SANTA MARIA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, October 29, 2026
Minutes
6:00pm

Notice is hereby given that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Santa Maria Independent School District was held on Thursday, October 29, 2026 at 6:00 PM. This meeting was held at the Santa Maria ISD Cafeteria, 11119 Military Road, Santa Maria, TX 78592.

Zoom Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85006624474?pwd=NfuSjbIWnxf7h8l7qiNTrqf3r50Dyl.1

The Santa Maria Independent School District offers reasonable accommodations for persons accessing its school facilities, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you require special accommodations, please contact Ida Torres, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, at (956) 565-6308 for assistance.

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Javier Jimenez, Jr., Board President at 6:06pm.

Establish Quorum

Board Members	***Present***	***Absent***
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*	
Luis 'Beto" Cantu	*X*	
Pablo Ibarra	*X*	
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*	
Andrew "Andy" De la Rosa		*X*
Michele Garcia	*X*	
Miguel Zavala		*X*

Pledge of Allegiance

Open Forum

The Board shall allot no more than 30 minutes to hear persons who desire to make comments to the Board. However, no one presentation shall exceed three minutes. Persons who wish to participate in this portion of the meeting shall sign up with the presiding officer or designee before the meeting begins and shall indicate the topic about which they wish to speak. At regular Board meetings, a person may speak on any topic, regardless of whether the topic is an item on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting. At all other Board meetings, the topics for discussion are limited to only agenda items. Specific factual information or recitation of existing policy may be furnished in response to inquiries, but the Board shall not deliberate or decide regarding any subject that is not included on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting. The presiding office or designee shall determine whether a person addressing the Board has attempted to solve a matter administratively through resolution channels established by policy.

No one signed up for Open Forum.

Recognitions

1. Recognition of Santa Maria Middle School District Cross Country Meet at Premont on October 3, 2026.

Dr. Lara stated recognitions were rescheduled due to students playing football.

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Performance by our Tony Gonzalez Elementary, Mrs. Ludivina Garcia's 2nd grade students.

Presentations

1. Annual announcement of continuing education of Board Members.

Mr. Javier Jimenez, Jr. Board President announced the annual continuation education of Board Members. Under SBOE Rule, completing required continuing education each year of service is a basic obligation and expectation of any sitting board member.
As Board President, I am required to announce the name of each member who:
• Has completed the required continuing education;
• Has exceeded the required continuing education; and
• Is deficient in meeting the required continuing education.
The requirements for training are measured as of the first anniversary of the date of the trustee's election or appointment or two-year anniversary of his or her previous training, as applicable.
There are nine training areas for board member continuing education:
1. Local District Orientation
2. Orientation to the Texas Education Code
3. School Safety
4. Evaluating Student Academic Performance and Setting Goals
5. Identifying and Reporting Abuse, Trafficking, and Other Maltreatment of Children
6. Parental Rights
7. Post-Legislative Update to the Texas Education Code
8. Team Building
9. Additional Continuing Education
To the extent applicable to each board member, I will announce the completion or deficiency as to required training.
For members who still have time remaining to complete required training, I will announce those board members who have scheduled timely training and those who have not yet scheduled the training.
At the conclusion of this announcement, I will announce any board member's training in excess of the continuing education requirements.

LOCAL DISTRICT ORIENTATION:
"No new board members were required to complete local district orientation training for the time period covered by this announcement."

ORIENTATION TO THE TEXAS EDUCATION CODE:
"No new board members were required to complete Orientation to the Texas Education Code training for the time period covered by this announcement."

SCHOOL SAFETY NOTE:
The following board members have completed the biennial training on school safety:
Javier Jimenez, Jr.
Luis Cantu
Pablo Ibarra
Dr. Yvette Cantu
Andrew de la Rosa
Michele Garcia

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The following board member is deficient in meeting the required biennial training on School Safety but, still has time to complete:
Miguel Zavala

EVALUATING STUDENT ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AND SETTING GOALS NOTE:
The following board members have completed the biennial training on evaluating student academic performance and setting goals:
Javier Jimenez, Jr.
Luis Cantu
Pablo Ibarra
Dr. Yvette Cantu
Andrew de la Rosa
Michele Garcia
Miguel Zavala

IDENTIFYING AND REPORTING ABUSE, TRAFFICKING, AND OTHER MALTREATMENT OF CHILDREN NOTE:
The following board members have completed the biennial training on Identifying and Reporting Abuse and Trafficking:
Javier Jimenez, Jr.
Luis Cantu
Pablo Ibarra
Dr. Yvette Cantu
Andrew de la Rosa
Michele Garcia
The following board member is deficient in meeting the required biennial training but, still has time to complete the Identifying and Reporting Abuse and Trafficking training:
Miguel Zavala

