

Regular Meeting
Monday, February 9, 2026 5:30 PM Central

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

Naomi Brown: Present
Ross Hendershot, III: Present
Ashley Molina: Absent
D'Anna Robinson: Present
Justin Schwausch: Present
Josie Smith-Wright: Present
Gloria Torres: Present
Present: 6, Absent: 1.

1. Call to Order

Justin Schwausch called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

1.A. Roll Call

6 Board Members were present.

Ashley Molina absent

1.B. Invocation:

Jada Henson led the invocation.

1.C. Pledge:

Yennifer Hernandez led the pledge

1.D. Mission Statement:

Bryanna Canales led the pledge

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Recognitions

Mrs. Mikesh, Principal from GPA recognized student, Zion Allen and staff member Jessica Boulter.

Ms. Leal, Principal from GE recognized student, Brixlyn Chavez and staff member Mary Camarillo.

Mrs. Freeman Principal from North Avenue recognized student, Paola Pizano and staff member Karen Espinoza.

Mrs. Gibson Principal from GJHS recognized student, Zariah Washington and staff member Christiny Carrizales

Coach Hamilton, Athletic Director, recognized Jordyn Gonzales as the student athlete of the month.

Jennifer Ervin, CTE Coordinator presented gifts to the board members in honor of CTE

appreciation month.

Dwayne Maly from Victoria College presented student's with NCCER certificates.

Erin Lindemann LaBuhn, recognized GISDs 7 school counselors in honor of Counselor 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 D'Anna Robinson and seconded by Josie Smith-Wright, Passed.

Ashley Molina: Absent, Naomi Brown: Yea, Ross Hendershot, III: Yea, D'Anna Robinson:

Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Dr. Arreola went before the board asking to approve the consent agenda.

Motion passed 6/0

4.A.1. Minutes of Meetings:

4.A.2. Budget Amendments:

4.B. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Transportation Equipment Services Agreement with HEF-P Gonzales, LLC and Associated Purchase

"I move that the board approve the agreement and purchase, as presented.". This motion, made by Josie Smith-Wright and seconded by Ross Hendershot, III, Passed.

Ashley Molina: Absent, Naomi Brown: Yea, Ross Hendershot, III: Yea, D'Anna Robinson:

Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Dominic Ricotta, a representative from Highland Electric presented to the board an opportunity the district had to lease electric buses. The proposal included replacing the district's four in-town buses with an electric fleet for a ten-year period of time. Included with the lease is the charging infrastructure and reimbursement rates for any maintenance costs the district incurs in-house (maintenance will be out sourced when possible). At the end of the ten year term, the district will have the option to purchase the leased equipment at fair market value, if desired.

- Buses will only be used for in-town routes

Motion carried 6/0

4.C. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the TEA Staff Development Waiver Minutes Application

"I move that the Board of Trustees approve the application for 2,100 staff development waiver minutes to TEA for the 2025-26 school year as presented.". This motion, made by Naomi Brown and seconded by Josie Smith-Wright, Passed.

Ashley Molina: Absent, Naomi Brown: Yea, Ross Hendershot, III: Yea, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Jennifer Molnoskey, Director of PEIMS went before the board seeking approval of the TEA Staff Development Waiver Minutes Application for the 2025-26 school year.

Motion carried 6/0

4.D. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the TEA Low Attendance Day Waiver Application for January 16, 2026

"I move that the Board of Trustees approve the application for the Low Attendance Day Waiver to TEA for January 16, 2026 as presented." This motion, made by Naomi Brown and seconded by Josie Smith-Wright, Passed.

Ashley Molina: Absent, Naomi Brown: Yea, Ross Hendershot, III: Yea, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Jennifer Molnoskey, Director of PEIMS went before the board seeking approval to apply for a Waiver Application to TEA for Low Attendance on January 16, 2026 due to safety concerns. Our district ADA was at 78.85%.

This will not count against the waiver minutes.

