

Minutes
Monday, November 11, 2024
Regular Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.
Location of Meeting: GISD Administrative Board Room, 1615 St Lawrence St.
Gonzales, Texas 78629

Board Members Present: Ross Hendershot, III, President
Justin Schwausch-Vice President
D'Anna Robinson
Ashley Molina
Gloria Torres
Naomi Brown
Josie Smith-Wright

Board Member Absent:

Item #1. Call to Order

The Board of Trustees of the Gonzales Independent School District met Monday, November 11, 2024, at the Administrative Office Board Room, Gonzales, Texas. President, Ross Hendershot, III called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

A quorum was declared with 7 members present.

Invocation, Pledge, Mission Statement

Josie Smith-Wright gave the Invocation, Justin Schwausch led the Pledge to the Flag, and Gloria Torres read the Mission Statement.

Item #2: Public Comments: There were two public comments.

Item #3: New Business/Action Items:

A. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Consent Agenda

1. Budget Amendments-No budget amendments presented
2. Minutes: October 7, 2024-Special Meeting
October 21, 2024-Regular Meeting

Justin Schwausch made a motion, with a second from Josie Smith Wright, to approve the consent agenda, as presented.

The motion carried 7/0.

B. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the TASB Board Policy Update 123, affecting GISD Local Policies

Dr. A presented the local policy update 123.

The The Texas Association of School Boards has provided Gonzales ISD with Policy Update 123. Although (Legal) policies are not adopted by the board, TASB recommends that the board review them. Overview information concerning (Local) proposed policy revisions were included in the board packet (Explanatory Notes, Instruction Sheet, and other materials are provided to the board to explain the changes).

Josie Smith-Wright made a motion, with a second from Gloria Torres, that the board add, revise or delete (Local) policies as offered by TASB Policy Service for consideration and according to the Instruction Sheet for TASB Localized Policy Manual Update 123.

The motion carried 7/0.

C. **Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Schematic Design for Maintenance Projects as part of the 2023 Bond Program**

Casey Sledge with Sledge Engineering and Michael Martinez with VLK Architects and Wes Robinson with Weaver and Jacobs presented the Schematic Design for Maintenance Projects to the board.

Reminder that there are two primary parts to the 2023 Bond Program. One part is the CTE and AG building and the other being the maintenance projects. This part of the allotment is \$28 million of the \$50.6 million. The primary scope of the Maintenance Projects is to improve:

- Safety & Security
- Accessibility
- Infrastructure repairs & improvements
- HVAC replacements & improvements
- Building Envelope (Perimeter of the building)
- Roofing
- Paving

All campuses will receive Safety and Security and Accessibility improvements as top priority. Infrastructure, HVAC, Envelope, Roofing and Paving improvements will be installed at most campuses based on need. VLK has assessed all District buildings and developed Safety & Security Standards for GISD

Safety and Security items for all campuses include: entry vestibule upgrades (3 level safety and security), fencing, security cameras, access card readers, door hardware, door signage, canopies, and first-responder radio upgrades (Emergency Responder Radio Coverage or ERRC).

Notable additional items currently included in the Schematic Design: GHS Kitchen renovation, JHS courtyard sidewalks, GPA Life Skills restrooms, EAC DAEP classrooms, GES & GNA new Playgrounds, OMT Transportation Addition.

Budget:

The 2023 Bond Program Budget already includes the following Maintenance Project items separately from the Schematic Design Scope:

- Roofing: underway @ \$5.3M
- Paving: complete @ \$950K
- 2024 Flooring: complete @ \$350K
- Fencing: underway with grant funding
- Playgrounds GES, GNA: budgeted
- Asbestos Abatement at HS: budgeted
- New Marquee signs all campuses: budgeted
- Design and Soft costs all campuses: budgeted
- ERRC radio coverage all campuses: budgeted

We have \$16M available after the above items. The Schematic Design cost estimates from Weaver & Jacobs are as follows:

- GHS = \$4.9M
 - JHS = \$1.4M
 - GNA = \$1.5M
 - GPA = \$0.9M
 - EAC = \$2.1M
 - GES = \$1.0M
 - OMT = \$1.6M
- Total = \$13.4M; (\$2.6M under the \$16.0M budget)

After Schematic Design approval, we will work with the staff to prioritize the remaining \$2.6M for select District-Wide renovations.

There is no direct cost associated with the approval of this item. This project will be competitively bid by Weaver & Jacobs and brought to the Board for consideration prior to construction.

Justin Schwausch made a motion, with a second from Josie Smith-Wright, to approve the Schematic Design of the Maintenance Projects as part of the 2023 Bond Program.

