SANTA MARIA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Wednesday, February 25, 2026
Minutes
6:00pm

Notice is hereby given that a Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Santa Maria Independent School District was held on Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 6:00 PM. This meeting was held at the Santa Maria ISD Cafeteria, 11119 Military Road, Santa Maria, TX 78592.

Zoom Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82606058354?pwd=KjAGBby1uVwz6mJuhmQVlagLKMmgS4.1

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 to the Superintendent, at (956) 565-6308 for assistance.

Call To Order

Meeting was called to order by Javier Jimenez, Jr., Board President at 6:00 pm.

Establish Quorum

Board Members	***Present***	***Absent***
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*	
Luis Cantu	*X*	
Pablo Ibarra	*X*	
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*	
Andrew De la Rosa	*X – A 6:06pm*	
Michele Garcia	*X*	
Miguel Zavala		*X*

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 office 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.

Presentations

Financial and Operational Efficiency

1. 2024-2025 District Audit by Raul Hernandez, Raul Hernandez & Company, P.C.

Presented by Mr. Raul Hernandez with Raul Hernandez & Company, P.C. via Zoom meeting.

2. 2025-2026 Budget Mid-Year Update.

Presented by Amanda L. Najar, Business Manager.

It is the policy of Santa Maria ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap, in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation act of 1973, as amended.

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Action Agenda

1. Discussion and possible action to approve the District Audit for 2024-2025.

Motion to approve by Michele Garcia, second by Luis Cantu. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.

Board Member Vote	***Yea***	***Nay***	*Abstain*
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*		
Luis Cantu	*X*		
Pablo Ibarra	*X*		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*		
Andrew De la Rosa	*X*		
Michele Garcia	*X*		
Miguel Zavala			

2. Discussion and possible action to approve Instructional Calendar for 2026-2027 school year.

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

Board Member Vote	***Yea***	***Nay***	*Abstain*
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*		
Luis Cantu	*X*		
Pablo Ibarra	*X*		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*		
Andrew De la Rosa	*X*		
Michele Garcia	*X*		
Miguel Zavala			

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes for Regular Board meeting of February 11, 2026.

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

Board Member Vote	***Yea***	***Nay***	*Abstain*
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*		
Luis Cantu	*X*		
Pablo Ibarra	*X*		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*		
Andrew De la Rosa	*X*		
Michele Garcia	*X*		
Miguel Zavala			

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Executive Session

Motion to go into Executive Session by Michele Garcia, second by Pablo Ibarra. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 at 6:25pm.

Board Member Vote	***Yea***	***Nay***	*Abstain*
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*		
Luis Cantu	*X*		
Pablo Ibarra	*X*		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*		
Andrew De la Rosa	*X*		
Michele Garcia	*X*		
Miguel Zavala			

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 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

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

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Reconvene In Open Session

Motion to Reconvene in Open Session by Pablo Ibarra, second by Michele Garcia. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.

Board Member Vote	***Yea***	***Nay***	*Abstain*
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*		
Luis Cantu	*X*		
Pablo Ibarra	*X*		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*		
Andrew De la Rosa	*X*		
Michele Garcia	*X*		
Miguel Zavala			

1. Discussion and possible action on items discussed in the Executive Session.
2. Discussion and possible action on recommendations on all items as appropriate on Superintendent's personnel recommendations.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn meeting by Michele Garcia, second by Pablo Ibarra. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 at 7:32pm.

Board Member Vote	***Yea***	***Nay***	*Abstain*
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*		
Luis Cantu	*X*		
Pablo Ibarra	*X*		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*		
Andrew De la Rosa	*X*		
Michele Garcia	*X*		
Miguel Zavala			

This notice was posted in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act on Thursday, February 19, 2026.

Javier E. Jimenez, Jr.
Board President

Pablo Ibarra
Board Secretary

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)

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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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