

Minutes
Monday, October 21, 2024
Regular Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.
Location of Meeting: GISD Administrative Board Room, 1615 St Lawrence St.
Gonzales, Texas 78629

Board Members Present: Ross Hendershot, III, President
D'Anna Robinson
Ashley Molina
Gloria Torres
Naomi Brown
Josie Smith-Wright

Board Member Absent: Justin Schwausch-Vice President (arrived at 6:53 pm)

Item #1. Call to Order

The Board of Trustees of the Gonzales Independent School District met Monday, October 21, 2024, at the Administrative Office Board Room, Gonzales, Texas. President, Ross Hendershot, III called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

A quorum was declared with 6 members present.

Invocation, Pledge, Mission Statement

Gloria Torres gave the Invocation, Josie Smith-Wright led the Pledge to the Flag, and Naomi Brown read the Mission Statement.

Item #2: Public Comments: There were two public comments. Both speakers were parents of GISD students who urged the board to ensure the volleyball athletes involved with an issue which occurred during the athletic period were disciplined sufficiently.

Item #3 Recognition:

The Pilot Club of Gonzales presented Dr. Avellaneda with a Status of Honorary Pilot Member Certificate

Item #4: New Business/Action Items:

A. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Consent Agenda

1. Budget Amendments-Presented by Amanda Smith, Chief Financial Officer

One budget amendment to the food service fund to increase revenue and expenditures by \$78,471 each:
Remaining Local Foods for Schools Grant Funding (unused at 8/31/2024)

2. Minutes: September 9, 2024-Regular Meeting
September 23, 2024-Special Meeting

Josie Smith-Wright made a motion, with a second from Ashley Molina, to approve amend the consent agenda, as presented.

The motion carried 6/0.

B. Discuss and Consider Action on Interlocal Agreement with Bluebonnet Trails to Establish a Community-Based Counseling Program in Gonzales County and Associated Budget Amendment

Erin Lindemann-LaBuhn presented to the board the Interlocal Agreement with Bluebonnet Trails to Establish a Community-Based Counseling Program in Gonzales County and Associated Budget Amendment.

The partnership is with Bluebonnet Trails and the Community Health Center of South Central Texas in order to provide critical helper roles to provide services to screen for social determinates of health needs, provide brief

counseling to resolve immediate needs, link families to ongoing services, and build family relationships all to prevent emergencies that could lead to mental health, substance use, or behavioral crisis.

The grant is "The Supporting Mental Health and Resiliency in Texans Grant". As part of this partnership, Gonzales ISD would receive up to \$169,800 in grant funding to support the work of two mental health counselors within Gonzales ISD. It would cover the mental health counselor that we already have and the open position that is posted. The grant is funded from state general revenues, therefore, an increase to both state revenue and Function 31 are needed to bring the funds into the general fund budget.

The grant is only approved for one year, with anticipation that it will continue after this year.

Ashley Molina made a motion, with a second from Josie Smith-Wright, to approve and adopt the interlocal agreement and budget amendment, as presented.

The motion carried 6/0.

C. **Discuss and Consider Action on Memorandums of Understanding with Mid-Coast Family Services for Services Connected with the Prevention of Substance Abuse, Family Violence, and Homelessness**

Erin Lindemann LaBuhn, Executive Director of State and Federal Programs, presented two MOUs with Mid-Coast Family Services.

Mid-Coast Family Services is a non-profit organization that is housed out of Victoria, Tx. They work to provide Specific youth services, and family violence prevention programs in Gonzales and surrounding counties with the closest being Yoakum ISD. This is a free service provided to the district as long as the MOU agreements are approved.

Specific topics that Mid-Coast can provide are drug prevention, healthy relationships and vaping education.

This program would work through a referral program through the counseling department. The training can be provided through group or individual training. These services would be available for elementary and secondary students.

All services will be provided on site.

Josie Smith-Wright made a motion, with a second from D'Anna Robinson, to approve the MOUs, as presented.

The motion carried 6/0.

D. **Discuss and Consider Action on the 2024-2025 District Improvement Plans and Campus Improvement Plan**

Dr. Rachelle Ysquierdo, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction, went before the board seeking approval on the 2024-2025 District and Campus Improvement Plans. These plans are aligned with the district strategic plan.

Mr. Hendershot asked when the board would receive information from the formative reviews for each category. Dr. Ysquierdo stated that she would present results to the board in December.

Gloria Torres made a motion, with a second from Josie Smith-Wright, to approve the 2024-2025 District Improvement Plans and Campus Improvement plan as presented.

The motion carried 6/0.

E. **Discuss and Consider Action on the 2024-2025 Emergent Bilingual Program**

Dr. Ysquierdo presented to the board the Bilingual/ESL program evaluation as set forth by §89.1265.

GISD has a total of 630 Emergent Bilingual students which includes ESL students.

Gloria Torres made a motion, with a second from Naomi Brown, to approve the Bilingual/ESL program evaluation as set forth by §89.1265.

The motion carried 6/0.

F. **Discuss and Consider Action on an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Gonzales and Gonzales County Regarding Parking Lot Improvements at Apache Stadium and Related Purchases and Budget Amendment**

Mrs. Amanda Smith presented to the board the Interlocal Agreement to pave the Apache Stadium parking lot, the associated purchases for the project and the required budget amendment.

The project has not gone before the county for official formal action but they have informally approved the project.