PARENTAL RIGHTS:
The following board members have completed the annual training on parental rights:
Javier Jimenez, Jr.
Luis Cantu
Pablo Ibarra
Dr. Yvette Cantu
Andrew de la Rosa
Michele Garcia
The following board members are deficient in meeting the required annual training on parental rights but still has time to complete the Parental Rights training:
Miguel Zavala

POST-LEGISLATIVE UPDATE TO THE TEXAS EDUCATION CODE:
The following board members have completed Post-Legislative Update to the Texas Education Code training:
Javier Jimenez, Jr.
Luis Cantu
Pablo Ibarra

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Dr. Yvette Cantu
Andrew de la Rosa
Michele Garcia
Miguel Zavala

TEAM BUILDING NOTE:
The following board members have completed the annual team-building training:
Javier Jimenez, Jr.
Luis Cantu
Pablo Ibarra
Dr. Yvette Cantu
Andrew de la Rosa
Michele Garcia
Miguel Zavala

ADDITIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION NOTE:
The following board members have completed the additional continuing education requirements (5hrs):
Javier Jimenez, Jr.
Luis Cantu
Pablo Ibarra
Dr. Yvette Cantu
Andrew de la Rosa
Michele Garcia
Miguel Zavala

EXCEEDING REQUIRED CONTINUING EDUCATION:
Board Member Javier Jimenez, Jr. exceeded the required amount of continuing education training by 5 additional hours.
Board Member Luis Cantu exceeded the required amount of continuing education training by 4 additional hours.
Board Member Pablo Ibarra exceeded the required amount of continuing education training by 23.75 additional hours.
Board Member Dr. Yvette Cantu exceeded the required amount of continuing education training by 5 additional hours.
Board Member Andrew De la Rosa exceeded the required amount of continuing education training by 7.5 additional hours.
Board Member Michele Garcia exceeded the required amount of continuing education training by 4 additional hours.
Board Member Miguel Zavala exceeded the required amount of continuing education training by 15 additional hours.

2. Presentation on Regulation Policy CNC - Transportation Management & Safety

Mrs. Elizabeth Stenhouse presented on the Regulation Policy CNC – Transportation Management & safety.

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Action Agenda

Every Student, Every Way

1. Discussion and possible action to approve the Campus/District Improvement Plans.

No action on this item.

2. Discussion and possible action to approve the 2025-2026 Accountability Report.

Dr. Jacob Camacho presented on the 2025-2026 Accountability Report.
Motion to approve by Dr. Yvette Cantu, second by Pablo Ibarra. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Board Member Vote	***Yea***	***Nay***	***Abstain***
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*		
Luis "Beto" Cantu	*X*		
Pablo Ibarra	*X*		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*		
Andrew " Andy" De la Rosa			
Michele Garcia	*X*		
Miguel Zavala			

Financial and Operational Efficiency

1. Discussion and possible action to approve the revised T-PESS and T-TESS Appraisers for the 2026-2027 School Year.

Motion to approve by Dr. Yvette Cantu, second by Luis "Beto" Cantu. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Board Member Vote	***Yea***	***Nay***	***Abstain***
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*		
Luis "Beto" Cantu	*X*		
Pablo Ibarra	*X*		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*		
Andrew "Andy" De la Rosa			
Michele Garcia	*X*		
Miguel Zavala			

2. Discussion and possible action on the Trade In and purchase of a security vehicle.

Motion to approve by Michele Garcia, second by Pablo Ibarra. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Board Member Vote	***Yea***	***Nay***	***Abstain***
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*		
Luis "Beto" Cantu	*X*		
Pablo Ibarra	*X*		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*		
Andrew "Andy" De la Rosa			
Michele Garcia	*X*		
Miguel Zavala			

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3. Discuss, consider, and take possible action on a resolution authorizing Santa Maria ISD's participation in Practical Purchasing Cooperative (PPC), approving the Interlocal Participation Agreement and authorizing the Superintendent to execute the Agreement.

Motion to approve by Michele Garcia, second by Luis "Beto" Cantu. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Board Member Vote	***Yea***	***Nay***	***Abstain***
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*		
Luis "Beto" Cantu	*X*		
Pablo Ibarra	*X*		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*		
Andrew "Andy" De la Rosa			
Michele Garcia	*X*		
Miguel Zavala			

4. Discussion and possible action to approve TargetED Solutions K12 Analysis and Trainings for 2026-2027.

Motion to approve by Dr. Yvette Cantu, second by Pablo Ibarra. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Board Member Vote	***Yea***	***Nay***	***Abstain***
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*		
Luis "Beto" Cantu	*X*		
Pablo Ibarra	*X*		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*		
Andrew "Andy" De la Rosa			
Michele Garcia	*X*		
Miguel Zavala			

