



# SANTA MARIA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Thursday, October 9, 2025  
Minutes  
6:00 PM

Notice is hereby given that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Santa Maria Independent School District was held on Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 6:00 PM. This meeting was held at the Santa Maria ISD Board Room, 11119 Military Road, Santa Maria, TX 78592.

**Zoom Link:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84244849030?pwd=MUXJnPv6Eqbe4an2tcADBsaSglXeJy.1>

The Santa Maria Independent School District offers reasonable accommodations for persons accessing its school facilities, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you require special accommodations, please contact Ida Torres, Administrative Assistant, at (956)565-6308 for assistance.

## **Call to Order**

*Board meeting was called to order by Luis Cantu, Board Vice-President at 6pm.*

## **Establish Quorum**

### **Present:**

Luis Cantu, Vice-President  
Pablo Ibarra, Secretary  
Dr. Yvette Cantu, Member  
Andrew De la Rosa, Member  
Michele Garcia, Member – 6:03pm  
Miguel Zavala, Member

### **Absent:**

Javier Jimenez, President

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

## **Open Forum**

The Board shall allot no more than 30 minutes to hear persons who desire to make comments to the Board. However, no one presentation shall exceed three minutes. Persons who wish to participate in this portion of the meeting shall sign up with the presiding officer or designee before the meeting begins and shall indicate the topic about which they wish to speak. At regular Board meetings, a person may speak on any topic, regardless of whether the topic is an item on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting. At all other Board meetings, the topics for discussion are limited to only agenda items. Specific factual information or recitation of existing policy may be furnished in response to inquiries, but the Board shall not deliberate or decide regarding any subject that is not included on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting. The presiding officer or designee shall determine whether a person addressing the Board has attempted to solve a matter administratively through resolution channels established by policy.

*No one signed up for Open Forum.*

## **Student Recognition**

### **Every Student, Every Way (Student Achievement)**

1. College Board National Recognition Program Recipients

*Mr. Mariano Escobedo, HS Assistant Principal presented the College Board National Recognition Program Recipients.*

## **Presentations**

1. MAP Growth Results
2. District and Campus Improvement Plans
3. Strategic Plan Update

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“An Equal Opportunity Employer”

**Action Agenda**

**Every Student, Every Way**

1. Discussion and possible action to approve the District and Campus Improvement Plans

*Motion to approve by Pablo Ibarra, second by Miguel Zavala. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.*

<b>Board Member Vote</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<i>Luis Cantu</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Pablo Ibarra</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Dr. Yvette Cantu</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Andrew De la Rosa</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Michele Garcia</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Miguel Zavala</i>	<i>X</i>		

2. Discussion and possible action to approve HB3 District Performance Goals

*Motion to approve by Dr. Yvette Cantu, second by Miguel Zavala. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.*

<b>Board Member Vote</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<i>Luis Cantu</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Pablo Ibarra</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Dr. Yvette Cantu</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Andrew De la Rosa</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Michele Garcia</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Miguel Zavala</i>	<i>X</i>		

**Financial and Operational Efficiency**

1. Discussion and possible action to approve the purchase of New Band Instruments

*Motion to approve by Pablo Ibarra, second by Michel Garcia. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.*

<b>Board Member Vote</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<i>Luis Cantu</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Pablo Ibarra</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Dr. Yvette Cantu</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Andrew De la Rosa</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Michele Garcia</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Miguel Zavala</i>	<i>X</i>		

2. Discussion and possible action to approve contract with Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for District Engineering Projects.

