

Minutes
Monday, March 4, 2024
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
Josie Smith-Wright, Secretary
D'Anna Robinson
Ashley Molina
Gloria Torres
Sandra Gorden

Board Member Absent: Justin Schwausch

Item #1. Call to Order

The Board of Trustees of the Gonzales Independent School District met on Monday, March 4, 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 6 members present.

Invocation, Pledge, Mission Statement

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

Item #2: Public Comments: There was one public comment. The CTE Dept (Jennifer Ervin) gave the school board members a token of appreciation for their support to the CTE Dept. Ms. Ervin explained what the National Technical Honor Society is and the qualifications.

Item #3: New Business/Action Items:

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

1. Budget Amendments
2. Minutes: February 12, 2024- Regular Board Meeting
February 19, 2024- Special Meeting

Amanda Smith, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the budget amendments.

General Fund:

- Increase Function 36 by \$11,698: Unfulfilled 2022-23 Commitment (Flames field uniforms)
- Increase Other Local Sources & Function 61 by \$2,600 each: \$500 donations from Gonzales Rotary Club, Christian Kids, Noon Lions Club, Greg & Kris McClain; \$300 donations from Episcopal Church & Mayor Steve Sucher – for special prom family engagement event
- Increase Other Local Sources & Function 13 by \$6k each: Sell of buses & utilization of proceeds toward the purchase of a new staff development vehicle

Food Service Fund:

- Account for Rounds 3 & 4 of the Supply Chain Assistance Grant Funding

Debt Service Fund:

- Amend budget to account for the 2015A bond defeasance

Mr. Hendershot made a motion, with a second from D'Anna Robinson, to approve the consent agenda, as presented.

The motion carried 6/0.

B. **Discuss and Consider Action to Approve Representatives for Lone Star Investment Pool**

Amanda Smith presented to the board the need to update the authorized representatives at the district's investment pool due to a personnel change that has happened recently in the financial services department. The required form was attached in Board Book for review.

The shift can only be granted by the board and is done by approving the resolution included with this action item.

The only changes are 1) to add Bianca Garcia to the list of authorized users with view-only access (the outgoing employee had already been removed via a different form that did not require board approval) and 2) update the title for Presleigh Zella.

Josie Smith-Wright made a motion, with a second from Sandra Gorden to approve the authorized representatives add form, as presented.

The motion carried 6/0.

C. **Discuss and Consider Action to Set the Pre-Kindergarten Tuition Rate for the 2024-25 School Year**

Amanda Smith presented to the board the Pre-Kindergarten recommended tuition rate for the 2024-25 School Year.

The financial services dept surveys all surrounding entities in the community that offer similar services.

Each year, the tuition rate must be approved by the Commissioner of Education and cannot exceed a proposed rate published annually by TEA. TEA tuition rates for 2024-25 have not yet been released (anticipated release date June 2024); however, the 2023-24 tuition rate is available and is \$7,559.

The administration recommended submitting a rate of \$5,150 to the Commissioner. This would be no change from the current 2023-24 rate. This will be the 4th year of the program but the 3rd offering the same rate if approved as-is. Due to the decrease in the annual operating days, this would increase the daily rate by \$0.56 from the 2022-23 year. Compared to other entities and surrounding schools (namely Floresville and Spring Branch ISDs) who also offer tuition-based Prek programs the average of those rates is a difference of \$1.00.

Ms. Gorden made a motion, with a second from Josie Smith-Wright, to set the tuition rate for the tuition-based prekindergarten program at \$5,150 for the 2024-25 school year pending approval from the Commissioner of Education, as presented.

The motion carried 6/0

D. **Gonzales ISD Local Board Policy FFAA (Local) A-1 Update 114 Amendment**

Joey Rivera, Director of Athletics, and Jeremy Philips, Athletic Trainer, went before the board to seek approval of an amendment to Local District Policy FFAA(Local) A-1 Update 114 regarding Required Medical Clearance to participate in University Interscholastic League (UIL) programs and other District extracurricular programs identified by the Superintendent. This amendment will change the current policy of a Physical Examination form being completed prior to junior high participation and again before the first and third years of high school participation to an annual physical examination.

Surrounding school districts have moved to annual physical examinations.

Sievers Medical Clinic does host a free physical clinic.

Ashley Molina made a motion, with a second from Gloria Torres, to approve the amendment to Local District Policy FFA(Local) A-1 Update 114 as presented.

The motion carried 6/0.

Item#4 Reports:

A. **Bond Series 2024 Financing Plan and Schedule of Events**

Amanda Smith presented a financing plan and schedule of events for the upcoming bond sale (“Series 2024”) associated with the November 2023 bond election that had been prepared by the district’s financial advisor and included with this agenda item.

As indicated on the aforementioned schedule, the bond sale is tentatively scheduled for May 13, 2024. The next associated action item will be that same day.

B. **Financial Report**

The Financial Report was presented by Amanda Smith, CFO.

C. **Superintendent Reports**

Presented by Superintendent, Dr. Elmer Avellaneda.

There were not items shared.

Item#6 Board Business:

Board Correspondence: No Correspondence

Dates of Interest:

March 22, 2024	CTE Design/Advisory Committee to visit North Side ISD Construction Careers Academy
March 29, 2024	Good Friday
March 31, 2024	Easter

Item #7 Adjourn

There being no further business, President Hendershot adjourned the meeting at 5:58 P.M.



Ross Hendershot, III, President
Board of Trustees



Josie Smith-Wright, Secretary
Board of Trustees