Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting
Monday, February 23, 2026
Board of Trustees
Katy Independent School District

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Katy Independent School District was held on **Monday, February 23, 2026** in the Board Room of the Katy ISD Education Support Complex, 6301 South Stadium Lane, Katy, Texas, 77494. Public access to the free Livestream of the Regular Meeting was made available through the Katy ISD Board meeting Livestream link. The following Board members were present: Lance Redmon, Rebecca Fox, Dawn Champagne, Morgan Calhoun, Mary Ellen Cuzela, Amy Thieme and James Cross.

1. **Call to Order**
   At 5:02 p.m. Board President Lance Redmon opened the meeting. Dr. Gregorski verified that the provisions of Section 551.001 et seq. of the Texas Government Code were met in accordance with the public notice of the meeting.

2. **Pledges of Allegiance**
   2.1 Katy Elementary student to lead the pledges of allegiance. Katy Elementary student, Mia Bella Roman led the pledges of allegiance.

   2.2 Members of the Freeman High School Orchestra will perform the National Anthem. Freeman High School Orchestra students performed the National Anthem.

3. **Recognitions**
   3.1 Recognize new principal for Winborn Elementary School. Dr. Ken Gregorski, presented.

   3.2 6A University Interscholastic League 2026 Spirit State Championship. Brandon Webb, Director of Communications presented.

   3.3 Katy ISD High School Recognition - Seven Lakes High School. Lance Redmon, Board President and Morgan Calhoun, Board member presented.

4. **Public Comment**
   4.1 Public comment on posted agenda items.
   a) Autumn Mahler spoke regarding Agenda item 8.8, plan for Opportunity Awareness Center.
   b) Lindsay Yang spoke regarding oversight of the Food and Nutrition Services department.
   c) Jesus Nieto spoke regarding agenda item 5.1, Consultation with Board's attorney.

   4.2 Public comment on non-agenda items.
   a) Claudia Joya-Eichberger spoke regarding Lacrosse as a club sport for Katy ISD.
   b) Angela Shaver spoke regarding school protests.
   c) Jennifer Jesse spoke regarding paraprofessional pay & Katy ISD health plan.
   d) Marcy Sabol spoke regarding paraprofessional pay.
   e) Amelia Smith spoke regarding SB12.
   f) Kenneth Smith spoke regarding injunction decision passed down on previous Friday.

5. **Closed Meeting**
   Board President Lance Redmon announced the Board was convening in Closed Meeting as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551.001 et seq. concerning the sections and purposes listed below.

   5.1 Consultation with Board's attorney. (Texas Government Code 551.071: For the purpose of a private consultation with the Board's attorney on any or all subjects or matters authorized by law; and Texas Government Code 551.129: For the purpose of a private consultation with the Board's attorney by telephone conference call.)

5.2 Discuss and consider Board approval for employees who are being recommended to receive administrative probationary, administrative term, staff member probationary, and staff member term contracts. (Texas Government Code 551.074: For the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear complaints or charges against a public officer or employee.)

6. Reconvene from Closed Meeting – The Board will reconvene from Closed Meeting.

6.1 Consider Board approval for employees who are being recommended to receive administrative probationary, administrative term, staff member probationary, and staff member term contracts. Moved by Dawn Champagne second by Rebecca Fox that the Board of Trustees approves employees who are being recommended to receive administrative probationary, administrative term, staff member probationary, and staff member term contracts.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

7. Reports

7.1 Katy ISD Artificial Intelligence Framework. Dr. Sanee Bell presented.

7.2 Nutrition and Food Service Department Overview. Alexa Carrier, Executive Director of Nutrition and Food Service presented.

Full Consent Agenda Option

Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Mary Ellen Cuzela that the Board of Trustees approves of the Consent Agenda 8.1 through 8.18, except for items 8.7 and 8.8 which were removed at the request of Trustee Mary Ellen Cuzela and Morgan Calhoun for further discussion.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

8. Consent Agenda

8.1 Consider Board approval of naming the North Transportation facility as recommended by the Naming Advisory Committee. Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Mary Ellen Cuzela that the Board of Trustees approve of naming the North Transportation facility as recommended by the Naming Advisory Committee.

