

**WICHITA FALLS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
WFISD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING – BOARD ROOM  
REGULAR SESSION MEETING JANUARY 21, 2025**

***CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING STATEMENT:***

The Board of Trustees of the Wichita Falls Independent School District met in a work session meeting on the above date. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mr. Mark Lukert, board president.

Board members present: Mr. Mark Lukert, Ms. Katherine McGregor, Mr. Jim Johnson, Ms. Sandy Camp, Ms. Susan Grisel, Mr. Jim Johnson and Mr. John Barnard. Mr. Lukert noted that a quorum was present and the meeting had been duly called and notice of the meeting had been posted for the time and manner required by law.

Staff members present: Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Dayna Hardaway, Executive Director of Human Resources, Ms. Leah Horton, Chief Financial Officer, Ms. Vanessa Dishman, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Ms. Keli Sims, Administrative Assistant, HR, Ms. Ashley Thomas, Communications Officer, Mr. Scot Hafley, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, Ms. Debbie Dipprey, Executive Director of School Administration, Mr. Wayne Toulon, Accounting Supervisor, Ms. Alefia Paris-Toulon, Executive Director of Special Programs, Mr. Shannon Troester, Risk & Contract Manager, Ms. Tracy Gutierrez, Diagnostician, Ms. Amber Frost, Special Programs Coordinator, Ms. Brenda Williams, Special Programs Secretary, Ms. Kim Thorne, Associate Director of Special Programs, Ms. Lauren Zotz, Director of Purchasing, Mr. Ronald Williams, Legacy JROTC Instructor, Mr. Tristan Browne, Burgess Elementary Principal, Ms. Amy Simmons, Cunningham Elementary Principal, Ms. Trish Potts, Internal Auditor, Ms. Amanda Latham, Special Education Department, Ms. Renisha Thomas, Special Education Program and several WFISD Diagnosticians

Also present: Mr. Lance Osterman, Durham Transportation, Mr. Murphy Davis, Sentry Management and media

***PRESENTATION OF COLORS:***

Legacy High School JROTC

***INVOCATION:***

Mr. Jim Johnson gave the invocation.

***PRESENTATIONS:***

None

***PUBLIC COMMENT:***

None

***REPORTS OR SPECIAL DISCUSSION ITEMS:***

***SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:***

Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools, gave his monthly update:

- Enrollment: 12,588; ADA 93.87%
- Classroom Visits: Board members welcome
  - Milam
  - Cunningham
  - Southern Hills
  - Barwise
- 89<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session
  - January 14<sup>th</sup>-June 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - Dustin Burrows is Speaker of the House
    - Athletic Transfers will be addressed; change to current UIL rule of an athlete sitting out a season when they transfer school districts
    - ESA (Educational Savings Account aka, school voucher)
- Rider Refresh
  - Cleaning, lighting and painting underway

- Honoring Diann Taylor
  - Hirschi Middle School Library acquired the **Diann Taylor Library of Excellence** name from closed Kirby campus
- February 4: Leadership Wichita Falls tour of Legacy
- February 12: Principal for the Day
- Playgrounds
  - Burgess, Scotland Park and Franklin playgrounds just about ready
- Yondr Cellphone pouches at Hirschi Middle School distributed
- Legacy vs Memorial basketball games were a huge success
- Board Appreciation Month
  - Thank you for your service!

***CONSENT AGENDA:***

**Minutes from December Meetings**

Ms. Katherine McGregor, seconded by Ms Susan Grisel, motioned that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the above items placed on the Consent Agenda at the January 14, 2025 meeting.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0