Motion carried 6/0

4.E. Discuss and Consider Action on Amendment to House Bill 2 (HB 2) Certification Compliance Plan

"I move that the Board approve the amendment to the District's House Bill 2 (HB 2) certification compliance plan, as presented." This motion, made by D'Anna Robinson and seconded by Gloria Torres, Passed.

Ashley Molina: Absent, Naomi Brown: Yea, Ross Hendershot, III: Yea, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Mary Lynn Ramirez, Director of Human Resources, went before the board seeking approval on the amendment to the District's House Bill 2 (HB 2) certification compliance plan to include Grow Your Own program participants teaching Foundation Curriculum courses. The amended plan addresses a total of nineteen uncertified instructional staff currently transitioning to full certification under the District's approved phased timing. Board approval authorizes the District to submit the amended certification plan to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for review and approval and supports continued compliance with House Bill 2 (HB 2).

Motion Carried 6/0

4.F. Discuss and Consider Action on Resolution that supports SB 11

"I move that the board Not Approve the resolution as presented." This motion, made by Ross Hendershot, III and seconded by Josie Smith-Wright, Passed.

Ashley Molina: Absent, Naomi Brown: Yea, Ross Hendershot, III: Yea, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

"I move that the board Not Approve the Resolution as presented.". This motion, made by Ross Hendershot, III and seconded by Josie Smith-Wright, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

"I move that the board Not Approve the Resolution as presented.". This motion, made by Ross Hendershot, III and seconded by Josie Smith-Wright, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Dr. Arreola went before the board with a Resolution that supports SB 11.

SB 11 clarifies that school districts may adopt policies to ensure that prayer and other religious expression are permitted when such activities are student-initiated, voluntary, and non-disruptive, and do not infringe on the rights of others. The legislation emphasizes that participation in prayer or religious activity may not be required, encouraged, or discouraged by the district or its employees acting in their official capacities.

Adoption of a policy aligned with SB 11 provides clear expectations for campuses, supports consistent implementation across the District, and helps ensure compliance with constitutional requirements related to religious expression in public schools.

Administration recommended that the Board Not Approve the resolution that supports SB 11 in Gonzales ISD Schools.

Motion Carried 6/0

4.G. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Lone Star Governance Board Monitoring Calendar

"I move that the board approve the Lone Star Governance Board Monitoring Calendar as presented. This motion, made by Gloria Torres and seconded by Naomi Brown, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

I move that the board approve the Lone Star Governance Board Monitoring Calendar as presented. This motion, made by Gloria Torres and seconded by Naomi Brown, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Justin Schwausch, Board President, went before the board seeking approval of the Lone Star Governance Board Monitoring Calendar. This calendar outlines the schedule for reviewing progress toward district goals and constraints, ensuring regular and systematic monitoring of student outcomes and governance priorities. Approval of the calendar establishes a consistent framework for board oversight, aligns monitoring activities with the district's strategic goals, and supports transparency and accountability in governance practices throughout the year.

Motion passed 6/0

4.H. Discuss and Consider Action on the Report for Board Goal 2, GPMs 2.1, 2.2, 2.3
"I move that the board accept this report on Board Goal 2, Goal Progress Measures 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3 as presented." This motion, made by Ross Hendershot, III and seconded by D'Anna Robinson, Passed.

Ashley Molina: Absent, Naomi Brown: Yea, Ross Hendershot, III: Yea, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Joy Philpott, Chief Academic Officer, appeared before the Board seeking approval of the report presented, which included an update on board Goal 2, Progress measures 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3.

Motion passed 6/0

4.I. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve Maintenance GMP #3 for District-Wide HVAC Improvements as part of the 2023 Bond Program

I move to approve the Maintenance GMP#3 in the amount of \$3,620,486 to Weaver & Jacobs for District-Wide HVAC Improvements as part of the 2023 Bond Program, and authorize the Superintendent to negotiate the final terms of the contract. This motion, made by Naomi Brown and seconded by Ross Hendershot, III, Passed.