The motion carried 7/0

D. **Discuss and Consider Action on Possible Resolution/Settlement Agreement in Administrative Hearing Cause No.24-0146-K; Gonzales Independent School District vs. Texas Department of Health & Human Services**

Amanda Smith presented to the board a follow-up to the action item from the August 12, 2024 board meeting. It was related to the 2022 SHARS settlement formal appeals process that was discussed several times.

Following action in August, Walsh Gallegos noticed that HHSC had omitted some previously discussed language from the settlement agreement. Primarily, the final language was determined by legal to be too broad. Additionally, Walsh Gallegos strongly recommends that the agreement include language as to the specific timeframe HHSC has to submit the associated payment to the district-which HHSC had omitted from the first version.

The way it was presented to the board in August didn't allow the administration to amend any language without additional board approval. Walsh Gallegos believes this agreement (which was attached) to be in a final form; however, due to the unprecedented nature of this situation, they recommended the motion language below, which delegates the authority to the superintendent to finalize negotiations, just in case the need arises.

This agreement is valued at approximately \$251,822.04.

Naomi Brown made a motion, with a second from Justin Schwausch move that the Board approve the settlement generally and delegate authority to the Superintendent to finalize negotiations with HHSC on any sections in the best interest of the District including but not limited to any provisions related to the timeframe for issuance of funds from HHSC to the District and further delegate authority to the Superintendent to execute a final agreement in a form approved by legal counsel."

The motion carried 7/0.

Item#4 Reports:

A. **Demographic Report**

Amanda Smith, CFO; Paul Cash, Advisor, Zonda Education

B. **Financial and Quarterly Investment Report**

The Financial was presented by Amanda Smith, CFO.

C. **2023 Bond Program Monthly Update**

ESC Region 13/Sledge Engineering (Casey) provided the board a monthly update for the 2023 approved Bond Program.

\$4 million dollars have been spent which is about 8.1% of the bond fund

CTE/Ag Barn

1. Design Development continues; next round of meetings with staff and teachers November 15th
2. Geotech borings & lab work COMPLETE by Terracon; awaiting report
3. Tracking CDs:
 1. final plans early 2024
 2. bidding to follow
4. Water/Wastewater utility extensions: waiting on City design for line layouts

Maintenance Projects (Weaver and Jacobs)

VLK Schematic Design:

1. Schematic Design to Board for consideration this Agenda
2. Topo survey work at campuses complete
3. Safety Security Standards: complete
4. Next Steps:
 1. prioritize select renovations with remaining funds
 2. Strategize bid packaging/timing

Maintenance Projects-ISD Direct

1. GHS Ag roof: substantially complete
2. GHA Main roof: final TPO installation 50% complete
3. EAC Roof: significant progress this month
4. GNA Roof: substantially complete

Paving Project:

1. Awaiting final billing to close out = under budget

D. Superintendent Reports

Presented by Superintendent, Dr. Elmer Avellaneda
The enrollment@ 2570
Attendance @ 94 1/2%

Item#5 Board Business:

Board Correspondence: No Correspondence

Dates of Interest:

November 12-14, 2024	GNA Thanksgiving Meal
November 15, 2024	GPA Thanksgiving Meal
November 19-21, 2024	GE Thanksgiving Meal
November 25-29, 2024	Student/Staff Holiday
December 9, 2024	Regular Board Meeting

Item #7 Adjourn to Closed Session:

Under Texas Government Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), Code Section 551.072 (Deliberation Regarding Real Property), 551.73 Deliberation Regarding Prospective Gift, Texas Government Code Section 551.074, (Personnel, to deliberate regarding the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee), Texas Government Code Section 551.076 (Deliberation regarding implementation of Security, personnel or devices) and Section 551.082; School Children; School District Employees; Disciplinary Matter or Complaint, Section 551.083; Certain School Boards; Meeting Regarding Consultation with Representative of Employee Group, Section 551.084; Investigation; Exclusion of witnesses from a hearing.

The board went into a closed session at 6:43 P.M.

Item #8 Reconvene to Open Meeting:

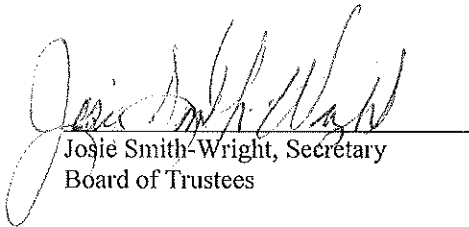
The Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in the Closed Session. The board returned to an open session at 9:07 P.M.

Item #9 Adjourn

There being no further business, President Hendershot adjourned the meeting at 9:08 P.M.



Ross Hendershot, III, President
Board of Trustees



Josie Smith-Wright, Secretary
Board of Trustees