

Minutes
Monday, February 3, 2025
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-Secretary

Board Member Absent:

Item #1. Call to Order

The Board of Trustees of the Gonzales Independent School District met Monday, February 3, 2025, 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

David Herrera-GHS Student gave the Invocation, Plaxico (Mateo) Vasquez Diaz -GHS Student led the Pledge to the Flag, and Lauro Arizpe-GHS Student read the Mission Statement.

Item #2: Public Comments: There were no public comments

Item #3: Recognitions:

- CTE Department-“Thank You” to GISD Board of Trustees
- Victoria College: NCCER Core Certificates
- Extracurricular Students
- Jennifer Molnoskey, Director of PEIMS

Item #4: New Business/Action Items:

A. **Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Consent Agenda**

1. Minutes: January 13, 2025-Regular Meeting
2. No budget amendments

Ashley Molina made a motion, with a second from Gloria Torres, to approve the consent agenda, as presented.

The motion carried 7/0.

B. **Discuss and Consider Action to Approve FFA students & an Advisor to travel to Washington DC for the FFA National Leadership Conference in June**

Jennifer Ervin, CTE Coordinator went before the board seeking approval for the FFA Advisor and up to 4 students to travel to Washington DC for the FFA National Leadership Conference. This conference enhances Leadership Skills, Civic Engagement, Career and College Readiness, Networking and Collaboration Skills, Strengthening in

Academic and Personal Development, Cultural Awareness, Schools Mission, and Generation Positive Representation of our school.

Funding would be covered through fundraising, the student activity account and parents would be responsible for some of the cost. The district would pay for the advisory travel fee. Students would pay for their own travel expenses.

This would be the first year of attendance for GISD if approved and would like to rotate between this conference and the National Convention if this trip is a success.

Justin Schwausch made a motion, with a second from Naomi Brown to approve the travel for FFA students & an Advisor to travel to Washington DC for the FFA National Leadership Conference in June.

The motion carried 7/0

C. **Discuss and Consider Action to Amend Policy CQ Local and EIA Local to include AI (Artificial Intellegience)**

Amanda Smith, Acting Superintendent presented to the board the amendment to Policy CQ Local and to include AI to EIA Local.

These policies create parameters for our use of AI at Gonzales ISD. Most students and educators already use this form of technology. Administration would like these policies to be implemented so there are guidelines and parameters to how this technology is used in a safe environment.

Naomi Brown made a motion, with a second from Justin Schwausch to approve the recommended update to CQ (local) and EIA (Local) as presented.

The motion carried 7/0

D. **Discuss and Consider Action on bids for Tax Resale Property-Suit 6792**

Amanda Smith went before the board recommending approval and acceptance of the bid for the properties described on the agenda.

These bids were presented and accepted pending the approval of the other entities at Commissioners Court 1/27/2025.

Justin Schwausch made a motion, with a second from Ashley Molina to accept the bids presented for Tax Resale Property-Suit 6792.

The motion carried 7/0

E. **Discuss and Consider Action on the 2025-26 Academic Calendar**

Amanda Smith presented the 2025-26 Academic Calendar to the board for approval.

This year, we worked with several individuals to get to this point.

- In December, we held a calendar committee meeting at which we broke out into groups and discussed what we each found important for inclusion. Then, we regrouped as a larger committee and combined our lists into one.
- From there, our C&I and PEIMS Directors worked to create draft calendars utilizing the information collected at the committee meeting and ensured they met legal requirements.
- The executive leadership team then met to review them at the beginning of January to do a final check.
- From there, the calendars were released for voting to district's stakeholders.

Of the 224 responses collected, 73.7% selected Option A. Therefore, that is the calendar that is being recommended for approval.

A 4day work week was not a calendar option due to:

1. GISD is in the middle of a Superintendent transition
2. Talk in the legislative session of prohibiting districts from operating on a 4day work week.

Ashley Molina made a motion, with a second from Josie Smith-Wright to approve the 2025-26 academic calendar, as presented.

The motion carried 7/0

Item#5 Reports:

A. **Academic Report**

Dr. Rachele Ysquierdo, Executive Director of C&I, presented the Academic Report

B. **Financial Report**

Presented by Amanda Smith, Acting Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer

C. **Superintendent's Report**

Presented by Amanda Smith, Acting Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer

E. **2023 Bond Program Monthly Update**

Presented by Amanda Smith, Acting Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer

CTE and the AG barn plans are out for bid with pricing due later this month (February). By March more information will be shared with the board.

Item#6 Board Business:

Board Correspondence:

Dates of Interest:

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| <i>February</i> | |
| February 5 | Growing Certified Teachers info session |
| February 6 | Chamber of Commerce Banquet |
| February 10 | Review superintendent applications with Charlotte Baker |
| February 12-14 th | 1 st Round Superintendent Interviews |
| February 13-14 th | District Closed |
| February 14 | Last day to file for a place on the ballot |
| February 17-18 th | 2 nd Round Superintendent Interviews |
| February 22 | GISD Education Foundation Casino Night |

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 6:20 P.M.

Item #9 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 7:18 P.M.

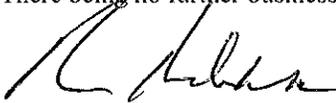
Josie Smith-Wright made a motion, with a second from Gloria Torres to offer John Lyndon Hamilton a contract for Gonzales ISD Athletic Director position.

The motion carried 6-0-1

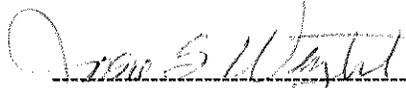
D'Anna Robinson abstained from voting.

Item #10 Adjourn

There being no further business, President Hendershot adjourned the meeting at 7:19 P.M.



Ross Hendershot, III, President
Board of Trustees



Josie Smith-Wright, Secretary
Board of Trustees