Regular Meeting
Monday, March 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:	Absent
Ashley Molina:	Present
D'Anna Robinson:	Present
Justin Schwausch:	Present
Josie Smith-Wright:	Present
Gloria Torres:	Present

Present: 6, Absent: 1.

1. Call to Order
Justin Schwaush called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

1.A. Roll Call

1.B. Invocation:
Elliot Hill, GJHS Student led the Invocation.

1.C. Pledge:
Colbi Mills, GJHS Student led the pledge.

1.D. Mission Statement:
Kate Balfanz, GJHS Student led the Mission Statement.

2. Public Comments
There were no Public Comments.

3. Recognitions

Mrs. Mikesh, GPA Principal, recognized student Mariana Villegas and staff member Becky Egger.

Ms. Leal, GE Principal, recognized student Aaron Orduna and staff member Patricia Sanchez.

Mrs. Freeman, GNA Principal, recognized student Isla Husk and staff member Maria "Nela" Gallardo.

Mrs. Gibson, GJHS Principal, recognized student Parking Hastings-Buck and staff member Angel Radar.

Mrs. Perez, GHS Principal, recognized FCCLA STAR participants and staff member Cheryl Atkinson.

In addition, Mayor Isaac Anzaldua proclaimed the month of February as Career and Technical Education Month.
Erin LaBuhn, recognized the Diagnosticians for their unwavering support of students.

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 Naomi Brown, Passed.
Ross Hendershot, III: Absent, Naomi Brown: Yea, Ashley Molina: 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 seeking approval of 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 Purchase Library Books
"I move that the Board approve the list of library books to be purchased as presented at the February board meeting.". This motion, made by Gloria Torres and seconded by Naomi Brown, Passed.
Ross Hendershot, III: Absent, Naomi Brown: Yea, Ashley Molina: Yea, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Mrs. Philpott went before the board seeking approval for the purchase of library books. This list went before the board at the February board meeting. 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 has been posted for the 30 days required before the purchase can be made. We have not received any input from the public.

Motion passed 6/0

4.C. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the TEA Staff Development Waiver Minutes Application for the 2026-27 school year.
"I make a motion that we table item 4.C Discuss and Consider Action to approve the TEA Staff Development until we go back and review our minutes. This motion, made by Josie Smith-Wright and seconded by Naomi Brown, Passed.
Ross Hendershot, III: Absent, Naomi Brown: Yea, Ashley Molina: Yea, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
This item was tabled.

Motion passed 6/0

4.D. Discuss and Consider Action on Bid for Resale Property: Suit 6792 (Parcel 13369)
"I move that the board accept the bid, as presented.". This motion, made by Josie Smith-Wright and seconded by Gloria Torres, Passed.
Ross Hendershot, III: Absent, Naomi Brown: Yea, Ashley Molina: Yea, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Amanda Smith went before the board with a recommendation from the county with a bid for the property located at 1420 St. Matthew. The bid received by the County for this property conformed to resale policies and was, therefore, approved by the Commissioners at Court on February 23, 2026, pending the approval of the other taxing entities.

Motion passed 6/0

4.E. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Certification of Unopposed Candidates, District 3, 5, and 6 for the May 2, 2026, Trustee Election
"I move that the board approve the Unopposed Candidates to D'Anna Robinson for District 3, Jami Owens for District 5, and Ashley Molina for District 6 for the election of School Board Trustee as presented.". This motion, made by Naomi Brown and seconded by Josie Smith-Wright, Passed.
Ross Hendershot, III: Absent, Naomi Brown: Yea, Ashley Molina: Yea, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
By section 2.051-52.002 of the Texas Election Code, as the authority responsible for preparing the official ballot, the secretary of the board must certify the unopposed status to the authority responsible for ordering the elections. The Trustee Election for Gonzales ISD Single Member Districts 3,5 & 6 drew one candidate from each district. As a result, the cancellation process must be initiated for these positions on the school board.

The Superintendent recommends that the board approve the certification of unopposed candidates to D'Anna Robinson for District 3, Jami Owens for District 5, and Ashley Molina for District 6.

Motion passed 6/0

4.F. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Order of Cancellation for May 2, 2026, Trustee Election, District 3,5, & 6
"I move that the Board approve the Order of Cancellation as presented, thereby, cancelling the election scheduled to be held on May 2, 2026, and declaring the unopposed candidates D'Anna Robinson, District 3, Jami Owens, District 5, and Ashley Molina, District 6 elected as school board trustees.". This motion, made by Josie Smith-Wright and seconded by Gloria Torres, Passed.
Ross Hendershot, III: Absent, Naomi Brown: Yea, Ashley Molina: 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 seeking approval of the Order of Cancellation for the May 2, 2026, Trustee Election, District 3, District 5 & District 6.