Motion passed by 7 to 0 vote.

8.2 Consider an Order Authorizing the Issuance of Katy Independent School District Unlimited Tax School Building and/or Refunding Bonds, as Term Rate Bonds and/or Fixed Rate Bonds in one or more series; setting certain parameters for the bonds; authorizing a Pricing Officer to approve the amount, the interest rate, price, including the terms thereof; and certain other procedures and provisions related thereto. Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Mary Ellen Cuzela that the Board of Trustees approves an Order Authorizing the Issuance of Katy Independent School District Unlimited Tax School Building and/or Refunding Bonds, as Term Rate Bonds and/or Fixed Rate Bonds in one or more series; setting certain parameters for the bonds; authorizing a Pricing Officer to approve the amount, the interest rate, price, including the terms thereof; and certain other procedures and provisions related thereto.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

8.3 Consider Board approval of an Order approving a new term rate period or fixed rate period for all or a portion of the Katy Independent School District variable rate unlimited tax school building bonds, series 2021C; and approving other provisions relating thereto. Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Mary Ellen Cuzela that the Board of Trustees approve an Order for a new term rate period or fixed rate period for all or a portion of the Katy Independent School District variable rate unlimited tax school building bonds, series 2021C; and approving other provisions relating thereto.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

8.4 Consider Board approval of a Resolution Expressing Intent to Defease/Redeem Certain of the District's Outstanding Bonds. Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Mary Ellen Cuzela that the Board of Trustees approves the Resolution Expressing Intent to Defease/Redeem Certain of the District's Outstanding Bonds.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

8.5 Consider Board approval of a Resolution Declaring Intention to Reimburse Project Expenditures. Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Mary Ellen Cuzela that the Board of Trustees approve a Resolution Declaring Intention to Reimburse Project Expenditures.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

8.6 Consider Board Approval of the December 2025 Financial Reports. Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Mary Ellen Cuzela that the Board of Trustees approves the District's December 2025 financial statements.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

8.7 Discuss and consider Board approval of the February 2026 budget amendments. Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Dawn Champagne that the Board of Trustees approves the District's February 2026 budget amendments.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

8.8 Consider Board approval for the design of the Opportunity Awareness Center. Moved by Dawn Champagne second by Rebecca Fox that the Board of Trustees approves the design of the Opportunity Awareness Center (OAC) as depicted in the design prepared by VLK Architects dated February 16, 2026.

Motion passed by a 4 to 3 vote.

8.9 Consider Board approval of a contract for the construction of Elementary School #49. Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Mary Ellen Cuzela that the Board of Trustees awards a contract to Drymalla Construction Company, LLC for the construction of Elementary School #49 in the amount of $41,019,000 and approves the total project cost not to exceed $52,170,799.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

8.10 Consider Board approval of Amendment Two to the Stewart Builders, LLC. contract related to the comprehensive renovations at Polly Ann McRoberts Elementary School. Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Mary Ellen Cuzela that the Board of Trustees approves Amendment Two to Stewart Builders, LLC. contract related to the comprehensive renovations at Polly Ann McRoberts Elementary School for the Guaranteed Maximum Price of $20,152,801.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

8.11 Consider Board approval of an agreement with SPARK and Katy Independent School District for Bear Creek Elementary School. Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Mary Ellen Cuzela that the Board of Trustees approves the agreement with SPARK and Katy Independent School District for school playground improvements as a public park at Bear Creek Elementary School.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

8.12 Consider Board approval of the proposal for the Building Management Control System replacement at Tompkins High School. Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Mary Ellen Cuzela that the Board of Trustees approves the contract for the replacement of the Building Management Control System (BMCS) at Tompkins High School to Unify Energy Solutions, LLC, utilizing TIPS No. 25010502 in the amount of $2,915,000 with the total project cost not to exceed $3,396,800.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

8.13 Consider Board approval of the proposal for the chiller replacement at the Taylor High School Natatorium. Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Mary Ellen Cuzela that the Board of Trustees approves the contract for the chiller replacement at the Taylor High School Natatorium to Hunton Services, utilizing Choice Partners No. 22/049MF-11 in the amount of $457,915 with the total project cost not to exceed $510,665.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

