

Fort Worth ISD School Library Advisory Council (SLAC) Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2026

1. Call to Order & Verification of Agenda Posting

The meeting was convened on September 17, 2026. Verification of proper agenda posting was confirmed. The meeting notice had been posted on September 14, 2026, at the District Administrative Building and on the School Library Advisory Council website.

2. Information Items

A. Roll Call & Verification of Quorum

Roll call was conducted. A quorum was established, allowing the Council to conduct official business.

Members and Attendees Present

- Layne Craig, SLAC Chair
- Valerie Tagoe, District Staff/Administrator
- Graydon Jones, Voting Member
- Zach Leonard, Voting Member
- Sarah Peterson, Voting Member
- Joseph Harmanson, Executive Director, Academic Programs
- Additional Council Members and Attendees

B. Discussion of SLAC Consideration List 6

The Council reviewed SLAC Consideration List 6, which was posted on August 17, 2026.

C. Discussion of Voting Language Added to the Draft Redline SLAC Bylaws

The Council reviewed proposed revisions to the bylaws concerning electronic voting. Discussion focused on whether the draft should reference a fixed five-member threshold or tie electronic voting to the absence of a quorum.

Members agreed that the language should state 'when a quorum is not present' to clarify the intended circumstances for electronic voting. Valerie Tagoe will revise the draft language and present the updated bylaws at the next meeting for further review.

D. Discussion of SLAC Membership, Attendance, and Vacancies

The Council discussed multiple vacancies and possible approaches for filling open positions. Members considered district-based appointments, outreach to previous applicants, and follow-up with current members whose attendance has been inconsistent.

Graydon Jones expressed a preference for district-based representation and suggested contacting prior applicants and current members with inconsistent attendance before pursuing other options. Valerie Tagoe clarified that the initial appointment process involved the elected Board appointing representatives from the nine districts and that state law does not prescribe a specific appointment process. No formal decision was made regarding the vacancies.

Discussion of Options to Suspend or Remove the SLAC Requirement

Members discussed whether the District should consider suspending or removing the SLAC requirement while representative and consistent membership remains difficult to maintain under the current governance structure.

Joseph Harmanson outlined two possible routes:

- Board policy change: A faster process to remove the SLAC requirement from local policy; however, community members could petition to reinstate the requirement.

- District of Innovation (DOI) opt-out: A longer process that would more fully remove the statutory requirement and reduce the risk of reinstatement through a community petition.

Members generally supported exploring the DOI option as the preferable route. Graydon Jones noted concerns about reinstatement without district-based representation. Zach Leonard emphasized that any selected option should prioritize timely access to books for librarians and reduce delays in the acquisition process.

Layne Craig volunteered to send an individual email to the School Board, copying the voting members present, to gauge interest in removing or suspending the SLAC requirement. She will report any feedback at the next meeting.

Joseph Harmanson offered to provide templates, and guidance regarding either a board policy change or the DOI process. Further discussion of membership and governance options was tabled until the next meeting.

3. Action Items

- a. SLAC Consideration List 6 was approved by a vote of four in favor.

4. Questions / Comments

Members expressed concern about representation and continuity under the current appointment structure, the practicality of filling multiple vacancies, and delays that may affect librarians' ability to acquire books. Members noted that the SLAC was established under a different governance context and discussed whether suspending or modifying the requirement may be appropriate until stable; representative membership can be achieved.

No additional questions or comments were raised.

5. Adjournment

With no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting

Thursday, October 15, 2026