

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Terrell County Independent School District
August 26, 2025

Terrell County ISD is dedicated to enhancing the self-worth of each student, providing a quality education in a firm, fair, and friendly atmosphere, and instilling pride, respect, and responsibility for one's self and the community, thus preparing the individual for the challenges and changes of future.

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Following are the official minutes for the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Terrell County Independent School District for **Tuesday, August 26, 2025** beginning at 7:15 p.m. at the Sanderson High School Conference Room at Sanderson High School 302 N. Second Street, Sanderson, Texas.

1. Moment of Silence and Pledge to the Flags (7:15 p.m.)
2. A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 7:15 by school board president, Lali Ortiz.

Members present were: Lali Ortiz, Fernando Sanchez, Jon Tom Lowrance, Wes Billings, Enrique Rivera and Angela Duperrault.

Members absent were: Marco Fuentez

Administration in attendance were: Staff in attendance were: Tanna Lowrance, Superintendent, Blain Chriesman, Chief Financial Officer, John Burgess, Campus Behavior Coordinator, David Carrasci, Technology Director / CTE, Jerry Garza, Athletic Director, Virginia Garza, Counselor / CTE, Micaela Rosas, Teacher

Students and Community Members in attendance were: Diego and Apolonia Gonzalez, Ely Chris Hagelstein, Layla Lowrance, Harper Sertich, Sadie Johnson, Aryselei Rodriguez, Luke Rivera, Emily Landeros, Erin New, Denise Cota, Corina Alvarez

Public Forum

- a. **PUBLIC COMMENTS/AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION [TCISD Policy BED (LOCAL)].**

No one signed up to speak under public comments.

- b. The Junior class asked the board for donations for the Junior Class BBQ fundraiser.

3. District Reports

- a. **Yearbook Report, Gina Roberts**

The 2024-2025 yearbooks have been ordered. A minimum of 50 books were ordered. They had preorders for 42, that leaves 8 extra to sell. Should arrive in a couple of weeks. 5 high school students are interested in being on the yearbook staff. 3 seniors and 2 underclassmen who have been on the staff before. Working on 2020-2021 and 2025-2026 yearbooks.

- b. **Counselor's Report: V. Garza reported**

We are up and running. Scheduling of students went well with the majority coming in before the first day of school. Having a few issues with Midland College. As of this morning students were still not in all of their correct classes. I hope it is being worked on. A few Midland College representatives will be here Thursday afternoon to visit and hopefully iron out a few things concerning classes and pathways. As far as the pathways are concerned, Mrs. Lowrance has been working to get them as equally weighted as possible. We currently have 15 students taking at least one dual credit course. Every single Senior is included in this count. I believe that is a first. Working on SB 12 Parent Informed Consent for School-Based Counseling and Support Services Up and coming events scheduled thus far: September 11 Juniors and Seniors will be traveling to Fort Stockton High School to attend their College, Career, and Military Fair in the morning

September 17 we will be taking the entire high school to Alpine for Career fair at the Pete Gallego center. September 30th is set up for ACT School Day Testing - currently have 6 students signed up to take the test. Also working on setting up PSAT and SAT school days testing. We have once again been provided information concerning the Tony Gonzales internship. The

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deadline for this is October 1st. We will have all of our Seniors applying to college and submitting applications the week of October 13 - 19. This is Free College Application week. STAAR testing will take place in December once we get together to determine when. We have also been selected for Stand-alone field testing in RLA for Grade 4 and 5.A test in which we must participate.

- c. **Technology Director's Report: D.Carrasco**
Mr. Carrasco reported all computers have been issued. Summer air conditioning work with Honeywell update. VGI has completed the door install.
- d. **Athletic Director Report: Jerry Garza** reported four varsity cross country runners competed on August 9th in Pecos. At the Tall City Invitational all varsity and junior high runners improved their times. Varsity girls has 9 runners, 3 varsity boys have signed up, 7 junior high runners, 3 junior high boys are running. District will be October 8th in Rankin. Football scrimmage in Rankin went well for the varsity team. There are 7 junior high boys wanting to play junior high football.
- e. **Financial Report: B.Chriesman** reported on the List of Bills for July and August and gave the Financials and Tax Report
- f. **Superintendent/Principal Reports: T.Lowrance** reported on the Preliminary FIRST rating and A-F Rating. Terrell County received a B on both ratings.

4. Consent Agenda :

- a. **Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 23, 2025**
The motion was made by Mrs. Duperrault to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 23, 2025. Mr. Lowrance seconded the motion. The motion passed 5:0 with Mr. Rivera abstaining.
- b. **Minutes of the Called Board Meeting and Budget Workshop of August 14, 2025.**
The motion was made by Mrs. Duperrault to approve the minutes of the Called Meeting and Budget Workshop of August 14, 2025. Mr. Lowrance seconded the motion. The motion passed 5:0 with Mr. Billings abstaining.

Action Items:

- a. **Mr. Lowrance motioned and Mr. Rivera seconded to approve a calendar change to December 10, 2025 making it a 'no school day' due to Sanderson hosting Elementary and Junior High district UIL.**
The motion passed 6:0.
- b. **Mr. Lowrance motioned and Mr. Rivera seconded to approve the use of additional House Bill 2 SSRA amounts to be distributed to staff not receiving TRA.**
The motion passed 6-0.
- c. **Mr. Lowrance motioned and Mr. Sanchez seconded to approve the final 24-25 Budget Amendments.**
The motion passed 6-0.
- d. **Mr. Sanchez motioned and Mr. Billings seconded to approve the Final 24-25 Disbursements.**
The motion passed 6-0.
- e. **Mr. Lowrance motioned and Mr. Rivera seconded to approve the 2025-2026 TCISD Budget.**
The motion passed 6-0.
- f. **Mr. Sanchez motioned and Mr. Billings seconded to approve the 2025 Tax Rate (M&O and I&S) at a 2025 Tax Rate for Maintenance and Operations at \$.6822 and the tax rate for Interest and Sinking at \$.5420 for a total tax rate of \$1.2242.**
The motion passed 6-0.

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The board took a break from 8:24-8:39. (Mrs. Ortiz and Mr. Lowrance signed the TCISD 25-26 budget.)

Executive Session: Pursuant of Texas Governmental Code 551, the board may retire to closed session for discussion of items listed below:

THE BOARD ENTERED EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:40 p.m.

i. Personnel

The board reentered open meeting at 8:47

5. Adjournment

Mr. Rivera made the motion to adjourn and Mr. Billings seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned by Mrs. Ortiz at 4:49 P.M.

X 

Mrs. Lali Ortiz

President

X 

Mr. Jon Tom Lowrance

Secretary