

**Minutes**  
**Monday, August 9, 2021**  
**Regular Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.**  
**Location of Meeting: East Avenue Campus, Cafeteria. Gonzales, Texas 78629**

**Board Members Present:** Ross Hendershot, III, President  
Justin Schwausch, Vice President  
Sue Gottwald, Secretary  
Sandra Gorden  
Glenn Menking  
Josie Smith-Wright  
Gloria Torres

**Board Member Absent:**

**Item #1. Call to Order**

The Board of Trustees of the Gonzales Independent School District met Monday, August 9, 2021, at the East Avenue Campus, Cafeteria, 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**

Glenn Menking gave the Invocation. Justin Schwausch led the Pledge to the Flag, and Sue Gottwald read the Mission Statement.

**Item #2: Public Comments:**

Ms. Carolyn Morrow shared a concern she had regarding the Cheerleading squad and the Pep rallies allowed. Ms. Morrow mentioned that she would like to see an increase in the number of pep rallies to give the cheerleaders more opportunities to perform. Ms. Morrow also mentioned celebrating the accomplishments of students. For example, if a student has accomplished a higher grade in a class, they should be able to have some type of celebratory activity, like an academic pep rally.

**Item E - from Reports** was moved up.

This was to allow Dr. Hisey to speak to the Board regarding the conditions being experienced at this time with COVID 19. Dr. Hisey shared that the recommendations were first and foremost to have students in class, and the second to encourage vaccinations. It was also strongly recommended that masks be worn in class. Parents need to not send students to school with a fever. Quarantine is only needed as per Covid prodigal. Social media shares info that may not be reliable. The main things to remember are to wear a mask, wash hands, keep all items cleaned with disinfectant, and ventilation on campuses. It was also suggested to limit visitors allowed on campuses. The Delta virus is much more contagious. We must keep at least 3 feet apart, mask when inside but not necessary when outside. The Landa strain is also out, as well as lots of other strains. We are not as concerned about these at this time. It was announced that a vaccine clinic will be offered at Central Office cafeteria on August 31, 2021. There were no questions or comments.

**Item#3: Recognitions:**

The Twisted Guardians were not recognized at this time, as there was no one from this group to receive the recognition.

**Item #4: New Business/Action Items**

- A. Discuss and Consider action to approve the Consent Agenda
  - 1. Minutes: July 12, 2021, Public Meeting, July 12, 2021, Regular Board Meeting
  - 2. Budget Amendments:

Ms. Amanda Smith, CFO, shared information regarding the Budget Amendments.

There were no comments or questions.

Glenn Menking, 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 Meal Prices for the 2021-22 School Year**

Ed Wayner, Director of Food Service, informed the Board members of the mandates of the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). To meet the annual TDA adult meal pricing for 2021-22 it was recommended to adjust the adult breakfast from \$2.30 to \$2.35 and the adult lunch from \$3.95 to \$4.10.

There were a few questions or comments which were addressed.

Justin Schwausch, made a motion, with a second from Gloria Torres, to approve the 2021-22 meal prices as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

**C. Discuss and Consider action to adopt the updates to the Gonzales ISD Student Code of Conduct for the 2021-22 school year.**

Sarah Gottwald, Director of Federal Programs and PEIMS, shared information with the Board regarding the recommended language for the Student Code of Conduct reflecting the recent legislative session. No actual changes to the Student Code of Conduct were made.

There were a few questions/comments that were addressed.

Gloria Torres made a motion, with a second from Glenn Menking, to adopt the Gonzales ISD Student Code of Conduct for the 2021-2022 school year as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

**D. Discuss and Consider action to adopt the Establishing Criteria for the Redistricting of Political Boundaries**

Mr. Schumacher, Superintendent, shared with the Board that GISD has received correspondence from Allison, Bass & Magee. The letter recommends that before the release of the census data in September, that the district could take some procedural steps that would be useful for future redistricting plans, if needed. One or more alternative plans for drawing the district political boundaries could be considered. The first item to consider is establishing criteria for the redistricting of Political Boundaries.

There were some comments and questions which were addressed. The Board spoke of the number of committee members, the criteria of the boundaries.

Josie Smith-Wright made a motion, with a second from Justin Schwausch, that the Board adopt the Establishing Criteria for Redistricting of Political Boundaries, as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

**E. Discuss and Consider Possible Action regarding the creation of a Redistricting Advisory Committee as related to the 2020 Census and possible redistricting of trustee single-member districts**

Mr. Schumacher, Superintendent, explained to the Board that although they are not obligated to form a Redistricting Advisory Committee, this option could be discussed and considered, if they felt it was necessary. The committee would only provide recommendations to the Board for the Board's final approval.

Mr. Menking made a motion, with a second from Josie Smith-Wright, to create a Redistricting Advisory Committee and that each Board member select 2 representatives from their district to be on the Committee. Each trustee it to provide the names of those being recommended to the Board President before the next Board meeting. Final approval of the Committee members will be brought back at a future meeting. The motion carried 7/0.

