

Minutes
Monday, April 11, 2022
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
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, April 11, 2022, 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

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

Item #2: Public Comments: There were public comments from Celeste Borjen, a parent regarding Flames 22-23 Audition Try-Outs

Item#3: Recognitions: Ms. Robin Trojcek's recognitions began with recognizing the Students beginning with the One-Act Play. Following were the GHS Girls and Boys Soccer team, GHS Girls and Boys Powerlifting, and GHS Girls and Boys Basketball. She also gave a UIL Academic Update. Several students from each group showed up to the meeting and they were celebrated with cheers.

Ms. Trojcek also shared staff recognitions beginning with Assistant Principal's Week, followed by Paraprofessional Appreciation Day, School Librarian Appreciation Day, and Administrative Assistant Day. The staff was cheered and many gave them thanks for a job well done.

Item #4: New Business/Action Items

A. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Consent Agenda

1. Minutes: March 7, 2022, TAPR Special Meeting, and March 7, 2022, Regular Meeting.

2. Budget Amendments:

Interim Superintendent, Dr. Kim Strozier shared with the Board the information regarding the Consent Agenda and the Budget Amendments.

There were no comments or questions to address.

Glenn Menking made a motion, with a second from Justin Schwausch, to adopt the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

B. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the 2022-2023 District Compensation Plan

Interim Superintendent Strozier explained to the Board by following Policy Code DEA. The administration would present the recommended 2022-23 Compensation Plan for review and approval of the board. Ms. Amanda Smith, CFO, and Ms. Haley Ratliff were commended for the long and hard work they put into this report. Ms. Haley Ratliff, Chief HR Officer shared a presentation that included a five-year pay history review, current market analysis,

and the administration's recommendation for a revised, highly competitive compensation plan that will support GISD's strategically developed goals for the recruitment, hiring, and retention of highly qualified employees. This all came from the market analysis that was prepared by TEA. Amanda Smith, CFO, also gave the board some information on the budget impact. Ms. Smith shared with the board how this pay increase would affect the district budget. The key takeaways were raises for all with starting pay increase.

There were several questions and comments which were addressed.

Sandra Gorden made a motion with a second from Justin Schwausch to approve the 2022-23 Compensation Plan to support the district's goals of recruitment, hiring, and retention of employees, as presented

C. Discuss and Consider Action to Set the Pre-Kindergarten Tuition Rate for 2022-23

Interim Superintendent, Dr. Kim Strozier shared information on the Pre-Kinder program and also asked Ms. Amanda Smith, CFO to share the information on the program and the tuition for the following year. The administration recommended setting the rate at \$5,150. for the coming year. This was calculated using the same method utilized last year averaging the daily cost of childcare and other tuition-based prekindergarten programs in our area.

There were a few comments and questions that were addressed.

Justin Schwausch made a motion, with a second from Gloria Torres to approve the tuition rate for the tuition-based pre-kindergarten program at \$5,150.00 for the 2022-23 school year pending approval from the Commissioner of Education, as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

D. Discuss and Consider Action to approve the K-12 Textbook Adoptions

Interim Superintendent, Kim Strozier shared with the board that the textbook committee from GISD carefully reviewed four vendors, and completed the formal adoption process timeline for a recommendation. The recommendations were included in the following pages.

There were no questions or comments to be addressed.

Sandra Gorden made a motion, with a second from Gloria Torres, to approve the recommendation from the textbook committee for the K-12th grade PE/Health Adoptions as follows: Quaver for K-5th grade and McGraw Hill Education for 6th-12th grade as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

E. Acknowledgement of District Conflict of Interest Policy in connection with the Amended application for Agreement for Value Limitation made according to Chapter 313 of the Texas Property Tax Code from Starling Solar, LLC, Comptroller Application#1586

Interim Superintendent, Kim Strozier shared a few words with the board and then asked Ms. Amanda Smith to present the Conflict of Interest information from Starling Solar to the board. Ms. Cheryl Moore from Sara Leon's Attorney Office was also available to answer any questions if needed.

It was recommended for the board president to take a poll of each board member, one by one to state whether or not they had any conflicts of interest. Mr. Hendershot, III took a poll of each board member, and Mr. Hendershot, III was the only one that had a conflict of Interest for this item.