Ashley Molina: Absent, D'Anna Robinson: Abstain (With Conflict), Naomi Brown: Yea, Ross Hendershot, III: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

Casey Sledge, from Region XIII/Sledge Engineering, went before the board seeking approval for Maintenance GMP #3 for District-Wide HVAC Improvements as part of the 2023 Bond Program.

In February 2024 the Board selected Weaver & Jacobs as the construction Manager at Risk for the 2023 Bond Program. This scope of work is referenced in the Bond Program as Maintenance GMP #3 and includes:

- Replacement of 78 HVAC Units
 - 49 at GHS, 14 at GNA, 8 at GES, 6 at GJH, 1 at EAC
- Associated electrical improvements to support new units
- Efficiency improvements at GNA Cafeteria
- Contingency Funds for:
 - Testing & Balancing units not being replaced to optimize building air balance
 - Roof curbing connections
 - Electrical system unknowns such as breaker replacements
 - Possible adds for air quality improvements such as:
 - Improvements to units not being replaced
 - Adding components to improve air flow and balance such as exhaust and circulation

Once awarded, Weaver & Jacobs will order materials and schedule work with campus administrators. Due to lead time of HVAC units and preferences for crane work when students are not on site, Weaver & Jacobs may need to extend the completion to Fall 2026.

Budget Information

These projects are to be funded from the 2023 Bond Funds. The GMP total for this scope is \$3,620,486 and includes \$650,000 in Owner and Contractor contingencies for items listed above. All Contingency and Allowance funds will be tracked, and all unused funds will remain with GISD.

Motion passed 5/1 abstention(D'Anna Robinson)

5. Reports

5.A. Purchase of Library Books

Joy Philpott, Chief Academic Officer, went before the board with a report for the purchase of library books. Texas law now requires that any purchase of books for school libraries(titles that are not already in the library's collection) be brought to the Board for approval. The list must remain public for 30 days before the purchase can be made. This list will be taken to the Board in March for approval.

5.B. Public Hearing: TAPR

Joy Philpot, Chief Academic Officer, presented the Annual Public Hearing on the Texas Academic Performance Report as required by State Law.

5.C. 2023 Bond Program Montly Update

Casey Sledge, ESC Region XIII/Sledge Engineering, provided an update to the board on the 2023 Bond Program.

5.D. Superintendent Reports

Dr. Arreola provided a monthly update.

6. Board Business

6.A. Board Correspondence

No board correspondence.

6.B. Dates of Interest

February 12	Chamber Banquet
February 13	District Closed Last Day to File for a place on the ballot (District 3, 5, & 6)
February 16	Staff Development Day
February 17	LSG Check-In Meeting
February 25	Black History Program 5:30 GHS

*February 19th-CTE Showcase

*March 3rd Growing Greatness 5-6:30

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 7:19pm.

7.A. Personnel

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

To approve a One-year, Chapter 21 contract for Dr. Ibeji. This motion, made by Josie Smith-Wright and seconded by Ross Hendershot, III, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Motion was made to approve a One-Year, Non-Chapter 21 contract for Chief Brooks. This motion, made by Josie Smith-Wright and seconded by Ross Hendershot, III, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

The board reconvened to open session at 8:11pm.

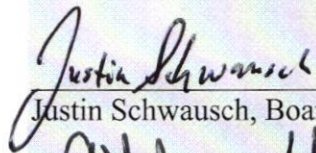
Josie Smith Wright made a motion to approve the one-year, Chapter21 contract for Dr. Ibeji. Motion passed 6/0

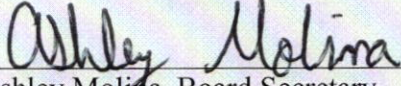
Josie Smith-Wright made a motion to approve a one-year, Non-Chapter 21 contract for Chief Brooks.

Motion passed 6/0

9. Adjourn

Justin Schwausch, Board President, adjourned the meeting at 8:12pm.


Justin Schwausch, Board President


Ashley Molina, Board Secretary