**F. Discuss and Consider Action to Authorize the Superintendent to sign the Legal Services Retainer Agreement with Walsh Gallegos Trevino Russo & Kyle P.C.**

Mr. Schumacher explained to the Board that policy BDD authorizes the Board to retain an attorney or attorneys, as necessary to serve as the district's legal counsel and representative in matters requiring legal services. The district asked for the Board to allow the Superintendent to sign the legal Service Retainer Agreement with Walsh Gallegos Trevino Russo & Kyle's legal services for the 2021-2022 school year.

Sue Gottwald made a motion, with a second from Justin Schwausch, that the Board authorize the Superintendent to sign the legal services retainer agreement with Walsh Gallegos Trevino Russo & Kyle P.C. for the 2021-2022 school year as presented. The motion passed 7/0.

- G. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Golden Crescent Workforce Development Board for the 2021-22 Communities in Schools Program

Mr. Basha shared a presentation with the Board. He also explained to the Board that the administration would like to recommend continuing the Communities in Schools program at Gonzales High School that started in the 2019-2020 school year.

There were no questions or comments.

Justin Schwausch made the motion, with a second from Josie Smith-Wright, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Golden Crescent Workforce Development, as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

- H. Discuss and Consider Action to approve the Interlocal Agreement with the University of Texas at Austin for the 2021-22 On-Ramps Program

Mr. Basha shared a brief explanation of the On-Ramps program. He shared with the Bboard the recommendation to continue with the On-Ramps Higher Education program with UT.

After a few questions and comments which were addressed, a motion was made.

Justin Schwausch made a motion, with a second from Gloria Torres, to approve the interlocal agreement with the University of Texas at Austin, as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

- I. Discuss and Consider Action on Notice of Public Meeting to Discuss Budget and Proposed Tax Rate

Ms. Amanda Smith, CFO, explained to the Board the recommendations by the state for the Notice of Public Meeting.

Sue Gottwald made a motion, with a second from Glenn Menking, to approve the notice(s) for publication, as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

- J. Discuss and Consider action on the pep rally schedule

Mr. Basha, HS principal, explained to the Board the plan or schedule for the HS pep rallies. The information also included details about tutoring time, block schedule, and the A/B Schedule.

There were a few comments and questions, which were answered. It was also mentioned that approving the pep rally schedule was not a governance function.

Ms. Torres made a motion, with a second from Josie Smith-Wright, to approve holding a pep rally for all 10 football games.

The motion carried 7/0.

#### **Item#5 Reports:**

- A. Financial Report

Amanda Smith, CFO, spoke to the Board on three items: (1) Financial Status Highlights (2) Local Property Value Survey (LPVS) & (3) Tax Information Survey.

The CFO addressed a few questions and comments.

- B. TCLAS Grant Report

Sarah Gottwald, Director of Federal Programs/PEIMS, reported on the TCLAS Grant.

Ms. Gottwald responded to a few questions and comments regarding the TCLAS Grant.

C. ESSER II Report

Sarah Gottwald, Director of Federal Programs/PEIMS, reported on the ESSER report

D. Accountability Report for the 2020-2021 School Year

Ms. Amanda Fullilove shared with the Board the Accountability Report. The three topics she spoke on were the STARR Performance, TELPAS for English learners, and the steps moving forward with the Accountability report. Ms. Fullilove also presented a power-point to help explain the Accountability report.

There were a few comments and questions regarding the accountability report.

E. Superintendent Report

1. Health Advisory- (Bumped up after Public Comments) with Dr. Hisey speaking on the COVID Outbreak.
2. Report and Review adjustment to the 2021-2022 Academic School Calendar- This report was given by Ms. Sarah Gottwald to explain the updated changes to the 2021-2022 Academic School Calendar. Ms. Gottwald explained to the Board that changes occurred because of the early release days due to the football schedule. It is being recommended that the early release days be adjusted to be half days/early release days. Ms. Gottwald explained that if COVID happens to cause a change in the game schedule, then these days would go back to be full instructional days. This is being recommended due to the shortage of bus drivers, not buses.

It was asked by a Board member, why MLK day was set as a bad weather day on the district calendar. It was suggested that the BW day could be changed.

**Item#6 Board Business**

Board Correspondent: Eduardo Perez sent a letter of gratitude for the plant sent to the family.

Dates of Interest

August 2-August 18, 2021	Teacher PD/Planning/Prep Days/Convocation Day AM/Teacher Prep Day PM
August 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Budget Workshop (Budget Meeting)
Aug. 19, 2021	First Day of School
Aug. 23, 2021	Budget and Tax Rate Adoption
Sept. 6, 2021	Staff / Student Holiday/Labor Day Holiday

**Item #6 Personnel Matters, Section 551.074, Property Matters: Section 551.072, Security Matters: Section 551.076, and Legal Counsel Matters: Section 551.071**

The Board adjourned into a closed session at 7:21 P.M. for personnel matters and returned to the open session at 7:59 P.M.

The report of the Resignation, New Hires, and New Positions was shared with the Board.

**Item #7 Adjourn**

There being no further business, President Hendershot adjourned the meeting at 7:59 P.M.

Ross Hendershot, III President  
Board of Trustees

Sue Gottwald, Secretary  
Board of Trustees