

Regular Meeting
Monday, April 13, 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: Absent
Justin Schwausch: Present
Josie Smith-Wright: Present
Gloria Torres: Present

Present: 6, Absent: 1.

D'Anna Robinson: Present

Present: 7.

D'Anna Robinson arrived at 6:33pm

1. Call to Order

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

1.A. Roll Call

1.B. Invocation:

Hank Butler led the invocation.

1.C. Pledge:

Peyton Ontiveros led the pledge.

1.D. Mission Statement:

Hank Butler read the Mission Statement.

2. Public Comments

There were no Public Comments.

3. Recognitions

Mrs. Mikesch, GPA Principal, recognized Megan Pizano, student, and Jessica Hidalgo, Staff Member.

Ms. Leal, GE Principal, recognized Amelia Hahn, student, and Ms. Petru, teacher.

Ms. Freeman, GNA Principal, recognized Joshua Fogle, student, and Katryna Wheelis, teacher.

Mrs. Gibson, GJHS Principal, recognized 25/26 GJHS Cheer Squad, and Sophia Torres, teacher.

Mrs. Perez, GHS Principal, recognized Isaac Leao, student, and Melissa Currie, teacher.

Coach Hamilton, recognized students for their growth and accomplishments.

Each campus recognized Mr. Hendershot for his years of service on the board.

GVEC has offered to donate a new scoreboard for Apache Stadium.
If approved:

- Installation would be scheduled for completion prior to August 2026; and
- A budget amendment would be necessary (increase other local revenue and Function 81)

Strategic Goal Area: 4-Strategic Resource Management

Motion passed 6/0

Motion passed 5/0/1—Mr. Schwausch abstained

4.C. Discuss and Consider Action on Financial Feasibility of Equipping School Buses with 3-Point Seat Belts in Compliance with SB 546

"I move that the board determines that equipping the district's fleet of school buses with 3-point seat belts is financially feasible and authorizes the superintendent or her designee to proceed with any and all steps necessary to comply with SB-546, as presented.". This motion, made by Josie Smith-Wright and seconded by Gloria Torres, Passed.

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

Mr. Kridler went before the board seeking approval on the Financial Feasibility of Equipping School Buses with 3-Point Seat Belts in Compliance with SB 546.

As part of the legislation, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) is required to gather data from each school district regarding their current bus fleet and the estimated cost to retrofit those buses with 3-point seat belts.

The board is required to determine whether equipping the district's fleet of school buses with 3-point seat belts is financially feasible and fits within the district's budget.

7 Regular Ed., 2 Sped and 4 Activity Buses will need to be equipped. Every bus purchased since 2017 and currently every bus purchased has 3-point seat belts.

Motion Passed 6/0

4.D. Discuss and Consider Action on Prekindergarten Tuition Rate for the 2026-27 School Year

"I move that the board set the tuition rate for the tuition-based prekindergarten program at \$5,300 for the 2026-27 school year pending approval from the Commissioner of Education, as needed.". This motion, made by Naomi Brown and seconded by Gloria Torres, Passed.

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

Amanda Smith went before the board seeking approval of the Prekindergarten Tuition Rate for the 2026-27 School Year.

Texas Education Code (TEC) 29.1531 authorizes school districts to offer Pre-K classes on a tuition basis.

Each year, the tuition rate must be approved by the Commissioner of Education.

Administration recommends submitting a rate of \$5,300 to the Commissioner. This would be an increase of \$100 from the current 2025-26 rate.

The 2026-2027 is the last year that districts will be legally allowed to offer a tuition-based program to families and the community. Pre-K will only be offered to students during the phase out who are eligible per the state's guidelines unless the district changes the policy and opens the doors to other students.

GISD has never had more than 8 tuition-based students. This year GISD currently has 7. The total enrollment for Pre-K is 140. There was a decline due to Legacy Ranch currently offering school.

Motion Passed 5/0/1-Josie Smith-Wright voted against.

4.E. Discuss and Consider Action on a Resolution that supports 2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

"I move that the board Approve the resolution as presented.". This motion, made by Josie Smith-Wright and seconded by Ashley Molina, Passed.

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

Mr. Kridler went before the board seeking approval of a resolution that supports the 2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan update.

The Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 amended the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), creating the framework for state, local, tribal, and territorial governments to engage in hazard mitigation planning to receive certain types of non-emergency disaster assistance. This Resolution would allow us to receive any grants available for any non-emergency.