Per Section 2.053 of the Texas Election Code, on receipt of the certification of unopposed candidates, the governing body of a political subdivision, by order of ordinance, may declare each unopposed candidate elected to the office.

Section 2.053 also provides that the certificate of election shall be issued "in the same manner and at the same time" as for a candidate elected at an election. Therefore, the candidates, who have vbeen declared "elected at the meeting ordering the cancellation, must wait until after the official Election Day and no earlier than the prescribed canvassing period to be sworn in and assume their duties.

The Superintendent recommends approval of the Order of Cancellation.
Motion passed 6/0

4.G. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve Track Repairs at Gonzales High School as part of the 2023 Bond Program
"I move that the Board approve Hellas to repair the track as presented in the amount of $517,982 as part of the 2023 Bond Program, and authorize the Superintendent to negotiate the final terms of the contract.". This motion, made by Josie Smith-Wright and seconded by Naomi Brown, Passed.
Ross Hendershot, III: Absent, Naomi Brown: Yea, Ashley Molina: Yea, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Casey Sledge went before the board seeking approval of the Track Repairs at Gonzales High School as part of the 2023 Bond Program.

The existing surface of the track has reached it's useful life and repairs are warranted. Hellas installed the original track surface and has inspected the condition. The oval track and the field event runways are constructed of a pavement section and coated with a polyurethane surfacing system. The existing conditions and recommendations are as follows:

- The oval track pavement section appears to be in good condition and will be re-inspected when the surfacing system is removed. Full replacement of the surfacing system is recommended.
- The pavement sections for the High Jump and Pole Vault areas are in good condition. Full replacement of the surfacing systems are recommended.
- The pavement sections of the Long Jump/Triple Jump runway is failed and needs to be reconstructed. Full replacement of the surfacing system will be required when rebuilt. It is further recommended that this runway be relocated outside of the playing field area.

Budget Information
These projects are to be funded from the 2023 Bond Funds. Costs are as follows:

1. Resurface Oval track= $274,413
2. (ALT #4) Oval pavement repair contingency (to be returned if not used) = $80,000
3. (Alt #5) Resurface High Jump and Pole Vault areas=$35,856
4. (Alt #1) Demo existing Long Jump/Triple Jump runway =$25,337

5. (Alt #3) Construct new Long Jump/Triple Jump runways with new surfacing outside playing field= $78.266
6. (Alt #2) add new 6' wide concrete sidewalk path to new Long Jump/Triple Jump= $24,110. Final location and layout to be determined in field.

Total price for all items above = $517,982. Hellas will be procured via the BuyBoard purchasing Cooperative.

This total does not include fencing if we go outside the current fenced area.
The track has a warranty of 8 or 10 years.
Hellas would take 2–3 months to complete the work.

Motion passed 6/0

4.H. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve New Furniture for the CTE/Ag Project as part of the 2023 Bond Program
"I move that the Board approve South Texas School Furniture to provide new CTE furniture as presented in the amount of $868,191.76 as part of the 2023 Bond Program, and authorize the Superintendent to negotiate the final terms of the contract.". This motion, made by D'Anna Robinson and seconded by Naomi Brown, Passed.
Ross Hendershot, III: Absent, Josie Smith-Wright: Abstain (With Conflict), Naomi Brown: Yea, Ashley Molina: Yea, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain (With Conflict): 1
Casey Sledge went before the board seeking approval of New Furniture for the CTE/Ag Project as part of the 2023 Bond Program.

This item is to provide new furniture for the new CTE Building. ISD staff worked with South Texas School Furniture to select specific items. The selected items include classroom furniture, office furniture, lab tables, Cosmetology furniture, and storage units.

