

**Minutes**  
**Monday, March 25, 2024**  
**Special 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  
Josie Smith-Wright, Secretary  
D'Anna Robinson  
Ashley Molina  
Gloria Torres  
Sandra Gorden

**Board Member Absent:**

**Item #1. Call to Order**

The Board of Trustees of the Gonzales Independent School District met Monday, March 25, 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**

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

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

**Item #3: Recognitions:** Student and Staff Recognitions

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

A. **Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Serving Line Purchase for Gonzales Elementary School**

Amanda Smith Chief Financial Officer, went before the board to seek approval to upgrade the serving line at Gonzales Elementary School.

Board Policy CH (Local) requires that any single purchase of \$75,000 or higher be authorized by the board.

Following receipt of a grant award, administration solicited and received four responses to a request for proposals on a turnkey project to replace the serving line in the GE cafeteria. The ranking sheet and recommended vendor's pricing information has been included for reference.

- The current serving line is old and it has been experiencing issues for several years now.
- The current serving line used for K-2 right now was initially designed for 3-5 grade. The height on the counter is higher than the height of the ideal K-2<sup>nd</sup> grader. A new model will still support 5<sup>th</sup> grade if needed for summer school.
- A grade level has been added so we need room for more than one cashier
- Extra heaters will be added to the new serving line which is necessary due to more meals being served. LED lighting that can be changed to different colors depending on the season/event. The serving line would be waterless. The current serving line uses water which is poured at the bottom of the steamer each day. The waterless serving line would be better for longevity and safety reasons.

Ashley Molina made a motion, with a second from Josie Smith-Wright, to purchase from Mission Restaurant Supply, as presented.

The motion carried 7/0.

B. **Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Purchase of District-Wide Cell Boosters**

Erin LaBuhn,, Executive Director of Federal and State Programs, went before the board to request the purchase of District-Wide Cell Boosters.

As a component of the Texas Education Agency School Safety Compliance Requirements (19 TAC 61.1031), Gonzales ISD has procured a quote from Victoria Communications in order to install Wilson Cell Boosters on all campuses as well as the Administration Building. The purpose of the installment of the cell boosters is to ensure reliable and accessible communication for first responders, staff, and students.

This purchase requires board action since the total cost exceeds \$75,000.

The cost of this total purchase has been allocated in the Safety and Facilities Enhancement Grant (SAFE).

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

The motion carried 7/0.

- C. Discuss and Consider Action, Including Consideration of a Resolution on Bid(s) Received for the Sale of the Surface Only of Real Property, Regarding the Sale of a Portion of the Approximately 11-Acre Property Located on Robertson Street Described As (1) Tract 1:9.18 Tract or Parcel of Land Situated in The Town of Gonzales, Abstract 25 Gonzales County, Texas, And Being Out of and a Part of Lot No. (4), in Range No. Six (6), East of Water Street in the Original Outer Town of Gonzales According to the Map or Plat of Said Original Outer Town of Gonzales Which is Not of Record in The County Clerk's Office and Being a Resurvey of All of That Certain Tract as Described in a Special Warranty Deed from Orlene Iley, Individually and as Independent Executrix of the Estate of G.R. Iley, Karen Sue Marrou Joined Pro Forma by her husband, Tommy A Marrou, and Regina Lea Durrett (a/k/a Regina Lea Brown) joined Pro Forma by her husband, Bob Durrett to Nelda Rae Taylor and George R. Iley, Jr. Described as Part of Lot 4, Range 6, East of Water Street in the Outer Town of Gonzales Being of Record in Volume 872, Pages 765-768 of the Official Records of Gonzales County Texas and Also the Same Tract as Described in a Special Warranty Deed from Nelda Rae Taylor an Undivided One-half Interest in Part of Lot 4, Range 6, east of Water Street in the Outer Town of Gonzales Being of Record in Volume 872, Pages 773-774 of the Gonzales County Official Records, Herein After Called Parent Tract, Less and Except, Part Found to be within the Limits of Robertson Street, Dallas Street, Seydler Street (State Highway No. 970 and Hackberry, Said 9.18 Acre Tract is Herein Described by Metes and Bounds with Bearing Basis Being Between 5/8" Iron Rods Found at the Northwest and Northeast Corners of the South 1/2 of Block No. Nine (9) of the Dividson Hill Addition Being of Record in Plat Cabinet Slide 2A of the Gonzales County Plat Records; and (2) Tract 2: Being all that certain lot or parcel of land, lying and being situated in Gonzales County, Texas, within the Corporate Limits of the City of Gonzales, being ALL OF Lots No.1,2,3,4, and 5 of Blocks No. 8 and 9, of DAVIDSON HILL ADDITION, an addition to the Page 2 of 36 Town of Gonzales, according to the map or plat of said City of Gonzales and being the same lots described in the certain deed dated November 14, 2007, executed by Karen Sue Marrou, to George R. Iley, Jr., recorded in Volume 973, Page 29, of the Official Records of Gonzales County, Texas, an addition to the Town of Gonzales, together with any and all improvements to the property.