Motion Passed 6/0

4.F. Discuss and Consider Action on E-Rate Fiber project and Associated Budget Amendment

"I move that the board approve this purchase and budget amendment, as presented, contingent upon USAC approval and E-rate funding.". This motion, made by Ross Hendershot, III and seconded by Josie Smith-Wright, Passed.

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

Chema Chavez went before the board seeking approval of the E-Rate Fiber Project and Associated Budget Amendment.

In accordance with the strategic plan, administration solicited proposals to upgrade and

maintain the fiber network (how we get internet access to campuses and support departments).

This fiber improvement project would:

- Add fiber to support the Tom Lester Jr. CTE Center.
- Replace the fiber at GHS.
- Replace the fiber from EA to operations; and
- Add fiber from operations to transportation
- Also included is a 3-year maintenance agreement on the project.

Three (3) proposals were received in response to the RFP.

It was recommended that the board approve this bid contingent upon USAC approval and E-Rate funding, as well as authorize the administration to amend the current budget if E-Rate funding is made available this year. The budget amendment would be:

- Increases federal revenue: \$199,086 (federally funded portion)
- Increase in expenditures: \$221,207 (total project cost)

Strategic Goal Area: 4—Strategic Resource Management

Motion passed 6/0

4.G. Discuss and Consider Action on the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar

"I move that the board approve the 2026-2024 academic calendar as presented.". This motion, made by Ashley Molina and seconded by Ross Hendershot, III, Passed.

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

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 changes made to the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar.

The district provided compliant options to stakeholders for consideration and voting. Based on the results, the majority of respondents selected Option B. Accordingly, the administration recommends approval of Option B, as it reflects stakeholder input and aligns with district requirements.

At the March 9, 2026, board meeting, this item was tabled following a request of a board member to revise the calendar to designate March 5, 2027 (County Stock Show) as a day off for employees. Therefore, administration took Option B, inclusive of the requested revision, for board consideration and approval.

Motion passed 6/0

4.H. 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 2026-2027 school year as presented.". This motion, made by Josie Smith-Wright and seconded by Ashley Molina, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Jenny Molnoskey went before the board seeking approval to apply for the 2,100 TEA Staff Development Waiver Minutes for the 2026-2027 school year.

With the approval of the 2,100 waiver minutes for staff development by TEA, brings the operational minutes to more than 75,600 for each campus and puts the district in compliance with TEA.

Motion carried 6/0

4.I. Discuss and Consider Action to approve and sign the Gonzales ISD Certification of Provision of Instructional Materials

"I move that the Board approve the Gonzales ISD Certification of Provision of Instructional Materials for the 2026-2027 school year and authorize the Board President and Board Secretary to sign on behalf of the district.". This motion, made by Ross Hendershot, III and seconded by Josie Smith-Wright, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Joy Philpott went before the board seeking approval and signature for the Gonzales ISD Certification of Provision of Instructional Materials.

Every public school district in the State of Texas is required to submit an Instructional Materials Certification to the state yearly. This certifies that all students have access to instructional materials covering all Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for all required subjects, except physical education. LEAS are required to certify that they protect against access to obscene or harmful content in compliance with the requirements for certification under the Children & Internet Protection Act.

GISD is going to bring in HQIMS (high quality instructional materials) for Reading and Math K-5 and for Secondary Math grades 6-Algebra 2.

This document must be submitted to be given access to order materials when the portal opens in May. The purchasing of materials will come back to the board in May. No local funds will be used, it will be paid with IMA funds from the state.

GISD will be purchasing Bluebonnet Math in grades K-2, Bluebonnet Math for grades 6-

Algebra 2, and HMH for Reading in grades K-5.

Motion passed 6/0

4.J. Board Goal 3

"I move that the board accept the report on Goal 3 Progress as presented.". This motion, made by Naomi Brown and seconded by Josie Smith-Wright, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Joy Philpott went before the board seeking approval of Board Goal 3--CCMR

4.K. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve Commissioning Services for the HVAC Existing Units as part of the 2023 Bond Program

"I move to approve the Commissioning Services proposal from EMA Engineering & Consulting in the amount of \$120,875 for the HVAC Existing Units as part of the 2023 Bond Program, and authorize the Superintendent to negotiate the final terms of the contract.". This motion, made by Ross Hendershot, III and seconded by Josie Smith-Wright, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Casey Sledge went before the board to Approve Commissioning Services for the HVAC Existing Units as part of the 2023 Bond Program.

Commissioning and Test & Balance services ensure the existing building systems are operating efficiently to save operational costs and ensure optimal life of equipment. This particular scope of services will be evaluating existing HVAC units that control outside air mixing and are not being replaced at GHS, GJH, and GES campuses. This work will determine the amount and frequency of outside air needed and suggest improvements to the existing systems to ensure staff can operate the units optimally. This work will also identify any units not cooling or dehumidifying properly. There are 144 total units in the scope being evaluated.

