

Regular Meeting
Monday, October 13, 2025 5:30 PM Central

GISD Administrative Board Room
1615 St Lawrence St.
P O Box 157
Gonzales, Texas 78629

Naomi Brown: Absent
Ross Hendershot, III: Absent
Ashley Molina: Absent
D'Anna Robinson: Present
Justin Schwausch: Present
Josie Smith-Wright: Present
Gloria Torres: Present
Present: 4, Absent: 3.

1. Call to Order

Mr. Schwausch called the meeting to order at 5:30PM

1.A. Roll Call

1.B. Invocation:

Martin Torres, GJHS Student, led the Invocation.

1.C. Pledge:

Jayciana Bailey, GJHS Student, led the pledge.

1.D. Mission Statement:

Nathan Lawrence, GJHS Student, read the Mission Statement.

2. Public Comments

No Public Comments

3. Recognitions

Mrs. Mikesch, GPA Principal, recognized Tessa Parker, student, and Anahi Ortiz, Staff Member.

Ms. Leal, GE Principal, recognized Eliza Tovar, student, and Erin McCray, Staff Member.

Mrs. Freeman, GNA Principal, recognized Adalynn Kloesel, student, and Katie Dollard, Staff Member.

Mrs. Gibson, GJHS Principal, recognized Brayden Sanchez, student, and Sherry Simper, Staff Member.

Mrs. Perez, GHS Principal, recognized Lyanette Rios, Gary Lewis, students, and Mr. Baker, Staff Member.

Dr. Arreola recognized Campus Principals for Principal Appreciation Month

4. New Business/Action Items

4.A. Consent Agenda

Discuss and Consider Action to approve the Consent Agenda

I move that the board approve the consent agenda as presented. This motion, made by Josie Smith-Wright and seconded by Gloria Torres, Passed.

Naomi Brown: Absent, Ross Hendershot, III: Absent, Ashley Molina: Absent, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

PASSED 4/0

4.A.1. Minutes of Meetings:

September 8—Regular Board Meeting

4.A.2. Budget Amendments:

- \$1,498 Increase to Function 11 & Other Local Sources: Gift revenue from First Evangelical Lutheran Church for school supplies
- \$5,000 Increase to Function 11 & Other Local Sources: Gift revenue from HEB for school supplies
- \$1,500 Increase to Function 61 & Other Local Sources: Gift revenue from GVEC, Sage Capital Bank, & Rivercrest Realty, LLC(\$500/ea) for Attendance Incentive
- \$20k from Function 11 to 81: Change order on tennis court resurfacing project

4.A.3. Grand Canyon Field Placement Affiliation Agreement—Student Teaching

4.A.4. Addition to T-Tess Appraiser List: Erma Freeman, GNA Principal

4.B. Discuss and Consider Action on Resolution Nominating Candidate for the Caldwell County Appraisal District Board of Directors

"I move that the Board adopt a resolution to nominate Ross Hendershot as candidates for the Caldwell County Appraisal District Board of Directors.". This motion, made by Josie Smith-Wright and seconded by D'Anna Robinson, Passed.

Naomi Brown: Absent, Ross Hendershot, III: Absent, Ashley Molina: Absent, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

The board nominated Ross Hendershot for the 2026-27 term on the Caldwell County Appraisal District Board of Directors.

PASSED 4/0

4.C. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve GISD's District and Campus Performance Goals 2025-26

I move that the Board approve Gonzales ISD District and Campus Performance Objectives for the 2025-26 school year. This motion, made by D'Anna Robinson and seconded by Josie Smith-Wright, Passed.

Naomi Brown: Absent, Ross Hendershot, III: Absent, Ashley Molina: Absent, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

Joy Philpott presented the GISD District Improvement Plan 2025-2026 Performance Objectives.

Texas Education Code §11.251 describes the planning and decision-making process for districts and campuses. Specifically, "The Board of Trustees . . . shall ensure that a district improvement plan and improvement plans for each campus are developed, reviewed, and revised annually . . . The board shall annually approve district and campus performance objectives.

PASSED 4/0

4.D. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve Easement to Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative (GVEC) at new CTE & Ag Barn Project

"I move to approve the GVEC Easement as presented". This motion, made by Gloria Torres and seconded by Josie Smith-Wright, Passed.

Naomi Brown: Absent, Ross Hendershot, III: Absent, Ashley Molina: Absent, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

Casey Sledge from Sledge Engineering/ ESC Region 13 went before the board seeking approval of the Easement to Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative (GVEC) at the new CTE & Ag Barn Project.

GVEC will provide electric power to the new CTE & Ag Barn facilities. GVEC requires an Easement on ISD property to install the power lines to the new facilities. GVEC will maintain their facilities in this easement.

