

Castleberry Independent School District
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
August 18, 2025
6:00 p.m.

The Board of Education met in Regular Session on Monday, August 18, 2025. Members present were Dewey Taliaferro, Mary Lou Martinez, Cathy Gatica, Tracy Gallman, Linda Aguillón, Ariela Martinez, and Janice Carrell. Dewey Taliaferro, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Castleberry Administration Building, 5228 Ohio Garden Rd., Fort Worth, TX 76114, stating the following:

“I call this meeting of the Castleberry Independent School District to order. Let the record show that a quorum of Board Members is present, that this meeting has been duly called, and that notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.”

Mary Lou Martinez, Board Vice President, gave the invocation.

Board members heard communication from citizen Eric Crile, who discussed his candidacy for the Tarrant Appraisal District Board.

There were questions regarding the Consent Agenda. Board Policy BDB(LOCAL) was pulled from Board Policy Update 125, which was included in the Consent Agenda.

Joe Don Bobbitt, Tarrant County Tax Assessor, gave a presentation on Castleberry ISD appraisal numbers and answered questions from Board members.

Scott Hutchings, Lead Secondary Coordinator for Math and Accountability, presented the 2025 A–F Campus and District Accountability Ratings and answered questions from Board members.

Laura Guzman, Secondary EB Coordinator, and Vianey Lemus, Elementary EB Coordinator, presented the TELPAS results for the 2024–2025 school year and answered questions from Board members.

Dr. June Ritchlin, Executive Director of Educational Leadership, presented the 2025–2026 District Improvement Plan Goals and Performance Objectives and answered questions from Board members.

Cameron Hollomon, Bond Program Manager, presented an update on the 2024 Castleberry High School Bond Program construction and answered questions from Board members.

Board President, Dewey Taliaferro, called the Board into Closed Session at 7:10 p.m. for the purpose of private consultation with the Board’s attorney on any or all subjects or matters authorized by law and for the purpose of considering appointment, employment, property, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear complaints against a public officer.

The Board came out of Closed Session at 7:57 p.m. and reconvened into Open Session at 8:01 p.m.

The Pledges of Allegiance to the American and Texas flags were led by Board Member Ariela Martinez.

Didi Pierce, Director of Athletics, recognized the members of the Athletic Booster Club for their exceptional dedication, hard work, and countless volunteer hours in support of student-athletes and athletic programs.

William Wooten, Chief Financial Officer, presented the proposed 2025–2026 tax rate of \$1.2469 per \$100 of taxable property value, consisting of a Maintenance & Operations (M&O) rate of \$0.7469 and an Interest & Sinking (I&S) rate of \$0.5000, which remains unchanged from the prior year. Mr. Wooten answered questions from Board members.

William Wooten, Chief Financial Officer, provided a snapshot of the 2025–2026 revenue collections and expenditures by fund and function as of July 31, 2025, and answered questions from Board members.

Board President Dewey Taliaferro presented the Consent Agenda items as follows:

- Consider approval of Board Minutes from July 14, 2025 (Regular Meeting), and July 24, 2025 (Special Meeting).
- Consider approval of the Vendor List of Possible Purchases over \$50,000.
- Consider approval of Board Policy Update 125, with the exclusion of Board Policy BDB(LOCAL).

The Board considered approval of the amended Consent Agenda as presented.

Mary Lou Martinez made a motion, seconded by Dewey Taliaferro, to approve the amended Consent Agenda. The motion carried with a vote of 7-0.

The Board considered adoption of the 2025 Tax Rate Resolution. Dewey Taliaferro made a motion, seconded by Cathy Gatica, to approve the property tax rate by adopting a tax rate of \$1.2469 per \$100 of taxable property value, consisting of a Maintenance & Operations (M&O) rate of \$0.7469 and a Debt Service (I&S) rate of \$0.5000, which is effectively a 13.5 percent increase as presented. The motion carried with a vote of 7-0.

The Board considered approval of Budget Amendment #2. Ariela Martinez made a motion, seconded by Mary Lou Martinez, to approve Budget Amendment #2 as presented. The motion carried with a vote of 7-0.

Board members reviewed key dates.

Board members discussed school board pictures, scheduled for Monday, September 8, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

Board members discussed Lone Star Governance training from Region 11, scheduled for February.

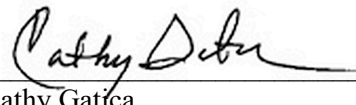
The next meeting will be on Monday, September 8, 2025.

The Board adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Minutes were prepared by Angela Branch, Executive Assistant and Public Information to the Board of Education, and reviewed by Board Secretary Cathy Gatica.



Dewey Taliaferro
Board President
Castleberry Independent School District



Cathy Gatica
Board Secretary
Castleberry Independent School District

Date: September 8, 2025

Date: September 8, 2025