Commissioning Services are professional engineering services; therefore, firm selection is based on qualifications without price or fee consideration. EMA Engineering & Consulting is a current vendor in the 2023 Bond Program.

Motion passed 7/0

5. Reports

5.A. Quarterly Investment Report

Amanda Smith presented the Quarterly Investment Report.

5.B. 2023 Bond Program Monthly Update

Casey Sledge presented the 2023 Bond Program Monthly Update.

5.C. Random Drug Screening of All District Employees

Justin Schwausch brought to the board a discussion to evaluate whether to implement a policy requiring random drug screening for all district employees. This could enhance the safety, integrity, and overall effectiveness of the school environment.

5.D. Board Members Continuing Education Credits/SBOE Framework for School Board Development Report

Mr. Schwausch read the Board Members Continuing Education Credits/SBOE Framework for the School Board Development Report.

- **Local District Orientation**—N/A
- **Orientation to the Texas Education Code**—N/A
- **Post Legislative Update to the Texas Education Code**—N/A
- **Team Building**
 - The following members are deficient in meeting the required annual team-building training:
 - Ashley Molina, D'Anna Robinson, Gloria Torres, Josie Smith-Wright, Justin Schwausch, Naomi Brown and Ross Hendershot (this training is scheduled for April 21st)
- **Additional continuing education**
 - The following board members have completed the additional continuing education requirements:
 - Ashley Molina, D'Anna Robinson, Gloria Torres, Josie Smith-Wright, Justin Schwausch, Naomi Brown, and Ross Hendershot
- **Evaluating Student Academic Performance and Setting Goals**
 - The following board members have completed the biennial training on evaluating student academic performance and setting goals:
 - Ashley Molina, D'Anna Robinson, Gloria Torres, Josie Smith-Wright, Justin Schwausch, Naomi Brown and Ross Hendershot
- **Identifying and Reporting Abuse, Trafficking, and Other Maltreatment of Children**
 - The following board members have completed the biennial training on identifying and reporting abuse and trafficking:
 - Ashley Molina, D'Anna Robinson, Gloria Torres, Josie Smith-Wright, Justin Schwausch, Naomi Brown and Ross Hendershot
- **School Safety**
 - The following board members have completed the biennial training on school safety:
 - Ashley Molina, D'Anna Robinson, Gloria Torres, Josie Smith-Wright, Justin Schwausch, Naomi Brown and Ross Hendershot
- **Exceeding Required Continuing Education:**
 - Ashley Molina exceeded 5hrs

- D'Anna Robinson exceeded 4hrs
- Gloria Torres exceeded 5hrs
- Josie Smith-Wright exceeded 16hrs
- Justin Schwausch exceeded 6hrs
- Naomi Brown exceeded 6hrs
- Ross Hendershot exceeded 6hrs

5.E. Superintendent Reports

Special Ed Department:

- Thanked teachers and principals for the work they did at the rodeo.
- They increased the number of activities the students could engage in but also invited two other districts to participate.

Superintendent Leadership Council:

- Spent the day at Texas State University and participated in the Foundation of Leadership Course
- Established a mission for the work they were going to do
- Created five (5) big pillars
 - gave the superintendent feedback on how they wanted to support the work that needed to be done around the district.

Alternative Learning Center:

- Waelder has decided to partner with GISD
- Thinking more districts will join in the future
- Renovations are happening
- Signage going up soon
- The principal has been interviewing
- Ribbon cutting and open house in August
- Pace Program and DAEP
- Looking at other programs to possibly be housed at ALC

Electric School buses:

- Hoping to have the installation of the infrastructure to begin at the end of May or early June
- A fleet of four buses will be arriving right before school starts for in-town routes.

6. Board Business

April 15-19	TCBSBM
April 20	Special Friends Prom @Hermann Sons Hall @6pm
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

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 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 7:03pm.

7.A. Personnel

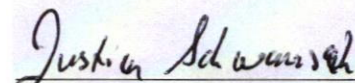
7.B. District Facilities

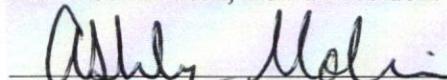
8. Reconvene to Open Meeting: The Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in Closed Session

The board came back to open session at 10:00pm

9. Adjourn

Mr. Schwausch adjourned the meeting at 10:01pm


Justin Schwausch, Board President


Ashley Molina, Board Secretary