*Motion to take item into Executive Session by Pablo Ibarra, second by Michele Garcia. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.*

<b>Board Member Vote</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<i>Luis Cantu</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Pablo Ibarra</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Dr. Yvette Cantu</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Andrew De la Rosa</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Michele Garcia</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Miguel Zavala</i>	<i>X</i>		

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“An Equal Opportunity Employer”

3. Discussion and possible action to approve Board Resolution Extending Current Depository, Lone Star National Bank

*Motion to approve by Dr. Yvette Cantu, second by Miguel Zavala. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.*

<b>Board Member Vote</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Luis Cantu	X		
Pablo Ibarra	X		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	X		
Andrew De la Rosa	X		
Michele Garcia	X		
Miguel Zavala	X		

4. Public Hearing for contingent fee legal services for delinquent tax collection services

*Motion to Open Public hearing at 7:20pm by Dr. Yvette Cantu, second by Miguel Zavala. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.*

<b>Board Member Vote</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Luis Cantu	X		
Pablo Ibarra	X		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	X		
Andrew De la Rosa	X		
Michele Garcia	X		
Miguel Zavala	X		

5. Discussion and possible action under Texas Govt. Code 2254 for the District to provide a written statement and finding of the District’s need for specialized contingent fee legal services for delinquent tax collection services.

*Motion to approve by Dr. Yvette Cantu, second by Pablo Ibarra. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.*

<b>Board Member Vote</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Luis Cantu	X		
Pablo Ibarra	X		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	X		
Andrew De la Rosa	X		
Michele Garcia	X		
Miguel Zavala	X		

*Motion to Close Public hearing at 7:21pm by Pablo Ibarra, second by Dr. Yvette Cantu. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.*

<b>Board Member Vote</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Luis Cantu	X		
Pablo Ibarra	X		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	X		
Andrew De la Rosa	X		
Michele Garcia	X		
Miguel Zavala	X		

6. Discussion and possible action to award a contract for delinquent tax collection services to

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Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP

Motion to take item into Executive Session by Pablo Ibarra, second by Andrew De la Rosa. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.

<b>Board Member Vote</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Luis Cantu	X		
Pablo Ibarra	X		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	X		
Andrew De la Rosa	X		
Michele Garcia	X		
Miguel Zavala	X		

**Consent Agenda**

Motion to approve Consent Agenda by Michele Garcia, second by Dr. Yvette Cantu. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.

<b>Board Member Vote</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Luis Cantu	X		
Pablo Ibarra	X		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	X		
Andrew De la Rosa	X		
Michele Garcia	X		
Miguel Zavala	X		

**Financial and Operational Efficiency**

1. Approval of Check Payments since last report for September 2025.
2. Approval of Monthly Investment Report for the period of September 2025.
3. Approval of Revenue and Expenditure Report unaudited ending September 2025.
4. Approval of Tax Collection Report for September 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025.
5. Approval of Minutes for Public Hearing and Regular Board meeting of August 13, 2025.
6. Approval of Minutes for Regular Board meeting of September 10, 2025.

**Executive Session**

Motion to go into Executive Session by Michele Garcia, second by Miguel Zavala. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 at 7:24pm.

<b>Board Member Vote</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Luis Cantu	X		
Pablo Ibarra	X		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	X		
Andrew De la Rosa	X		
Michele Garcia	X		
Miguel Zavala	X		

Discussion under the authority of Section 551, Texas Government Code: If, during the course of the meeting covered by this Notice, the Board should determine that a closed session of the Board should be held or is required in relation to any item included in this Notice, then such closed session as authorized by Section 551.001 et. seq. of the Texas Government Code (the Open Government Act) will be held by the Board after the commencement in open session of the meeting covered by this Notice. Such closed session may concern any or all of the subjects and be conducted for any and all purposes permitted by Section 551.071 through and including

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Section 551.084 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, including, but not limited to, private consultation with the Board’s attorney on any or all subjects or matters authorized by law.

A. Section 551.071—Consultation with Attorney on Any Permitted Subject Including, But Not Limited

1) Discussion with School Attorney on Item(s) Exempted under Attorney-Client Privilege

B. Section 551.072—Deliberation Regarding Real Property

C. Section 551.073—Deliberation Regarding Prospective Gift

D. Section 551.074—Personnel Matters, pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code and Attorney consultation pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code

1) Resignations, retirements, terminations, proposed terminations, appointments, evaluations, reassignments, duties and discipline of Professional, Paraprofessional and Non-Contract Employees; Teacher Substitutes and Substitutes for Maintenance, Transportation, and Cafeteria Department

2) Discuss all items as appropriate on Superintendent’s personnel recommendations

3) Discussion on matters related to Superintendent's employment contract.

