

Castleberry Independent School District
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
May 4, 2026
6:00 p.m.

The Board of Education met in Regular Session on Monday, May 4, 2026. 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, by 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.”

Renee Smith-Faulkner, Superintendent of Schools, answered questions regarding the Consent Agenda.

Castleberry ISD Fine Arts students proudly presented to the Board the remarkable achievements of the Castleberry High School Fine Arts programs, showcasing new levels of success in Choir, Theatre, Band, Mariachi Los Leones, and Visual Arts, along with numerous prestigious awards and accomplishments.

Kathryn Walker, Director of Talent Acquisition and Development, presented the draft of the Proposed Compensation Plan and answered questions from Board Members.

Kathryn Walker, Director of Talent Acquisition and Development, also shared updates on the Strategic Compensation Plan and answered questions from Board Members.

William Wooten, Chief Financial Officer, presented Budget Work Session IV. This session focused on the key components of the budget development process, including revenue estimates, expenditure planning, and compensation priorities for the 2026–2027 school year. Mr. Wooten answered questions from Board Members.

William Wooten, Chief Financial Officer, also presented a snapshot of the 2025–2026 revenue collections and expenditures by fund and function as of April 21, 2026.

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

Renee Smith-Faulkner, Superintendent of Schools, and Derrick York of WRA Architects, Inc., presented Phase 3 of the 2024 Bond Program, which encompasses the remodel plans for the remaining areas of Castleberry High School, and answered questions from Board Members.

Board President, Dewey Taliaferro called the Board into Closed Session at 7:50 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 7:59 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 8:01 p.m.

The Pledges of Allegiance to the American and Texas Flags were led by Joel Ruiz, a student-athlete at Castleberry High School.

The Board heard recognitions presented by Ruben Molinar, Principal of Castleberry High School. Mr. Molinar recognized Pedro Alejandro Villafranco, Valedictorian, and Jaquelin Aguirre Torres, Salutatorian, for the Castleberry High School graduating class of 2025–2026.

Sal Limas, Principal of REACH High School, recognized Abigail Buendia as the highest-ranking graduate for the REACH High School graduating class of 2025–2026.

Didi Pierce, Director of Athletics, introduced student-athletes and staff from Castleberry High School in recognition of their accomplishments in winter and spring sports, including basketball, soccer, powerlifting, and track and field, along with numerous collegiate signings.

Lenny Lasher, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, Facilities, and Operations, presented an update on Senate Bill 546 reporting requirements related to school bus seat belt costs.

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

- Consider Approval of Board Minutes from April 6, 2026, for a Regular Meeting
- Consider Approval of the Castleberry ISD Library Books to be Purchased
- Consider Approval of the Partnership and MOU between Tarrant To & Through (T3) and Castleberry ISD.
- Consider Approval of the Master Inter-Local Agreement with Region XI Educational Service Center
- Consider Approval of the Skyward Contract 2026-2027
- Consider Approval of the Property & Casualty Insurance 2026-2027 Contract
- Consider Approval of the Canine Team Contract with Interquest Detection Canines in the amount of \$5,070.00 for the 2026-2027 school year.
- Consider Approval of Contract Extension with Superior Pediatrics Contractors for Psychological Services for Special Education Services
- Consider Approval of the Image Net 2026-2027 Copier Contract
- Consider Approval of the Purchase for Roof Replacement at Castleberry High School Awarded to LBK Roofing in the Amount of \$1,551,189.92.

Tracy Gallman motioned and Mary Lou Martinez seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried 7-0. All those in favor: Dewey Taliaferro, Mary Lou Martinez, Cathy Gatica, Tracy Gallman, Linda Aguillón, Ariela Martinez, and Janice Carrell. All those opposed: none

The Board considered approval of the Castleberry High School Phase 2 Furniture Bid awarded to Interior Resource Group in the amount of \$905,421.09. Ariela Martinez made a motion, seconded by Mary Lou Martinez, to approve the Castleberry High School Phase 2 Furniture Bid as presented. The motion was carried by a vote of 7–0. Voting in favor were Dewey Taliaferro, Mary Lou Martinez, Cathy Gatica, Tracy Gallman, Linda Aguillón, Ariela Martinez, and Janice Carrell. There were no votes opposed.

The Board discussed and considered approval of the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and award of the Energy Savings Performance Project to Centrix Energy Partners LLC. Mary Lou Martinez made a motion, seconded by Cathy Gatica, to approve the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and award of the Energy Savings Performance Project to Centrix Energy Partners LLC as presented. The motion was carried by a vote of 5–2. Voting in favor were Dewey Taliaferro, Mary Lou Martinez, Cathy Gatica, Tracy Gallman, and Janice Carrell. Voting opposed were Linda Aguillón and Ariela Martinez.

Cathy Gatica left the room at 9:58 p.m. and returned at 10:00 p.m.

The Board discussed and considered approval of the District Energy Savings Performance Contract with Centrix Energy Partners LLC for a total amount of \$4,997,000. Mary Lou Martinez made a motion, seconded by Janice Carrell, to approve the District Energy Savings Performance Contract with Centrix Energy Partners LLC for a total amount of \$4,997,000 as presented. The motion was carried by a vote of 5–2. Voting in favor were Dewey Taliaferro, Mary Lou Martinez, Cathy Gatica, Tracy Gallman, and Janice Carrell. Voting opposed were Linda Aguillón and Ariela Martinez.

The Board considered approval of the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance, Sale, and Delivery of Castleberry Independent School District Maintenance Tax Notes, Series 2026, and approving other matters incident and related thereto. Mary Lou Martinez made a motion, seconded by Janice Carrell, to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance, Sale, and Delivery of Castleberry Independent School District Maintenance Tax Notes, Series 2026, as presented. The motion was carried by a vote of 6–1. Voting in favor were Dewey Taliaferro, Mary Lou Martinez, Cathy Gatica, Tracy Gallman, Ariela Martinez, and Janice Carrell. Voting opposed was Linda Aguillón.

The Board considered approval of the proposed contract renewal recommendations for 2026–2027, including the Superintendent’s recommendation to renew contracts for teachers, librarians, nurses, and other professionals, per the attached list and subject to assignment. Janice Carrell made a motion, seconded by Cathy Gatica, to approve the contract renewal recommendations for 2026–2027 as presented. The motion was carried by a vote of 7–0. Voting in favor were Dewey Taliaferro, Mary Lou Martinez, Cathy Gatica, Tracy Gallman, Linda Aguillón, Ariela Martinez, and Janice Carrell. There were no votes opposed.

Janice Carrell left the room at 10:21 p.m. and returned at 10:22 p.m.

The Board considered approval of Professional New Hire Contracts for teachers, librarians, nurses, and other professionals, per the attached list and subject to assignment. Ariela Martinez made a motion, seconded by Mary Lou Martinez, to approve the Professional New Hire Contracts as presented. The motion was carried by a vote of 7–0. Voting in favor were Dewey Taliaferro, Mary Lou Martinez, Cathy Gatica, Tracy Gallman, Linda Aguillón, Ariela Martinez, and Janice Carrell. There were no votes opposed.

Board Members reviewed Key Dates.

The next meetings will be held on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, for a Special Board Meeting and on Monday, June 1, 2026, for a Regular Board Meeting, both beginning at 6:00 p.m.

The Board adjourned at 10:34 p.m.

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



Dewey Taliaferro
Board President
Castleberry Independent School District
Date Approved: June 1, 2026



Cathy Gatica
Board Secretary
Castleberry Independent School District
Date Approved: June 1, 2026