equitable experience for all students.

Revised approach. The task force agreed on a revised approach. Each campus will use its $10,000 for up to three purposes:

1. A legacy event. This will take place at all four campuses.
2. A keepsake for students. This could be a graduation cord or another item chosen by the campus.
3. Optional yearbook digitization. The intent is a compilation of yearbook images, not a scan of every yearbook, shared through a digital link and a limited number of printed books.

District staff will gather pricing for yearbook options. If a campus declines digitization, staff will discuss other ways to preserve its yearbooks.

Human Resources and Staffing Updates

District staff shared updates on staff placement for the closing campuses:

- **Staffing meetings.** Human resources staff and the assistant superintendent for each campus will hold after-school meetings with campus staff over the next two weeks.
- **Preference forms.** Staff will submit placement preferences by Friday, October 30, 2026. Staff may list five preferences, up from the usual three. Human resources will not review any forms until the deadline has passed, so submitting early does not give an advantage.
- **Seniority.** Placement review will begin with seniority, based on years of service in the district.
- **Delco Elementary.** Teachers at Delco Elementary will follow a separate process modeled on one used at ACE campuses last year.
- **ACE campuses.** Staff may list an ACE campus as a preference. Placement there is not automatic. It requires meeting that program's criteria, which include performance standards, full certification, and a successful interview.

- **Staff in single-position roles.** Human resources will contact staff when no position is available at any of their preferred campuses, and will discuss other options with them.
- **Final assignments.** Once an assignment is made, it will be final.
- **Timing.** Placements will be made after the Board of Trustees votes on rezoning, currently expected on Thursday, November 19, 2026. Staffing allocations for receiving campuses will follow the district's staffing formulas. Grandfathering and transfer requests may continue to shift enrollment into the spring.
- **Other transfers.** Transfers for staff at campuses that are not closing will not open until March 2027, for the following school year. This lets the district place staff from closing campuses first.
- **All staff included.** The placement process applies to all staff, including educational assistants and front office staff. Contracted custodial and food service partners will follow a parallel timeline.

Rezoning Update

District staff shared these updates on rezoning:

- Short videos explaining the proposed rezoning maps, along with a survey for community members and staff, are expected by Friday, September 25, 2026.
- Under the current proposed maps, no closing campus would send its students to more than five receiving schools. Staff noted this could change after public feedback and the Board's decision.
- Bilingual programming locations differ among the scenarios.
- Planning with receiving campuses will begin after rezoning is decided.

Family and Community Engagement

Members took part in a rotating small-group activity focused on how to engage families at the closing campuses. The main themes from each group are below.

Questions and concerns families are raising:

- Clear communication in all languages and formats, including printed flyers, and clarity about what is accurate versus rumor
- Transportation, including effects on after-school activities for students who may begin riding a bus
- Timelines for learning where students will attend and whether familiar staff will move with them

Information families need and when:

- Simple, jargon-free communication
- Clear transportation details
- An explanation of why the closures are happening, including how different funding sources work. Bond funds are restricted to capital projects, while operating costs are paid from other funds.
- This information as soon as possible

Making communication accessible:

- In-person neighborhood conversations offering food, childcare, and discussion in families' home languages
- Simpler online access with fewer clicks

- Materials in multiple languages beyond English and Spanish

Opportunities for feedback and questions:

- Town halls at each campus
- A feedback email for each school, monitored by the principal
- Short videos with QR code invitations
- Paper questionnaires sent home in student folders

Across all four questions, the common themes were clarity, ease of access, and in-person conversation.

Strategy and Considerations

Members raised several additional topics:

- Families are asking how much the closures will save the district once transportation and transition costs are included.
- Members asked the district to publicize public hearings more visibly.
- Members asked that the upcoming rezoning videos include Spanish-language access.
- A member urged the task force to consider a commemorative item for staff at the closing campuses. No decision or funding was made.
- District staff noted that an Innovative Programming committee begins in October. Its first step will be to define what innovation means for the district.

Next Steps

- Task force members will attend the public hearing on Wednesday, September 30, 2026, to listen to community feedback.
- The task force will then meet to discuss what it heard. At that meeting it will also discuss ideas for recognizing staff and decide whether a final meeting is needed.
- District staff will compile the family engagement themes and share them with district leadership.