

Regular Meeting
Monday, January 12, 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: Present
D'Anna Robinson: Present
Justin Schwausch: Present
Josie Smith-Wright: Present
Gloria Torres: Present

Present: 7.

Ashley Molina: Absent

Present: 6, Absent: 1.

1. Call to Order

Jusin Schwausch called the meeting to order at 5:30pm

1.A. Roll Call

1.B. Invocation:

Josie Smith-Wright led the invocation.

1.C. Pledge:

Ross Hendershot led the pledge.

1.D. Mission Statement:

Gloria Torres read the mission statement.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Recognitions

Mrs. Mikesh GPA Principal recognized Kaliyah Hattley, student, and Stephanie Vela, staff member.

Ms. Leal GE Principal recognized Aaron Webb, student, and Carol Oakes, staff member.

Mrs. Freeman NA Principal recognized Abigail Martinez, student, and Jesslyn Horton, staff member.

Mrs. Gibson GJHS Principal recognized Lex Holmes, student, and Kellie Staton, staff member.

Mrs. Perez GHS Principal recognized the Color Guard and Coach Scotty Upshaw

Coach Hamilton recognized the GHS Volleyball Team.

Dr. Arreola and campus principals and students, Recognized the School Board.

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 Ashley Molina and seconded by Gloria Torres, Passed.

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

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Josie Smith-Wright questioned what the Teachers of Tomorrow MOU is.

Motion Passed 7/0

4.A.1. Minutes of Meetings:

4.A.2. Budget Amendments:

4.A.3. Teachers of Tomorrow MOU

4.B. Discuss and Consider Action on the Interlocal agreement with University of Texas at Austin for Dual Enrollment (OnRamps) classes

"I move that the board authorize the Board President to sign the interlocal agreement for OnRamps Courses with the University of Texas at Austin." This motion, made by Josie Smith-Wright and seconded by Ashley Molina, Passed.

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

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Mrs. Joy Philpott went before the board seeking approval of the Interlocal Agreement with the University of Texas at Austin for OnRamps courses.

Motion Passed 7/0

4.C. Discuss and Consider Action on Application for Delay in Implementing HB2

"I move that the Board approve the district's application for a delay in implementing HB2, as presented." This motion, made by Gloria Torres and seconded by Ashley Molina, Passed.

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

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

MaryLynn Ramirez went before the board seeking the board's approval on the application to delay implementing HB2.

Motion Passed 7/0

4.D. Discuss and Consider Action to Adopt the current 15 points reflected on the Lone Star Governance Progress Tracker

"I move that the board adopt the current 15 points reflected on the Lone Star Governance Progress Tracker, as presented". This motion, made by Naomi Brown and seconded by Josie

Smith-Wright, Passed.

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

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Justin Schwausch explained to the board that this action item reflects the information discussed with Jacinto Ramos, Lone Star Governance Representative.

Motion Passed 7/0

4.D.1. Discuss and Consider Action to Adopt Vision and Mission Statements

"I move that the board adopt the Vision and Mission Statements as presented" Vision:

Gonzales ISD is a thriving learning community where every student feels safe, respected, and empowered to achieve academic success. This motion, made by Josie Smith-Wright and seconded by Gloria Torres, Passed.

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

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

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

I move that the board adopt #4 striking the mission of and adding in a safe learning environment, so it reads Gonzales ISD prepares future-ready students through high-quality instruction, supportive relationships, and equitable learning opportunities in a safe learning environment. This motion, made by Ross Hendershot, III and seconded by D'Anna Robinson, Passed.

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

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

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

The draft mission and vision statements were drafted at the last Lone Star Governance meeting to align with our strategic plan. The goal is to focus on the students, the future of what GISD believes in, describes the ideal state or destination, what we want to be and what we believe in.

The current vision statement, states "that we want to be a destination district" but does not say what our vision is for our students and was not student driven from what the board felt.

Motion Carried 7/0

4.E. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Order and Notice of Election for Gonzales ISD School Board, Districts 3,5, & 6

"I move that the Board of Trustees approve the Order and Notice of Election for GISD Single Member District 3,5, and 6 as presented". This motion, made by Naomi Brown and seconded by Josie Smith-Wright, Passed.

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

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

I move that the Board of Trustees approve the Order and Notice of Election for GISD Single Member District 3,5, & 6 as presented. This motion, made by Naomi Brown and seconded by Josie Smith-Wright, Passed.

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

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

The terms of office for D'Anna Robinson (District 3), Ross Hendershot (District 5), and Ashley Molina (District 6) will expire May 2026. Accordingly, the Board is required to call an election to fill these positions.

The proposed Notice and Order of Election for Gonzales Independent School District Single-Member Districts 3, 5, & 6 are included for Board consideration on the following pages.

Motion Passed 7/0

5. Reports

5.A. Goal 1 Progress Measure Update 1.1, 1.2, 1.3

Mrs. Philpott went before the board to discuss Goal 1 Progress Measures 1.1, 1.2, 1.3

5.B. 2023 Bond Program Monthly Update

Casey Sledge, Sledge Engineering/ESC Region 13 provided an update to the board on the 2023 Bond Program.

5.C. Superintendent Reports

Dr. Arreola provided a monthly update.

- Congratulate Coach Keene, the HS basketball coach, for his 100th basketball win. He also posted on social media that our basketball players' overall GPA was 89.9%. There were 4 players on the team with an overall A or B average and two players with all A's. Great way to show how focused we are also focusing on Academics as well as athletics. Shout out to Mrs. Perez and the high school teachers.
- Good luck to high school cheerleaders as they will be traveling to Fort Worth to compete in the UIL Competition.
- Happy Board Appreciation Month

6. Board Business

6.A. Board Correspondence

6.B. Dates of Interest

MLK Holiday 1/19 — With several GISD students participating in the MLK Edwards Foundation Art competition beginning at 10 AM at Edwards Community Center
1/17 @ 11am The Edwards Foundation is having a street dedication on the corner of Fly and Robertson Street.

Ms. Smith Wright stepped out at 6:45pm and stepped back in at 6:49pm

January 14	Coffee and Connections @ Matamoros
January 21	Connections and Collaboration Superintendent Luncheon

February 4	Coffee and Connections
February 17	LSG Check-In 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 6:51pm

7.A. Student Legal Matter Update

7.B. Personnel

7.C. Approval of New Guardians

7.D. Discuss Good Cause Exception on having armed police at every campus

7.E. Policy Update DC (LOCAL)

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

I move that the board approve the good cause exception as presented by Mr. Kridler. This motion, made by Josie Smith-Wright and seconded by Ross Hendershot, III, Passed.

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

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Motion to approve new armed guardians 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

Motion to approve the revision to DC (Local) with the necessary corrections 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

Motion to approve the agreement regarding Special Education Student as discussed in closed session. 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

Ashley Molina stepped out of closed session at 6:55pm and returned at 7:34pm

Ashley Molina left @8:43pm

The board returned to open meeting at 8:44pm

- Mr. Kridler went before the board seeking approval of a resolution for Good Cause Exception regarding GISD Police Department.

- Motion carried 6/0
- Motion made to approve new guardians as presented.
 - Motion carried 6/0
- Motion to approve the revision to DC (Local) with the necessary corrections as presented.
 - Motion carried 6/0
- Motion to approve the agreement regarding Special Education Student as discussed in closed session.
 - Motion carried 6/0

9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:48pm.



Justin Schwausch, Board President

Ashley Molina, Board Secretary