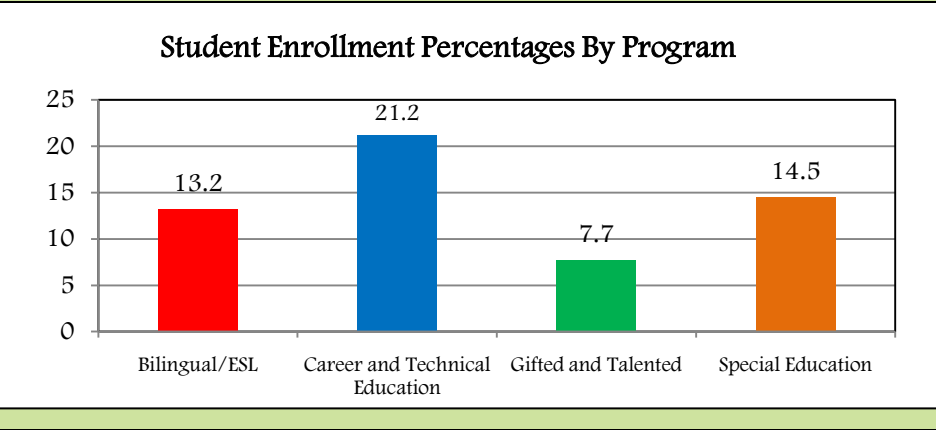
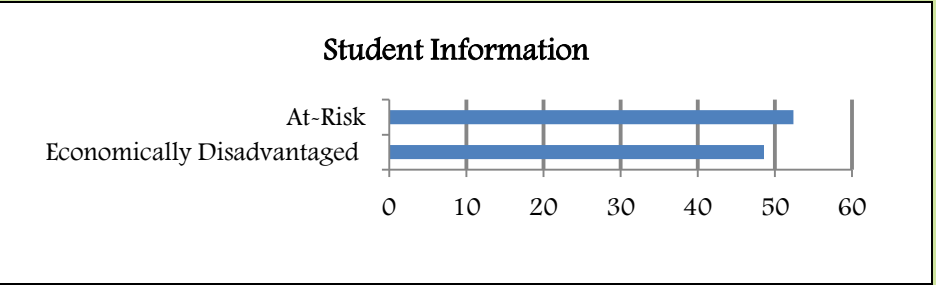
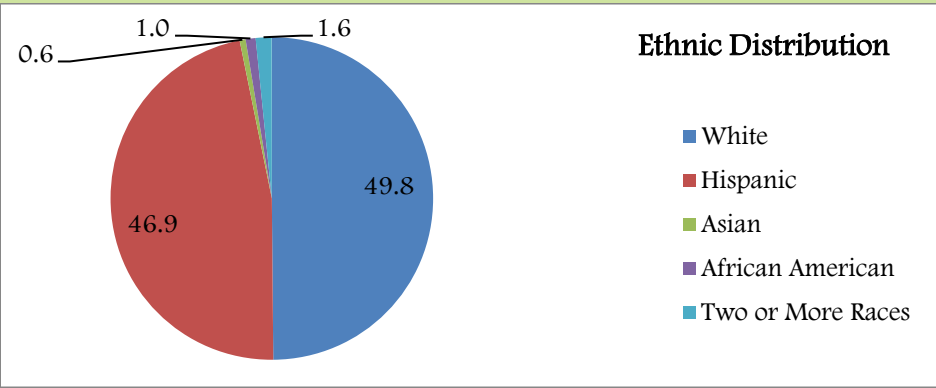


Fort Davis Independent School District: Profile Information



Fort Davis, the county seat of Jeff Davis County, is on Limpia Creek at the intersection of State highways 17 and 118, eighty miles northeast of Presidio and 175 miles southeast of El Paso in south central Jeff Davis County.