This property was first put on sale in the Fall of 2017. Since then we have conducted a formal solicitation for proposals on 2 different occasions. This time we received on response in the amount of \$170,000 from C3 Investments LLC from Columbia, TN. The contact person on the offer is listed as Chadd Cooper.

If the proposal is accepted our legal team advised that a resolution be approved which will authorize Dr. A to negotiate.

Ms. Smith-Wright asked what the appraisal value of the property was but the amount wasn't available.

Mr. Green who was in the audience was the bidder to the property. He shared that the use of the property would be to build affordable housing which would be a home under \$200,000 (2 bedrooms, 1 bath). With possibly 50 houses which could bring the district possibly \$50-60,000 in tax income.

We have currently spent \$260,000 on the land.

Dr. A asked if the houses could be saved for staff to purchase or to rent. Mr. Green said no to renting.

Mr. Hendershot asked that we reword the resolution and revise it and bring it back to another board meeting.

Mr. Hendershot made a motion, that the board of trustees consider the resolution that allows Dr. Avellaneda to negotiate the deed restrictions as well as the price of the sale of the property located off of Robertson and Seydler Street, with a second from Ashley Molina.

The motion carried 7/0

**D. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the revisions to the 2023-2024 District Compensation Plan**

Amanda Smith presented to the board the recommendation to revise the 2023-2024 District Compensation Plan to increase the hourly rate for teachers who are working the afterschool and Saturday School Tutorial Intervention Program at North Avenue. This would be a one-time change to support this program. After School Tutoring teachers would receive \$50.00/hr and Saturday School Teachers would receive \$200 per day. The reason for the tutoring program is to prepare students academically for the upcoming State Standardized Testing. Administration requested the board authorize the rate change for the duration of the program, which began prior to the board meeting date.

The first Saturday there were 100 students. Dr. A stated that the number would increase due to there being a field Trip for the ACE Program and students attending that. On Mondays and Wednesdays there have been around 40-50 students attend. 7-9 teachers help during the week and Saturday between 8-12. Dr. A stated that this program was being paid for out of his Superintendent Contingency so no budget amendment was needed.

Mrs. Torres asked if this program was taking away from students attending the ACE program. Dr. A stated no that he was just trying to get the students prepared for testing.

Ms. Smith-Wright asked if ACE tutored for STAAR and questioned the \$200 per Saturday.

It would be a total of three Saturdays.

On next year's Compensation Plan this will no longer be a line item.

Board members stressed that we coordinate the tutoring with the ACE program to save the district money.

Mr. Schwausch made a motion, with a second from Gloria Torres to approve the revisions to the 2023-2024 District Compensation Plan as presented.

The motion carried 6/1

Ms. Smith-Wright opposed.

**Item #5 Report Items:**

A. 2023 Bond Program Monthly Update by Education Service Center Region 13/Sledge Engineering.

**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 6:25 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 8:30 P.M.

Ms. Smith Wright made a motion, with a second from Sandra Gorden to approve Teacher contracts as presented.

The motion carried 7/0

Ms. Smith Wright made a motion, with a second from D'Anna Robinson to Approve Administrator contracts with amendments discussed.

The motion carried 7/0

**Item #9 Adjourn**

There being no further business, President Hendershot adjourned the meeting at 8:31 P.M.



Ross Hendershot, III, President  
Board of Trustees



Josie Smith-Wright, Secretary  
Board of Trustees