No action was needed.

F. Discuss and Consider Action to Accept an Amendment to the application for a Limitation on Appraised Value of Property for School District Maintenance and Operations Taxes with Starling Solar, LLC, Comptroller Application #1586

Interim Superintendent Kim Strozier explained to the Board that at this time it was being requested to accept an Amendment to the Application for a Limitation on Appraised Value of Property for School District Maintenance and Operations Taxes with Starling Solar, LLC, Comptroller Application#1586. Ms. Amanda Smith was asked to share the request that was received from Starling Solar #1586 regarding the Amendment. The steps to this amendment go as follows: Comptroller Review/ Approve Board Findings/Approve Amended Agreement.

This amendment is to allow Starling Solar to add battery storage to the project. The footprint of the project and value will remain unchanged.

Glenn Menking made a motion with a second from Justin Schwausch, to approve the Amended Application for Value Limitation for School District Maintenance and Operations Taxes according to Chapter 313 of the Texas Property Tax Code from Starling Solar, LLC, Comptroller Application#1586. There was one abstention from Mr. Ross Hendershot, III. The motion passed with a 6/0/1 vote.

G. Discuss and Consider action to Re-Schedule May 9, 2022, Regular Board Meeting to May 2, 2022

Dr. Strozier, Interim Superintendent, explained to the Board that the regularly scheduled May monthly meeting of the GISD Board of Trustees is May 9th, 2022, and one of the same days the board holds the second round of follow-up interviews. It was requested to move the regular board meeting of May 9th to May 2nd to allow the continuation of interviews as scheduled.

There were no questions or comments.

Gloria Torres made a motion, with a second from Josie Smith-Wright, to reschedule the regular May 9th board meeting to May 2, 2022, as requested. The motion carried 7/0.

H. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Audit Engagement Letter from Singleton, Clark & Company, PC.

Dr. Strozier, Interim Superintendent, explained to the Board the district solicited, received, and evaluated qualifications from audit firms to perform the annual financial audit. One proposal was received, from Singleton, Clark & Company, PC. Superior service has been received from Singleton Clark and it is recommended to approve.

The administration recommended the board approve the engagement letter from Single, Clark & Company PC for the audit of the fiscal year ending August 31, 2022.

There were a few questions and comments, which were addressed.

Justin Schwausch, made a motion, with a second from Gloria Torres, to approve the audit engagement letter with Singleton, Clark & Company PC, as presented.” The motion carried 7/0.

I. Discuss and Consider Action to approve Representatives for TexPool/TexPool Prime Investment Pool.

Dr. Strozier, Interim Superintendent explained to the board the reason for the resolution amending authorized representatives.

There were no questions or comments.

Gloria Torres made a motion with a second from Glenn Menking to pass and approve the resolution amending authorized representatives, as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

J.(K) Discuss and Consider Action to Approve an Amended Interlocal Participation Agreement with the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Risk Management Fund.

Dr. Kim Strozier, Interim Superintendent shared with the board that every 10 years TASB updates its Interlocal Participation Agreement order. At this time TASB has sent the district an adopted amendment the TASB board had approved, and for GISD to continue coverage in the Fund’s programs the board would need to approve and return the agreement to TASB Risk Management.

There were no questions or comments.

Justin Schwausch made a motion with a second from Josie Smith-Wright to approve the interlocal agreement and authorize the Superintendent or CFO to sign as authorized representatives for the district as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

K.(J) Discuss and Consider Action Regarding a Division Order based upon the Draft submitted by Ranger Oil, for the Property Name of Hawkeye H 9H, Rainey Unit, Gonzales County, Texas, with an Operator identified as Lonestar Operating, LLC

Dr. Kim Strozier, Interim Superintendent explained the new division order that was received from Ranger Oil Corporation. It was explained that the order had been reviewed and amended by the district's legal counsel. It was recommended to approve the order.

There were no questions or comments.

Glenn Menking made a motion with a second from Justin Schwausch to approve the revised division order as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

L. Consideration/Action Regarding Written Consent Agreements for 401(a), 403(b) and 457(b) Investment Plans

Dr. Kim Strozier, Interim Superintendent reported to the board that the previously approved voluntary agreement (VRA) with the former superintendent, agreed to establish 401(a), 403(b), and a 457(b) investment plans to fund the payments under the (VRA) Retirement Agreement. It was requested that the motion read the acting superintendent instead of the Interim Superintendent on the signature page.