1439 Square Miles
 County Borders:
 ▪ Culberson
 ▪ Reeves
 ▪ Pecos
 ▪ Brewster
 ▪ Presidio

Financial Information

- Adopted Budget 2011-2012 \$4,477,446
- Tax Rate: \$1.04
- Revenue: 54% State Sources / 46% Local Share
- Value by Category:
 - Business: 19.8%
 - Residential: 50.1%
 - Land: 29.3%
- Payroll Costs: 82%
- Estimated State Revenue Cuts for 2012-2013: 8.5%

Athletics

- Football
- Cross Country
- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Track
- Golf
- Tennis
- Baseball

Fort Davis Junior High/High School

- Grades 7-12
- 105 Students
- 28 Staff Members
- Student Council, PALS Program
- Student of the Month
- National Junior Honor Society
- National Honor Society
- AG Mechanics and FFA
- Academic UIL
- Band/Art
- Career and Technology Education

Advanced Course Offerings

Dual Credit Courses

- English (11th and 12th)
- Government (12th)
- Economics (12th)

Advanced Placement Courses

- Statistics

Pre-Advanced Placement Courses

- English
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies

Dirks-Anderson Elementary School

- Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 6
- 133 Students
- 21 Staff Members
- Motto: Integrity, Initiative, and Intelligence
- PALS Program (Grade 5 and 6)

Fort Davis Independent School District

PO Box 1339
 Fort Davis, Texas 79734
 432.426.4440
 www.fdisd.com

Fort Davis Alternative Education Campus

- Grades 7-12
- 72 Students
- 13 Staff Members
- Non-traditional Setting
- Student of the Month

Who is responsible for public education in Texas?

The commissioner of education, State Board of Education (SBOE), and Texas Education Agency (TEA) guide and monitor public education in Texas. SBOE provides leadership and state-level administration as prescribed by law, and the commissioner and TEA staff implement state education policy. Texas has delegated much of the responsibility for education to the local school board. Locally elected school boards are political subdivisions carrying out a state function. Despite increasingly prescriptive state and federal laws and SBOE and commissioner's rules, local school districts have significant latitude in governing the schools.

Why are local school boards needed?

The U.S. Supreme Court has said education is perhaps the most important function of state and local governments. Our system of local school districts and boards of education epitomizes representative and participatory government—citizens elected from their community making decisions about educational programs based on community needs, values, and expectations. School boards are entrusted by the public to translate the needs of students into policies, plans, and goals that will be supported by the community.

What is the primary function of the board and its members?

Governing the school district is the primary role of a school board. School board members are guardians of the public trust and, through the policies they make, are ultimately responsible for the success or failure of local public education. These policies dictate the standards and philosophy by which schools are run and the criteria used to judge whether they are being run well. The board serves as the advocate for educational excellence for the community's youth and puts those interests first.

This responsibility often entails difficult choices, self-sacrifice, and exposure to public criticism. However, it also brings a great deal of personal satisfaction in sharing with parents, staff, and students their academic successes. This crucial responsibility and the closeness of trustees to the voters make the local school board the purest example of democracy our society presents.

What are some of the key roles and responsibilities of a school board?

- Ensure creation of a vision and goals for the district and evaluate district success.
- Adopt policies that inform district actions.
- Hire a superintendent to serve as the chief executive officer of the district and evaluate the superintendent's success.
- Approve an annual budget consistent with the district vision.
- Communicate the district's vision and success to the community.

A Guide to Understanding Your School Board

(Source: Texas Association of School Boards)

How do school boards make decisions?

A school board is a local governmental body that can take action only by a majority vote at a legally called public meeting. The individual board member's major responsibility is to study issues facing the district, evaluate needs and resources, and, after due consideration, vote in the best interest of all students at such a meeting. A trustee who attempts—without board authorization—to speak for the whole board, direct school staff members, or make other individual decisions is exceeding his or her authority.

When are school board members elected?

School board elections must be held only on the second Saturday in May or first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. Special elections to fill vacancies that may occur between elections also may be held as appropriate.

How are school board members elected?

School district trustees are elected by popular vote. Whether an election is by majority or plurality vote is a matter of local policy. Terms of office vary depending on the legal characteristics of the district. Generally, trustees serve staggered terms so that the entire board is not up for election at the same time.

Can citizens attend school board meetings?

Yes. School boards must meet in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act and make public records available pursuant to the Texas Public Information Act. Citizens are welcome at all school board meetings, except in a few legally specified circumstances permitting closed meetings.

Most school boards allow citizen participation and have policies communicating how and when citizens can contribute their input. Generally, boards set aside a portion of the regular meeting for public comment and limit each speaker to five minutes. This is a chance for citizens to give input while allowing adequate time for other important board business.

Fort Davis ISD Board Meeting Information

The Fort Davis ISD Board of Trustees meets the second Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. Meetings are held at the Administration office at 400 Webster.