# SWEET HOME INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April 14, 2025 MAY 12, 2025

**Board Members Present**: Ray Peagler (Pres), Nathan Wenske (VP) [5:33pm arrival], Amy Picha (Sec), Robin Boswell, Jessica Kusak, Jeff Points, Johnny Turk [5:45pm arrival]

Board Members Absent: None

**Staff Members Present:** Dr. Candace Pohl (Superintendent), Shara Steffek (teacher), Amber Kopecky (teacher/parent), Erica Cook (teacher/parent), Kendra Wenske (teacher/parent), Veronica Sluka (teacher)

**Public Present:** Olga Whittley (parent), Kelly Renken (parent), Jordan Sluka (parent), PJ Delarosa (parent), Madison Beard (parent)

#### 1. Call to Order

Ray Peagler called this regular meeting of the board to order at 5:30pm. Board members present at the start of the meeting include: Ray Peagler, Amy Picha, Robin Boswell, Jessica Kusak, and Jeff Points. A quorum was present, the meeting was duly called, and notice of the meeting had been posted for the time and manner as required by law.

Shara Steffek and her 8<sup>th</sup> graders, along with Amber Kopecky and her pre-K students, presented their favorite memories of Sweet Home School.

Nathan Wenske arrived at 5:33pm.

Jordan Sluka spoke on concerns regarding process reviews and diagnostic tools used by the school and co-op.

Johnny Turk arrived at 5:45pm.

#### 2. Administrative Reports

- a. Dr. Pohl gave an update on the bond project's design phase: SHISD is 50% into the design phase and currently working toward 75%, with a projected goal to be complete with the design process by August.
- b. In the Superintendent's report, enrollment is 149, and the ADA was 96.6% for April.

## 3. Consent Agenda

- a. Action on minutes
  - i. April 14, 2025 regular Board meeting
- b. Action on budget amendments
  - i. There were no budget amendments at this time.
- c. Action on bills paid
- d. Action on April Lonestar Investment Report
  - i. Construction Bond Funds: \$21,945.19 interest (April); total \$6,042,794.79
  - ii. SHISD General Operating Account: \$2,640.76 interest (April); total \$670,440.19
  - iii. 1&S Tax Collection Account: \$838.73 (April); total \$230,950.87
  - iv. Total vested balance: \$6,944,185.85; yield 4.43% interest
- e. Action on the decision to select a depository contract through competitive bidding
  - i. SHISD's depository contract expires August 31, 2025, with a requirement to renew every 2 years, either by bid or request for proposals. This process must be started at least 60 days prior to the expiration date.
- f. Action on approving a 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade Beginner Band course
- g. Action on approving the 7th grade CTE course, General Employability Skills

h. Action on retaining Leon Alcala, PLLC, for future district counsel services for various projects

Nathan Wenske made a motion to approve the consent agenda, items a-g; Jeff Points seconded. All approved and the motion carried.

## 4. Action/Discussion Items

## 5. Executive/Closed Meeting

- a. Ray Peagler made a motion, seconded by Jessica Kusak, to enter into closed session at 6:01pm to discuss student transfers as per the agenda.
- b. At 7:30pm, Ray Peagler made a motion to exit closed session, seconded by Johnny Turk.

## 6. Action from Executive/Closed Meeting

a. Regarding Student transfers, Johnny Turk made a motion to accept transfer recommendations as presented in closed session; Nathan Wenske seconded. The motion passed 6-0 with 1 recusal.

## 7. Future Business

Ray Peagler reminded the Board that the next regular board meeting would be held on June 9, 2025, and that a special meeting for Board training is planned for June 30.

## 8. Adjourn Meeting

Upon motion duly made by Nathan Wenske and seconded by Robin Boswell, the board unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:31pm.

Ray Peagler, Board President

Nathan Wenske VP

Amy Picha, Board Secretary