The proposed easement exhibit is attached, along with easement language provided by GVEC. Note this easement is exclusively provided to GVEC and not to other entities or utility providers. There is no cost to GISD for this easement.

PASSED 4/0

4.E. Discuss and Consider Action on the 2025 Tax Roll Per Section 26.09 Texas Property Tax Code

Dr. Arreola asked for this item to be tabled due to waiting on information from the Gonzales County Tax Assessor-Collector.

4.F. Discuss and Consider Action to proceed with the Lone Star Governance Contract

I move that the Board of Trustees approve entering into the Lone Star Governance Contract as presented. This motion, made by D'Anna Robinson and seconded by Josie Smith-Wright, Passed.

Naomi Brown: Absent, Ross Hendershot, III: Absent, Ashley Molina: Absent, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

Mr. Schwausch made a recommendation to the board to proceed with the Lone Star Governance Contract.

The Lone Star Governance (LSG) framework provides a research-based approach to strengthen school board governance and improve student outcomes. By entering into the LSG contract, Gonzales ISD affirms its commitment to aligning board actions with the district's vision, mission, and student performance goals.

This contract establishes clear expectations, accountability measures, and continuous progress monitoring, ensuring that the board remains focused on student achievement. Through the LSG process, trustees and district leadership will receive targeted support, coaching, and training designed to enhance governance practices, improve decision-making, and build a culture of collaboration and transparency.

Proceeding with the contract will allow GISD to access structured tools and resources that prioritize student outcomes, support effective governance, and foster long-term academic success. By adopting the Lone Star Governance model, the district demonstrates its dedication to providing high-quality education for all students and maintaining a governance system that is student-centered, data-driven, and results-oriented.

Mrs. Torres asked how much this would cost the district. Ms. Smith-Wright replied that it's \$30,000 for 12 months with \$5,000 already being paid. This will align the district as a whole.

PASSED 4/0

5. Reports

5.A. Academic Report

Joy Philpott, Chief Academic Officer, presented an Academic Report to the board.

5.B. Operations Report

Dr. Valerie Ibeji, Deputy Superintendent, presented an Operations Update to the board.

5.C. Financial Report

Amanda Smith, Chief Financial Officer, presented the Financial Report to the board.

5.D. School First (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas) Overview & Gonzales ISD's 2024-25 Rating

Amanda Smith, presented the School First Overview & Gonzales ISD's 2024-25 Rating to the board. The 2024-25 rating is based on 2023-24 data. GISD received an A Rating.

5.E. 2023 Bond Program Update

Casey Sledge, Sledge Engineering//ESC Region 13 provided an update to the board on the 2023 Bond Program Update. Mr. Sledge also went over Apache Stadium OCR Upgrades schematic design estimate.

5.F. Superintendent Reports

Dr. Arreola, shared information on Policy Updates. Working closely with TASB they have recommended that the policies are updated every 5–7 years. The district went through the process in 2021 and will review all policies in the Fall of 2026. As new laws are passed, administration will update policies as needed.

Personnel Updates: Ms. Amanda Sanchez is now the Communication & Community Engagement Specialist

Reading Initiatives: Apaches Reading Together, SA Reading will be launching on October 20

Shout out to Coach Hamilton for all that he is doing leading our athletic department.

6. Board Business

6.A. Board Correspondence

6.B. Dates of Interest

October 14	Community Engagement Meeting @5pm @Admin. Cafeteria
October 20	National Night Out 6-8pm @Edwards Gym
October 20	National School Bus Safety Week
October 23-31	Red Ribbon Week
October 31	Early Release Day
November 3	Staff Development
November 5	Coffee and Connections 7-7:45am @Come & CreepIt
November 10	Board Meeting

7. Adjourn to Closed session: Under Texas Government Code Chapter 551, The board will recess this open session and convene in a closed meeting to discuss items on the agenda. The board may conveniently meet in such a closed or executive session or meeting, concerning any and all subjects and for any and all purposes permitted by Texas government code chapter 551: The board went into closed session at 6:40 PM.

7.A. Personnel

7.B. Board Goals

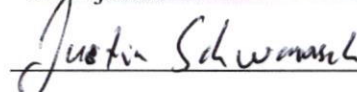
7.C. Superintendent Constraints

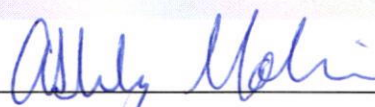
7.D. Student Legal Matter

8. Reconvene to Open Meeting: The Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in Closed Session

The board came back to open session at 7:40PM with no further items to discuss. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM

9. Adjourn


Justin Schwausch, Board President


Ashley Molina, Board Secretary