***SPECIAL PROGRAMS:***

**SPED WAIVER FOR HOMEBOUND AND REMOTE INSTRUCTION**

Ms. Katherine McGregor, seconded by Ms. Diann Scroggins, motioned for the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the submittal of a waiver to the Texas Education Agency for remote homebound instruction for one special education student as submitted by Alefia Paris-Toulon, Executive Director of Special Programs and as recommended by Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools. Under current TEA rules and policies, remote instruction not delivered through the Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN) is not eligible for state funding unless a waiver is submitted by the school district and approved by TEA. The district currently has a student who suffers from Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. The student has to travel out of town for an extended treatment. The treatment compromises the student’s immunity. The doctor stated that the homebound teacher not be in the home if sick or recently sick or exposed to anyone sick. The student is full-time homebound. The student is provided homebound service through Google Meet on a Chromebook. The homebound services were agreed on by the ARD committee and documented in the student’s IEP. When the student is in attendance via Google Meet, with an approved waiver, he/she can be counted as “present” for their remote time of instruction and therefore eligible for state funding.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0

**GEN-ED WAIVER FOR HOMEBOUND AND REMOTE INSTRUCTION**

Ms. Diann Scroggins, seconded by Mr. John Barnard, motioned for the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the submittal of a waiver to the Texas Education Agency for remote homebound instruction for one general education student as submitted by Alefia Paris-Toulon, Executive Director of Special Programs, and as recommended by Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools. Under current TEA rules and policies, remote instruction not delivered through the Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN) is not eligible for state funding unless a waiver is submitted by the school district and approved by TEA. The district currently has a student who suffers from cancer. The student has to travel out of state for treatments. The treatment compromises the student’s immunity. If the homebound teacher has been sick or recently sick or exposed to anyone sick, he will not serve the student face-to-face. The student is full-time homebound. The student is provided homebound service through Google Meet on a Chromebook. The homebound services were agreed on by the 504 committee and documented in the student’s IAP. When the student is in attendance via Google Meet, with an approved waiver, he/she can be counted as “present” for their remote time of instruction and therefore eligible for state funding.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS UPDATE**

Ms. Alefia Paris-Toulon, Executive Director of Special Programs, gave a detailed presentation on the many facets of the Special Programs with Wichita Falls Independent School District

***FINANCIAL SERVICES:***

**UNLIMITED TAX BONDS**

Ms. Sandy Camp, seconded by Ms. Susan Grisel, motioned that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees adopt an order authorizing the issuance of unlimited tax bonds, establishing sale parameters, authorizing the execution of a bond purchase agreement and an escrow agreement; approving an official statement; and enacting other provisions relating to the subject as recommended by Dr. Donny Lee Superintendent of Schools

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0

**STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

Ms. Susan Grisel, seconded by Ms. Diann Scroggins, motioned that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approves the recommendation to award the Student Transportation Services RFP 2526-01-S-30 to Goldstar Transit, LP for a period of three (3) years with two (2) 1-year options, as provided by Leah Horton, Chief Financial Officer, and Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF KIRBY MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Mr. Jim Johnson, seconded by Ms. Sandy Camp, motioned that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees creates a resolution authorizing the sale of Kirby Middle School property.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SAM HOUSTON ELEMENTARY**

Ms. Katherine McGregor, seconded by Mr. John Barnard, motioned that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees creates a resolution authorizing the sale of Sam Houston Elementary School property.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0

***HUMAN RESOURCES:***

**TEACHER APPLICANT POOL**

Ms Katherine McGregor, seconded by Ms Sandy Camp, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the proposed applicant pool as submitted by Dayna Hardaway, Executive Director of Human Resources, and as recommended by Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0

***BOARD MATTERS:***

**SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR NOMINATION**

Ms Katherine McGregor, seconded by Ms Diann Scroggins, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees nominate Dr. Donny Lee, WFISD Superintendent of Schools for the 2025 Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Superintendent of the Year.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0

**RECESS:**

Mr. Mark Lukert, board president, recessed to go into closed session at 7:45pm.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

1. Personnel Matters Including the Appointment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, Dismissal and/or Compensation of Individual District Employees (Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.074)
2. Discussion of Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Value of Real Property (Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072)

**ADJORNMENT:**

With no other action to take, Mr. Mark Lukert, board president, adjourned the meeting from Closed Session at 8:23 pm.

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President, Board of Trustees

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Secretary, Board of Trustees