The city and the district will share the cost of the materials and the county will provide all the labor. The interlocal agreement is written to read that way. The county has shared two different cost estimates, one which includes gravel. The district is waiting for a final list of materials that we need to finalize this project from the county.

The total amount of the project would range up to \$112,691.76 without the gravel up to \$188,666.16 with the gravel.

The city approved about \$56,000 to support this project because they used the lower estimate.

The gravel would run from the south parking lot behind the stands and into the north parking lot.

Ross Hendershot made a motion, with a second from D'Anna Robinson to approve the interlocal agreement, needed purchases, and budget amendment and delegate authority to the superintendent to finalize the agreement language, as presented.

The motion carried 6/0

G. **Discuss and Consider Action on the 2024 Tax Roll Per Section 26.09 Texas Property Tax Code**

Amanda Smith went before the board seeking approval of the 2024 Tax Roll. The Texas Tax Code requires that once the tax roll has been completed and prepared the Assessor shall send it to the Governing Body for approval.

Josie Smith-Wright made a motion, with a second from Gloria Torres to approve the 2024 tax roll, as presented.

The motion carried 6/0.

Item#5 Reports:

A. **Curriculum Update**

Dr. Rachelle Ysquierdo presented a Curriculum Update to the board.

B. **Financial and Quarterly Investment Report**

The Financial and Quarterly Investment Report was presented by Amanda Smith, CFO.

C. **School First (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas) Overview & Gonzales ISD's 2023-24 Rating**

Amanda Smith presented information on the Gonzales ISD's 2023-24 School FIRST rating. The rating was based on the data from the 2022-23 fiscal year. Gonzales ISD received an "A" rating.

D. **2023 Bond Program Monthly Update**

ESC Region 13/Sledge Engineering (Casey) provided the board a monthly update for the 2023 approved Bond Program.

- Spent about 5.9% of the funds about 3million dollars mostly gone to roofing and paving and design efforts.

CTE/Ag Barn

- Design Development continues; next round of meetings with staff and teachers early November
- Geotech borings underway on site by Terracon
- Tracking CDs:
 - final plans early 2024
 - o bidding to follow
- Water/Wastewater utility extensions: waiting on City design for line layouts

Maintenance Projects-Weaver & Jacobs

- VLK Schematic Design:
 - Cost estimates by Weaver & Jacobs underway
 - Schematic Design to Board for consideration tracking November Board Meeting
 - Primary focus for Board is budget/priorities
- Topo survey work at campuses ongoing
- Safety Security Standards: presentation by VLK this week to Admin Team

Maintenance Projects-ISD Direct

Roofing Project:

- Set up weekly meetings to improve contractor communication and coordination
- ISD staff team assist on HVAC problems
- GHS and Ag roofs: final TPO membrane underway
- EAC Roof: to begin once materials on site
- GNA Roof: prep work underway

Paving Project

- Awaiting final billing to close out = under budget(about \$50,000)

D. Superintendent Reports

Presented by Superintendent, Dr. Elmer Avellaneda
The enrollment at 2,565
Attendance at 94%

Item#6 Board Business:

Board Correspondence: No Correspondence

Dates of Interest:

October 25, 2024	Early Release
October 28, 2024	ACE Loteria
November 7, 2024	GHS & GJHS Thanksgiving Meal
November 8, 2024	Early Release
November 11, 2024	Staff Development/Student Holiday/Regular Board Meeting
November 12-14, 2024	GNA Thanksgiving Meals
November 15, 2024	GPA Thanksgiving Meals
November 19-21, 2024	GE Thanksgiving Meals
November 25-29, 2024	Student/Staff Holiday

Item #7 Adjourn to Closed Session:

Under Texas Government Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), Code Section 551.072 (Deliberation Regarding Real Property), 551.73 Deliberation Regarding Prospective Gift, Texas Government Code Section 551.074, (Personnel, to deliberate regarding the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee), Texas Government Code Section 551.076 (Deliberation regarding implementation of Security, personnel or devices) and Section 551.082: School Children; School District Employees; Disciplinary Matter or Complaint, Section 551.083: Certain School Boards; Meeting Regarding Consultation with Representative of Employee Group, Section 551.084: Investigation; Exclusion of witnesses from a hearing.

The board went into a closed session at 7:15 P.M.

Item #8 Reconvene to Open Meeting:

The Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in the Closed Session. The board returned to an open session at 8:33 P.M.

Josie Smith-Wright made a motion, with a second from Justin Schwausch to approve the updates to the Guardian Program, as presented.

The motion carried 7/0.

Gloria Torres made a motion, with a second from Ashley Molina to approve the employment contract for Mary Lynn Ramirez to serve as Human Resource Director as presented.

The motion carried 7/0.

Discuss, evaluate, and consider possible action to approve legal board counsel.

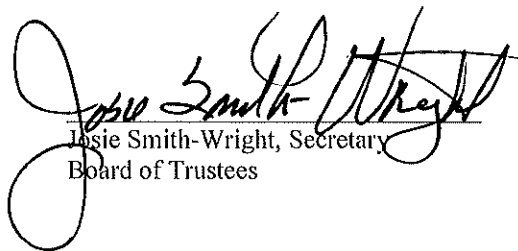
This item was tabled and will discuss at another time.

Item #9 Adjourn

There being no further business, President Hendershot adjourned the meeting at 8:34P.M.



Ross Hendershot III, President
Board of Trustees



Josie Smith-Wright, Secretary
Board of Trustees