There were no questions or comments.

Sandra Gorden, made a motion with a second from Gloria Torres to approve the Written Consent Agreements for the 401(a), 403(b), and 457(b) Investment Plans as presented, and further authorize the Acting Superintendent to sign the agreements on behalf of Gonzales ISD. The motion carried 7/0.

M. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Ranking of Offerors for the Gonzales High School Practice Field Turf and Lighting Project and the Delegation of Contract Negotiations

Dr. Kim Strozier, Interim Superintendent, explained to the board that the district had solicited and received 4 responses to the request for proposals on the High School Turf and Lighting Project. Dr. Strozier asked Mr. Gene Kridler, Director of Operations to share with the board information on the project. Mr. Kridler shared information regarding the Turf and Lighting Project. It was recommended to only do the Turf at this time because of cost. Mr. Kridler asked for permission to enter into negotiations with the top rank proposer.

There was discussion and questions regarding this project. The questions and concerns were addressed.

Justin Schwausch made a motion with no second. The item failed due to a lack of a second.

Item#5 Reports:

A. Financial and Quarterly Investment Report

Dr. Strozier shared a brief report on the District's finances and Quarterly Investment with the Board. Enrollment and Attendance were also shared with the board at this time.

There were no questions or comments.

B. Board Members continuing Education Credits/SBOE Framework for School Board Development Report

The Superintendent first commended the board for the continued effort to maintain the required CEC credits. The Board president read the CEC report regarding the school board member's report on continuing education. The board president announced the name of each board member that had completed, exceeded, or was deficient in the required continuing education training.

C. Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent reported on the student enrollment and attendance rate update as part of the Financial Report.

Item#6 Board Business

Board Correspondent: Thank you Cards from the Strozier family, Malinoskey family, and Owens family, for the plants received due to the loss of a Family Member were shared.

April 4-8, 2022	Assistant Principal Week
April 5 & 7, 2022	STAAR Testing
April 6, 2022	Paraprofessional Appreciation Day
April 11, 2022	Board Meeting
April 11, 2022	Pre-K Registration
April 11 th -15 th , 2022	STAAR Testing
April 12, 2022	Gonzales Economic Community Training
April 13 th - 16 th , 2022	STAAR Testing
April 13, 2022	School Librarian appreciation Day
April 15, 2022	Staff/ Student Holiday (Good Friday)
April 17, 2022	Easter Weekend
April 18, 2022	6 Week Report Cards/Registration
April 25, 2022	Early Voting Begins
April 27, 2022	Administrative Professionals Day

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 adjourned into a closed session at 6:56 P.M. The Board returned to the open session at 7:43 P.M.

Sue Gottwald made a motion, with a second from Sandra Gorden to approve the teacher contracts as presented. The motion carried a 7/0 vote for the entire list with Mr. Menking abstaining from 4 contracts, Sarah Menking, Rachel Menking, Mary Lou Menking, and Steven Tabula. Ms. Smith-Wright approved the list but declines 1 contract on the list as mentioned.

Sue Gottwald made a motion, with a second from Glenn Menking, to approve the other professional contracts, as presented. The motion carried 7/0 with Ms. Gottwald abstaining from two contracts which are Ross Gottwald and Sara Gottwald.

Sue Gottwald made a motion, with a second from Glenn Menking, to approve the Administrator contract, as presented. The motion carried 6/0/1 with Mr. Hendershot abstaining from this contract.

Item #9 Adjourn

There being no further business, President Hendershot, III adjourned the meeting at 7:47 P.M.

The meeting was reopened at 7:48 to go back to teacher contracts to allow Ross Hendershot to abstain from Shelly Hendershot's contract. The motion still stands as 7/0 approving the list, but with abstentions from Glenn Menking, Ross Hendershot, III, and Josie Smith-Wright declining 1 contract from the list as presented.

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm



Ross Hendershot, III President
Board of Trustees



Sue Gottwald, Secretary
Board of Trustees