8.14 Consider Board approval of the renewal of the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Risk Management Fund Casualty Program for Plan Year 2026-2027. Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Mary Ellen Cuzela that the Board of Trustees approve the renewal of the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Risk Management Fund Casualty program for Plan Year 2026-2027.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

8.15 Consider Board approval of the proposed summer work schedule. Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Mary Ellen Cuzela that the Board of Trustees approves the proposed summer work schedule as proposed by administration.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

8.16 Consider Board approval of acquisition of New Library Books. Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Mary Ellen Cuzela that the Board of Trustees approves of acquisition of New Library Books.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

8.17 Consider Board approval of a utility easement to AT&T Texas associated with the North Transportation Center site. Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Mary Ellen Cuzela that the Board of Trustees awards AT&T Texas a utility easement associated with the North Transportation Center site as depicted in the attached easement document.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

8.18 Consider Board approval of the minutes for the December 2025 and January 2026 Board meetings. Moved by Rebecca second by Mary Ellen Cuzela that the Board of Trustees approve of the minutes for the December 2025 and the January 2026 Board meetings.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

9. Discussion/Action

9.1 Discuss and consider Board adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the Acquisition of Land and improvements for Waller County Appraisal District. Moved by Dawn Champagne second by Rebecca Fox that the Board of Trustees disapproves the attached resolution to authorize the acquisition of Land and improvements for Waller County Appraisal District.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

9.2 Discuss and consider a formal reconsideration request of the library book, Cat Kid Comic Club. Moved by Dawn Champagne second by Rebecca Fox that the Board of Trustees retain the instructional resource, Cat Kid Comic Club, for continued use.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

9.3 Discuss and consider a formal reconsideration request of the library book, Fake News Phenomenon. Moved by Rebecca Fox second by Dawn Champagne that the Board of Trustees relocate the instructional resource, Fake News Phenomenon, to Junior High level.

Motion passed by a 4 to 3 vote.

10. Information Items

10.1 Board Committee updates. Board President Lance Redmon gave update on Finance Committee meeting.

10.2 Recap of Board member requests for Information.

- Mary Ellen Cuzela requested information on usage of floors 2 and 3 of Merchants Way building.
- Mary Ellen Cuzela requested if we are hiring substitutes at this time.
- Dawn Champagne requested if Board could be invited to the NFS Breakfasts for the upcoming week.

11. Future Meetings

11.1 Board Work Study Meeting – March 23, 2026. Lance Redmon Board President announced that there will be a Board Work Study Meeting on Monday, March 23, 2026.

11.2 Regular Board Meeting – March 30, 2026. Lance Redmon Board President announced that there will be a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, March 30, 2026.

12. Closed Meeting

Board President Lance Redmon announced that the Board would convene in Closed Meeting as authorized under Section 551.001 of the Texas Government Code for the following purposes: Texas Government Code 551.0821, and 551.074.

12.1 Conduct and consider a Level Three FNG grievance (FNG 25-030) pursuant to Katy Independent School District policy FNG (LEGAL) and FNG (LOCAL) regarding student and parent complaints/grievances. (Texas Government Code 551.0821: For the purpose of deliberating a matter regarding a public school student if personally identifiable information about the student will necessarily be revealed by the deliberation; and Texas Government Code 551.074: For the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear complaints or charges against a public officer or employee.)

13. Reconvene from Closed Meeting

The Board reconvened in Open Meeting at 10:29 p.m. Board President Lance Redmon called the meeting to order.

13.1 Consider a Level Three FNG grievance (FNG 25-030) pursuant to Katy Independent School District policy FNG (LEGAL) and FNG (LOCAL) regarding student and parent complaints/grievances. Moved by Mary Ellen Cuzela seconded by Dawn Champagne that the Board of Trustees take no action on tonight's grievance but also instructs administration to review the Level II response considering the recent court ruling and take appropriate action thereon.

Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

14. Adjournment

There being no further business before the board, Board President Lance Redmon adjourned the meeting at 10:30 p.m.

REFERENCED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE IN BOARDDOCS BY MEETING DATE

Lance Redmon
President, Board of Trustees

Dawn Champagne
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Approved: March 30, 2026