

Tolar Independent School District
Board of Trustees
Minutes of Regular Meeting
August 24, 2026

The Board of Trustees met in a regular meeting on Monday, August 24, 2026. The following members were present: Brad Cooper, David Cook, Rhonda Knight, Dalton Nix, Jake Valdez and Josh Swaim.

Absent from the meeting was: none

Meeting with the Board of Trustees were Travis Stilwell, Superintendent; Kristen Carey, Assistant Superintendent; Clint Gardner, High School Principal; Casey Hamilton, Junior High Principal; Christal Hollinger, Elementary Principal; Vicki Carr, Business Manager; Blake Mouser, Athletic Director.

Others attending meeting: Diana Daniels, Landon Davis

1. Invocation led by Jake Valdez
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Quorum was established and the meeting was called to order by Dalton Nix at 6:31 p.m.
4. Mr. Stilwell presented the 2026-2027 proposed budget.
Total budget including M&O, food services, and debt services will be \$14,629,514
5. Mr. Stilwell presented the 2026-2027 proposed tax rate.
M&O = \$0.6128
I&S = \$0.2816
Total Tax Rate = \$0.8944
6. Public Comments for Public Hearing: none

Public Hearing adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

7. Public Comments: none
8. Individual/Committee Reports
Christal Hollinger gave the Elementary report:
Upcoming Events: Beginning of year testing

Additional Updates: Great start to the year, lots of community support

Casey Hamilton gave the Junior High report:
Upcoming Events: Beginning of year testing

Additional Updates: Great start to the year

Clint Gardner gave the High School report:
Upcoming Events: Beginning of year testing

Additional Updates: Great new hires

Blake Mouser gave the Athletic report: Fall sports off to a great start, Cross country really grown.

Kristen Carey gave the Instruction/Technology & Safety report: none

9. Motion by Brad Cooper, second by Rhonda Knight to approve Minutes from July 20, 2026 Regular Meeting, August 3, 2026 Budget Workshop, and the monthly financial statements/reports.

Motion carried

Vote: Pass - Brad Cooper, David Cook, Rhonda Knight, Dalton Nix, Jake Valdez and Josh Swaim.

Oppose - None

10. Motion by David Cook, second by Rhonda Knight to approve the 2026-2027 budget as presented.

Motion carried

Vote: Pass - Brad Cooper, David Cook, Rhonda Knight, Dalton Nix, Jake Valdez and Josh Swaim.

Oppose - None

11. Motion by Brad Cooper, second by Jake Valdez to approve Ordinance #26-001 adopting the 2026-2027 tax rate of M&O - \$0.6128, I&S - \$0.2816, Total - \$0.8944.

Motion carried

Vote: Pass - Brad Cooper, David Cook, Rhonda Knight, Dalton Nix, Jake Valdez and Josh Swaim.

Oppose - None

12. Motion by Brad Cooper, second by Rhonda Knight to approve 2025-2026 year end Budget Amendment #60063.

Motion carried

Vote: Pass - Brad Cooper, David Cook, Rhonda Knight, Dalton Nix, Jake Valdez and Josh Swaim.

Oppose - None

13. Motion by David Cook, second by Rhonda Knight to adopt a resolution directing the defeasance and/or redemption of certain of Tolar Independent School District's outstanding Unlimited Tax Bonds.

Motion carried

Vote: Pass - Brad Cooper, David Cook, Rhonda Knight, Dalton Nix, Jake Valdez and Josh Swaim.

Oppose - None

14. Motion by Brad Cooper, second by Jake Valdez to adopt the most current prevailing wage rates for Hood County, published by the United States Department of Labor in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. Section 276a et seq.), and its subsequent amendments in connection with any construction projects authorized by the Board during the District's fiscal year.

Motion carried

Vote: Pass - Brad Cooper, David Cook, Rhonda Knight, Dalton Nix, Jake Valdez and Josh Swaim.

Oppose - None

15. Motion by Brad Cooper, second by Josh Swaim to approve Hannah Davis and Amanda Salinas as Hood County 4-H adjunct faculty.

Motion carried

Vote: Pass - Brad Cooper, David Cook, Rhonda Knight, Dalton Nix, Jake Valdez and Josh Swaim.

Oppose - None

16. Motion by Josh Swaim, second by Rhonda Knight to approve the Resolution to sanction Hood County 4-H as an extra-curricular activity.

Motion carried

Vote: Pass - Brad Cooper, David Cook, Rhonda Knight, Dalton Nix, Jake Valdez and Josh Swaim.

Oppose - None

17. Superintendent's report
- a. Updated Staff List
 - b. Board Meeting Dates

18. Topics for future discussion: none

Future board meetings 2026-2027:

Monday, September 28th

Monday, October 19th

Monday, November 16th

Monday, December 14th (Team of 8 Training)

Monday, January 18th

Monday February 15th

Monday, March 29th

Monday, April 19th

Monday, May 17th

19. Motion by Josh Swaim, second by Rhonda Knight to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried

Vote: Pass - Brad Cooper, David Cook, Rhonda Knight, Dalton Nix, Jake Valdez and Josh Swaim.

Oppose - None

Meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Board Officer

Board Officer