E. Section 551.076 - Deliberations on Security Devices or Security Audits

F. Section 551.082—School Children; School District Employees; Disciplinary Matters or Complaint

G. Section 551.0821—Personally Identifiable Information about Public School Student

H. Section 552.0031 - Discussion with legal counsel on matters related to designation of non-business days during the calendar year in accordance with Government Code.

**Reconvene In Open Session**

*Motion to Reconvene in Open Session by Pablo Ibarra, second by Michele Garcia. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 at 8:26pm.*

<b><i>Board Member Vote</i></b>	<b><i>Yea</i></b>	<b><i>Nay</i></b>	<b><i>Abstain</i></b>
<i>Luis Cantu</i>	X		
<i>Pablo Ibarra</i>	X		
<i>Dr. Yvette Cantu</i>	X		
<i>Andrew De la Rosa</i>	X		
<i>Michele Garcia</i>	X		
<i>Miguel Zavala</i>	X		

1. Discussion and possible action on items discussed in Executive Session.

*Motion to approve contract with Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for District Engineering Projects by Andrew De la Rosa, second by Michele Garcia. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.*

<b><i>Board Member Vote</i></b>	<b><i>Yea</i></b>	<b><i>Nay</i></b>	<b><i>Abstain</i></b>
<i>Luis Cantu</i>	X		
<i>Pablo Ibarra</i>	X		
<i>Dr. Yvette Cantu</i>	X		

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<i>Andrew De la Rosa</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Michele Garcia</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Miguel Zavala</i>	<i>X</i>		

*Motion to award a contract for delinquent tax collection services to Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP by Pablo Ibarra, second by Michele Garcia. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.*

<b>Board Member Vote</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<i>Luis Cantu</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Pablo Ibarra</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Dr. Yvette Cantu</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Andrew De la Rosa</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Michele Garcia</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Miguel Zavala</i>	<i>X</i>		

2. Discussion and possible action on Superintendent's Contract.

*Motion to approve by Michele Garcia, second by Andrew De la Rosa. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.*


<b>Board Member Vote</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<i>Luis Cantu</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Pablo Ibarra</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Dr. Yvette Cantu</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Andrew De la Rosa</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Michele Garcia</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Miguel Zavala</i>	<i>X</i>		


**Adjournment**

*Motion to adjourn meeting by Dr. Yvette Cantu, second by Pablo Ibarra. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 at 8:27pm.*

<b>Board Member Vote</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<i>Luis Cantu</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Pablo Ibarra</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Dr. Yvette Cantu</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Andrew De la Rosa</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Michele Garcia</i>	<i>X</i>		
<i>Miguel Zavala</i>	<i>X</i>		

This notice was posted in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act on Friday, October 3, 2025.

  
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 Javier E. Jimenez, Jr.  
 Board President

  
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 Pablo Ibarra  
 Board Secretary

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This notice has been publicly posted at the administrative offices of the Santa Maria Independent School District, 11119 Military Rd., Cameron County, Santa Maria, Texas, at least three (3) business days in advance of the above-mentioned meeting, as required by the following sections of the Texas Government Code: 551.071 through 551.084. During the regular school year, this notice is also posted in all schools in the District. The school district also posts its board meeting agendas on the District's internet web site (www.smisd.net)

Consent Agenda: All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Board of Trustees and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired on a specific item(s), that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

**Board of Trustees**

**Javier E. Jimenez, Jr., President**  
**Luis A. Cantu, Vice-President**  
**Pablo Ibarra, Secretary**  
**Dr. Yvette Cantu, Member**  
**Andrew "Andy" De La Rosa, Member**  
**Michele Garcia, Member**  
**Miguel Zavala, Member**

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