

**Minutes**  
**Monday, August 16, 2021**  
**Special Budget Workshop Board Meeting 5:30 P.M.**  
**Location of Meeting: East Avenue Campus-Cafeteria, 1615 St. Louis Street, Gonzales Texas 78629**

**Board Members Present:** Ross Hendershot, III, President  
Justin Schwausch, Vice President  
Sue Gottwald, Secretary  
Sandra Gorden, member  
Glenn Menking, member  
Josie Smith-Wright, member  
Gloria Torres, member

**Board Member Absent:**

**Item #1 Call to Order:**

The Board of Trustees of the Gonzales Independent School District met Monday, August 16, 2021. Board President Ross Hendershot, III called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. A quorum was declared with 7 Board members in attendance.

**Invocation, Pledge, Mission Statement:**

Gloria Torres gave the invocation. Sandra Gorden led the pledge to the flag, and Josie Smith-Wright read the mission statement.

**Item #2 Public Comments: None**

**Reports were moved up before the New Business Items.**

**Items A-D Reports were shared with the Board before the New Business was shared to allow the administrators to get back to their campus to prepare for the new year.**

**Item #3 New Business:**

- A. Discuss and Consider action to approve the Consent Agenda
1. Board Minutes: None presented
  2. Budget Amendments:

Amanda Smith, CFO, reported on the proposed budget revisions for the general operating fund.

There were a few questions and comments which were addressed.

Sue Gottwald made a motion, with a second from Josie Smith-Wright, to approve the consent agenda as presented.  
The motion carried 7/0.

- B. Discuss and Consider action to Approve the Board Resolution for Creation of Pandemic Leave Allotment

Ms. Haley Ratliff gave the Board a brief explanation of why the resolution for the leave allotment was needed. This resolution would give the district permission to grant 8 days of additional leave to those employees who voluntarily provide documentation of full vaccination against COVID-19, but still contract the virus. The Secretary of the Board read the resolution to the Board.

There were a few comments and questions which were addressed.

Sandra Gorden made a motion, with a second from Glenn Menking, to approve the resolution for the creation of pandemic leave allotment, as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

- C. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the TCLAS Grant Application.

Sarah Gottwald, Director of Federal Programs and PEIMS, shared a power-point with the Board and gave the Board information on the TCLAS Grant Application. Ms. Gottwald informed the board of how the grant funds would be utilized in the areas of contracted service and educational materials to support HB4545.

There were a few comments and questions which were addressed.

Josie Smith-Wright made a motion, with a second from Justin Schwausch, to approve the TCLAS Applications as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

D. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Purchase of Property and Casualty Insurance Coverage

Amanda Smith, CFO, presented to the Board the renewal proposal for the property and casualty insurance from La Vernia Insurance Agency. This being the third year of a 3 year agreement with PCAT. Once the renewal proposal was explained to the Board a motion was made.

There were a few comments and questions which were addressed.

Glenn Menking made a motion, with a second from Josie Smith-Wright, to approve the purchase with the buydown, as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

**Item #4 Reports**

A. Report Updates to the Gonzales ISD District Student Handbook for the 2021-2022 fiscal year

Ms. Sarah Gottwald gave the student handbook report to the Board. There were no major changes to the handbook. There were a few comments and questions regarding the presentation of the handbook.

B. Standards-Based Report Card for K-1

Brandi Bell, GE's Principal, gave a brief report on the grading guidelines that the kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade would use for this year. According to the report, this change will allow parents a broader understanding of how their student is achieving a proficient skill set. This information will also be supported during parent conferences with a rubric that describes each indicator.

There were no questions or comments.

C. Update on Higher Education courses & Pre-Kindergarten Tuition

Amanda Smith, CFO, presented the Board with information regarding the process and timeline associated with this year's billing for tuition-based programs and other associated information. Ms. Smith explained that this year was the first year that the enrollment fees and Tuition fees go through the Finance Department. Ms. Smith spoke of the process, the approach, and changes for the future.

There were no questions or comments.

D. Principal's Update on HB4545

Campus Principals gave the Board campus update reports and information about the implementations of the HB 4545 for each campus. The principals also shared a power-point.

There were a few comments and questions which were addressed.

E. Budget Workshop

Amanda Smith, CFO, presented to the Board the 2021-2022 budget that is currently being recommended by the GISD administration for adoption. Ms. Smith shared a handout and a power-point with the Board. The overview of what will be considered will be the goals and the major factors which played into the budget development. Factors include the continued COVID 19 pandemic, recent and still ongoing legislative session, as well as many other factors. Also shared was the General Overview of the district including information for the general fund, the debt service fund, and the foodservice fund. In conclusion, she shared information on the comprehensive budget and tax rate data.

- Introductory Section: Budgeting Goals, Influencing Factors, Budgeting Process
- Historical Data
- General Fund (199)
- Debt Service (599)
- Food Service (240)

- Tax Rates

There were no questions or comments.

**Item #5 Personnel Matters Section 551.074/ Legal Mattes Section: 551.071, 551.129, Property Matters Section 551.072/ Security Matters Section 551.076**

The Board adjourned into executive session at 7:34 P.M. for Personnel Matters/Property Matters/Security Matters and returned to open session at 8:11 P.M.

No additional business.

**Item #6 Adjourn**

There being no additional business, President Hendershot adjourned the meeting at 8:12 P.M.



Ross Hendershot, III, President  
Board of Trustees



Sue Gottwald, Secretary  
Board of Trustees