Budget Information
These projects are to be funded from the 2023 Bond Funds. South Texas School Furniture will be procured via the TIPS purchasing cooperative. Cost are as follows:

- Cosmetology Furniture, including freight and installation= $249,637
- Classroom Furniture, including freight and installation=$568,554.76
- Contingency (to be returned to ISD if not used)= $50,000

TOTAL price for all items above=$868,191.76

Josie Smith-Wright asked how many bids were received and how many vendors provided furniture. Mr. Sledge responded that four vendors were invited to participate in the showcase. After a discussion with the administrative team, it was decided that four vendors were sufficient.
Motion passed 5/1

4.I. Discuss and Consider Action on the 2026-27 Academic Calendar
"I move that the board move item 4.I to 4.C". This motion, made by Gloria Torres and seconded by Ashley Molina, Passed.
Ross Hendershot, III: Absent, Naomi Brown: Yea, Ashley Molina: Yea, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
"I move that we table this calendar until we can see if we can have March 5th off, as a holiday and not a staff development day". This motion, made by D'Anna Robinson and seconded by Josie Smith-Wright, Passed.
Ross Hendershot, III: Absent, Naomi Brown: Yea, Ashley Molina: Yea, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Mr. Schwausch recommended move this item up before 4.C

Motion passed 6/0

Dr. Arreola presented the proposed 2026-2027 Academic Calendar to the Board. The calendar was developed with a focus on supporting student learning, ensuring compliance with state instructional requirements, and providing a balanced schedule for students, staff, and families. It meets all instructional requirements set by the Texas Education Agency.

Input data was gathered from both staff and parents, and Calendar B was recommended to the Board based on the results of those votes.

D'Anna Robinson requested that March 5 be designated as a holiday for both students and staff, rather than for students only. She noted that staff should not be required to use personal leave (PTO) to support their children participating in the Stock Show.
This item was tabled 6/0

4.J. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve a Theory of Action
"Move to table our Theory of Action until we have a workshop which is April 21st in order to establish our Core Beliefs before we can move to a Theory of Change". This motion, made by Josie Smith-Wright and seconded by Naomi Brown, Passed.
Ross Hendershot, III: Absent, Naomi Brown: Yea, Ashley Molina: Yea, D'Anna Robinson: Yea, Justin Schwausch: Yea, Josie Smith-Wright: Yea, Gloria Torres: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Justin Schwausch recommended that this item be tabled until Core Beliefs are developed.

Motion passed 6/0

5. Reports

5.A. Mock STAAR Assessments
Mrs. Philpott went before the board with an update on the results of Mock STAAR exams administer in February.

5.B. Quarterly Investment Report

Amanda Smith presented the 1st Quarter Investment Report to the board for the 2025-26 fiscal year.

5.C. 2023 Bond Program Monthly Update
Casey Sledge, Region XIII/Sledge Engineering presented an update for the 2023 Bond Program.

5.D. Superintendent Reports
Stock Show:

- Estimated 700k participants Friday and over 600k participants Saturday.
- We had more than 100 students who had at least one entry.

Congratulations to One Act Play.

- The cast and crew had one of their very best performances.
- They received the Alternate Play Award, and the Best Tech Award.
- Individual Awards
    - Alejandro Ordunez- All-Star Tech
    - Brett Needham and Austin Valenta- Honorable Mention All-Star Cast
    - Flenn Cannon-All-Star Cast

Apache Luminancers

- Advancing to the State Competition
    - Competition on March 28th
    - Thanks to Scotty Upshaw for his leadership

GISD Education Foundation Casino Night

- GISD showed up to support

National Honor Society Induction

Growing Greatness-Tea Talk Edition in honor of Womens Month and International Women's Day

- Several high school students participated
- Shout out to our Culinary Students and Mrs. Atkinson for a great job

Congratulations to our Navy National Defense Cadet Corps (NNDCC) Program

- Secured the National Rifle Association (NRA) Grant for marksmanship equipment
- TEA has also officially authorized NNDCC as a CTE program (officially off the probation list)

6. Board Business

April 10	Special Rodeo @JB Wells
April 15-19	TCBSBM
April 27	Mental Health/Autism Awareness and Child Abuse Prevention Event~4-6pm @GHS Track
May 4	Top 10% Banquet
May 7	Apache Olympics
May 15	Sr. Decision Day
May 17	Sr. Parade Through Town
May 18	Scholarship Night
May 22	Graduation

March 10 National Jr. Honor Society(Jr High @9:00a.m.)
March 26 Family Literacy Night (NA)
March 16-20 Spring Break
April 1st Coffee and Connection

Board Correspondence :

Mr. Thompson on behalf of the Black History Committee Team

6.A. Board Correspondence

6.B. Dates of Interest

7. Adjourn to Closed session: Under Texas Government Code Chapter 551, The board will recess this open session and covene 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 6:47p.m.

7.A. Personnel

8. Reconvene to Open Meeting: The Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in Closed Session
The board came back to an open meeting at 8:57 p.m.

9. Adjourn
Mr. Schwausch adjourned the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

Justin Schwausch

Justin Schwausch, Board President

Ashley Molina

Ashley Molina, Board Secretary