Castleberry Independent School District
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
October 5, 2026
6:00 p.m.

The Board of Education met in Regular Session on Monday, October 5, 2026. Members present were Dewey Taliaferro, Mary Lou Martinez, Cathy Gatica, Tracy Gallman, Linda Aguillón, Dr. Ariela Martinez, and Janice Carrell.Board President Dewey Taliaferro called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Castleberry Administration Building, 5228 Ohio Garden Road, Fort Worth, TX 76114, 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."

The Castleberry Independent School District Board of Trustees received the resignation of Mrs. Cathy Gatica.

Board President Dewey Taliaferro called the Board into Closed Session at 6:25 p.m. pursuant to Texas Government Code §§ 551.071 and 551.074 for the purpose of consulting privately with the Board's attorney on matters authorized by law and deliberating the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee, or hearing complaints or charges against a public officer or employee.

The Board concluded Closed Session at 7:34 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 7:42 p.m.

The Pledges of Allegiance to the American and Texas flags were led by Board President Dewey Taliaferro.

Laura Guzman, Secondary EB Coordinator; Vianey Lemus, Elementary EB Coordinator; Stacia Ryckman, Director of Fine Arts; Juan Sigala, CHS Mariachi Director; Jairo Salazar, IMMS Mariachi Director; and Mariachi Los Leones highlighted the district's celebrations of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Board President Dewey Taliaferro called the Board into Closed Session at 8:14 p.m. pursuant to Texas Government Code §§ 551.071 and 551.074 for the purpose of consulting privately with the Board's attorney on matters authorized by law and deliberating the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee, or hearing complaints or charges against a public officer or employee.

The Board concluded Closed Session at 9:06 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 9:11 p.m.

The Board considered the appointment of Charles Richardson for the remainder of the unexpired term in Place 6. Dewey Taliaferro made a motion, seconded by Mary Lou Martinez, to approve the appointment of Charles Richardson as presented. The motion carried with six votes in favor and one abstention. Voting in favor were Dewey Taliaferro, Mary Lou Martinez, Tracy Gallman, Linda Aguillón, Dr. Ariela Martinez, and Janice Carrell. Cathy Gatica abstained from voting.

Angela Branch administered the Oath of Office to Charles Richardson as an appointed member of the Castleberry Independent School District Board of Trustees. Following the administration of the oath, Mrs. Cathy Gatica departed the meeting, and Mr. Richardson assumed his position on the Board.

Cameron Hollomon, Bond Program Manager, presented an update on the 2024 Castleberry High School Bond Program construction project and energy savings. Mr. Hollomon answered questions from Board members.

Scott Barnes, representing WRA Architects, answered questions from Board members regarding the AIA-G701 Change Order Contract for the Castleberry High School construction project.

The Board considered approval of the AIA-G701 Change Order Contract for the Castleberry High School construction project as presented. Mary Lou Martinez made a motion, seconded by Tracy Gallman, to approve the AIA-G701 Change Order Contract as presented. The motion carried by a vote of 7–0. Voting in favor were Dewey Taliaferro, Mary Lou Martinez, Tracy Gallman, Linda Aguillón, Dr. Ariela Martinez, Janice Carrell, and Charles

Richardson. There were no votes opposed.

Laura Guzman, Secondary EB and District Compliance Coordinator, and Vianey Lemus, Elementary EB Coordinator, presented an update on District Improvement Plan (DIP) Performance Objective 26, related to TELPAS, and answered questions from Board members.

Laura Guzman, Secondary EB and District Compliance Coordinator, and Vianey Lemus, Elementary EB Coordinator, presented the Bilingual/ESL Program Evaluation and answered questions from Board members.

Stephanie Martinez, Director of CTE, and Sal Limas, Principal of the Alternative Learning Center, provided an overview of the progress toward establishing a Virtual Learning Program in Castleberry ISD and answered questions from Board members.

Kristen Schmitt, ELA Coordinator, answered questions from Board members regarding the Early Literacy Program Report, including successes, opportunities for improvement, and action items.

Board President Dewey Taliaferro called the Board into Closed Session at 10:10 p.m. pursuant to Texas Government Code §§ 551.071 and 551.074 for the purpose of consulting privately with the Board's attorney on matters authorized by law and deliberating the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee, or hearing complaints or charges against a public officer or employee.

The Board concluded Closed Session and reconvened in Open Session at 10:22 p.m.

Scott Runyan, Castleberry High School Principal; Lieutenant Frank Valdez; and Lenny Lasher, Assistant Superintendent, presented the Texas Education Agency (TEA) Detection Audit findings and a corrective action plan for Castleberry High School. The presenters answered questions from Board members.

William Wooten, Chief Financial Officer, provided a snapshot of the 2026–2027 revenue collections and expenditures by fund and function as of September 30, 2026, and answered questions from Board members.

The Board considered approval of the Consent Agenda as presented. Dr. Ariela Martinez made a motion, seconded by Tracy Gallman, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried by a vote of 7–0. Voting in favor were Dewey Taliaferro, Mary Lou Martinez, Tracy Gallman, Linda Aguillón, Dr. Ariela Martinez, Janice Carrell, and Charles Richardson. There were no votes opposed.

The Board considered the Superintendent's recommendation to hire teachers, librarians, nurses, and other professionals, as listed in the attachment, subject to assignment. Dr. Ariela Martinez made a motion, seconded by Tracy Gallman, to approve the new hires as presented. The motion carried by a vote of 7–0. Voting in favor were Dewey Taliaferro, Mary Lou Martinez, Tracy Gallman, Linda Aguillón, Dr. Ariela Martinez, Janice Carrell, and Charles Richardson. There were no votes opposed.

Board members reviewed key dates.

The next scheduled meetings are a Board Workshop on Monday, October 19, 2026, and a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, November 2, 2026.

The Board adjourned at 10:51 p.m.

Minutes were prepared by Angela Branch, Executive Assistant and Public Information to the Board of Education, and reviewed by Board Vice President Mary Lou Martinez.

Dewey Taliaferro

Dewey Taliaferro
Board President
Castleberry Independent School District

Date: November 2, 2026

Ariela Martinez

Dr. Ariela Martinez
Board Secretary
Castleberry Independent School District

November 2, 2026

Audit trail

Details

FILE NAME	10-5-26 Board Minutes.docx - 11/5/26, 12:24 PM.pdf
STATUS	Signed
STATUS TIMESTAMP	2026/11/07 15:04:28 UTC

Activity

SENT	brancha@castleberryisd.net **sent** a signature request to: • Dewey Taliaferro (taliaferrod@castleberryisd.net) • Ariela Martinez (martineza3@castleberryisd.net)	2026/11/05 18:27:28 UTC
SIGNED	**Signed** by Ariela Martinez (martineza3@castleberryisd.net)	2026/11/07 15:04:28 UTC
SIGNED	**Signed** by Dewey Taliaferro (taliaferrod@castleberryisd.net)	2026/11/06 20:46:38 UTC
COMPLETED	This document has been signed by all signers and is **complete**	2026/11/07 15:04:28 UTC

The email address indicated above for each signer may be associated with a Google account, and may either be the primary email address or secondary email address associated with that account.