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve Consent Agenda items #3 - #9 under and items #1 - #2 under Governance by Pablo Ibarra, second by Luis "Beto" Cantu. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Board Member Vote	***Yea***	***Nay***	***Abstain***
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*		
Luis "Beto" Cantu	*X*		
Pablo Ibarra	*X*		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*		
Andrew "Andy" De la Rosa			
Michele Garcia	*X*		
Miguel Zavala			

Financial and Operational Efficiency

1. Approval of Check Payments since last report for September 2026.
2. Approval of Monthly Investment Report for the period of September 2026.
3. Approval of Revenue and Expenditure Report unaudited ending September 2026.
4. Approval of Tax Collection Report for September 1, 2026 to September 30, 2026.

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5. Approval to accept the $1000 Student Scholarship that school board member Pablo Ibarra won at the TASB Grass Roots meeting.
6. Discussion and possible action to approve the MOU with Region One for the Ascender Business and Student Subscriptions.
7. Discussion and possible action to approve the Service Agreement with Comprehensive Training Center.
8. Discussion and possible action to approve the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between Santa Maria ISD and the Regional Day School Program for the Deaf.
9. Approval of Minutes for Regular Board meeting of September 16, 2026.

Governance

1. Discussion and possible action to approve Policy DEC (Local) Compensation and Benefits - Leaves and Absences: Amendment for Bereavement Leave
2. Discussion and possible action to approve change to DEAB (Local)

to table Items #1 & #2 in Consent Agenda by Michele Garcia Motion, seconded by Pablo Ibarra. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Board Member Vote	***Yea***	***Nay***	***Abstain***
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*		
Luis "Beto" Cantu	*X*		
Pablo Ibarra	*X*		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*		
Andrew "Andy" De la Rosa			
Michele Garcia	*X*		
Miguel Zavala			

Executive Session

Motion to go into Executive Session by Michele Garcia, second by Luis "Beto" Cantu. Motion passed unanimously 5-0 at 6:51pm..

Board Member Vote	***Yea***	***Nay***	***Abstain***
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*		
Luis "Beto" Cantu	*X*		
Pablo Ibarra	*X*		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*		
Andrew "Andy" De la Rosa			
Michele Garcia	*X*		
Miguel Zavala			

Reconvene in Open Session

Motion to Reconvene in Open Session by Pablo Ibarra, second by Michele Garcia.. Motion passed unanimously 5-0 at 8:08pm.

Board Member Vote	***Yea***	***Nay***	***Abstain***
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*		

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Luis "Beto" Cantu	*X*		
Pablo Ibarra	*X*		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*		
Andrew "Andy" De la Rosa			
Michele Garcia	*X*		
Miguel Zavala			

3. Discussion and possible action on items discussed in Executive Session.
4. Discussion and possible action on recommendations on all items as appropriate on Superintendent's personnel recommendations.

Dr. Lara stated we are asking the board to consider the approval of hiring an Assistant Principal (Antony Valentino Cantu) for the High School to replace Dr. Camacho.

Motion to approve by Michele Garcia, second by Luis "Beto" Cantu. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Board Member Vote	***Yea***	***Nay***	***Abstain***
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*		
Luis "Beto" Cantu	*X*		
Pablo Ibarra	*X*		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*		
Andrew "Andy" De la Rosa			
Michele Garcia	*X*		
Miguel Zavala			

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn this meeting by Dr. Yvette Cantu, second by Pablo Ibarra. Motion passed unanimously 5-0 at 8:10pm..

Board Member Vote	***Yea***	***Nay***	***Abstain***
Javier Jimenez, Jr.	*X*		
Luis "Beto" Cantu	*X*		
Pablo Ibarra	*X*		
Dr. Yvette Cantu	*X*		
Andrew "Andy" De la Rosa			
Michele Garcia	*X*		
Miguel Zavala			

This notice was posted in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act on Friday, October 23, 2026.

Javier E. Jimenez, Jr.
Board President

Pablo Ibarra
Board Secretary

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This notice has been publicly posted at the administrative offices of the Santa Maria Independent School District, 11119 Military Rd., Cameron County, Santa Maria, Texas, at least three (3) business days in advance of the above-mentioned meeting, as required by the following sections of the Texas Government Code: 551.071 through 551.084. During the regular school year, this notice is also posted in all schools in the District. The school district also posts its board meeting agendas on the District's internet web site (www.smisd.net)

Consent Agenda: All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Board of Trustees and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired on a specific item(s), that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

Board of Trustees
Javier E. Jimenez, Jr., President
Luis A. Cantu, Vice-President
Pablo Ibarra, Secretary
Dr. Yvette Cantu, Member
Andrew "Andy" De La Rosa, Member
Michele Garcia, Member
Miguel Zavala, Member

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