Minutes of Special Meeting: Potential Tax Ratification Election
August 18, 2025

Hays CISD Board of Trustees

These minutes are a record of the actions taken by the Hays CISD Board of Trustees in the meeting held on the above date. The complete video of the meeting is accessible at www.hayscisd.net for those who wish to hear the specific details of the discussions on the agenda topics presented.

A Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Hays CISD was held on Monday, August 18, 2025 beginning at 5:30 PM in the Merideth Keller Board Room at the Hays CISD Academic Support Center, located at 21003 Interstate 35, Kyle, TX 78640.

CALL TO ORDER: Establish a quorum

Board President Byron Severance called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. All members of the Board were present.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Board President Byron Severance introduced Superintendent Dr. Eric Wright addressed the Board, leading through slides related to the agenda. There were no questions from the Board.

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing of Property Tax Rate for Tax Year 2025 and Fiscal Year 2025-2026: There were no guests present wishing to address the Board regarding this public hearing. Trustee Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Deborah Ottmers presented slides to the Board of Trustees. There were no questions from the Board.

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no guests present wishing to address the Board during Public Forum.

ACTION ITEMS

Consideration and possible appointment of a Texas Association of School Boards Delegate and Alternate Delegate for the Annual TASA/TASB Convention

Trustee Byron Severance moved that Board Vice President Johnny Flores serve as the Hays CISD Delegate and that Trustee Esperanza Orosco serve as the Hays CISD Alternate Delegate for the upcoming Annual TASA/TASB Convention. Trustee Vanessa Petrea seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible Acceptance of Certified Property Values for the 2025 Tax Year

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. CFO Deborah Ottmers addressed the Board to summarize the transmittal document and back-up information. There were no questions from the Board. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees accept the certified property values, as presented. Trustee Courtney Runkle seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible approval to name the Chief Financial Officer as Tax Rate Calculator

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees name Chief Financial Officer Deborah Ottmers as tax rate calculator, as presented. Vice President Johnny Flores seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible adoption of a Resolution to set Property Tax Rate for Tax Year 2025 and Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. CFO Deborah Ottmers addressed the Board to summarize the transmittal document and back-up information. Ms. Ottmers engaged in conversation to provide feedback to questions from trustees Raul Vela, Vanessa Petrea, Esperanza Orosco, Geoff Seibel, Johnny Flores,

and Byron Severance. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt a resolution to set the property tax rate for tax year 2025 and fiscal year 2025-2026, as presented. This tax rate will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's tax rate. The tax rate will effectively be raised by 15.39% and will raise taxes for maintenance and operations on a $100,000 home by approximately $120 annually. Trustee Esperanza Orosco seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of a Tax Anticipation Note

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. CFO Deborah Ottmers engaged in conversation based on feedback and questions from all trustees. Hays CISD Financial Advisor Dusty Traylor also provided response to trustee questions. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt a resolution authorizing the issuance of Hays CISD tax anticipation note, as discussed and presented. Board Vice President Johnny Flores seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible adoption of a Resolution authorizing the selection of Auditor to Conduct Efficiency Audit – Pattillo, Brown & Hill, LLP

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. CFO Deborah Ottmers addressed the Board to summarize the request, and responded to questions and feedback from Board Vice President Johnny Flores, and Board Secretary Geoff Seibel. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt a resolution to appoint Pattillo, Brown & Hill, LLP as the audit firm for efficiency audit, as presented. Trustee Vanessa Petrea seconded the motion. Additional discussion was had based on a question from Trustee Raul Vela. There was no further conversation, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

The Board paused for a short recess at 7:28PM, returning to the dais at 7:39PM.

Consideration and possible adoption of an Order calling for a Voter Approval Tax Ratification Election

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Superintendent Dr. Eric Wright, CFO Deborah Ottmers, and Chief Communication Officer Tim Savoy responded to questions and feedback from Trustee Courtney Runkle, Trustee Raul Vela, Trustee Vanessa Petrea, Board Vice President Johnny Flores, Trustee Esperanza Orosco, Board Secretary Geoff Seibel, and Board President Byron Severance. Mr. Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt the order calling for a voter approval tax rate election, as discussed and presented. Trustee Esperanza Orosco seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible approval to enter into the required Joint Election Agreements and Election Services Contracts that are necessary to hold a November Election, and authorize District Administration to execute the documents with Hays, Travis, and Caldwell Counties on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Tim Savoy, Chief Communication Officer, was available for response to questions and feedback. Mr. Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees enter into the required joint election agreements and election services contracts that are necessary to hold a November election and authorize district administration to execute the documents with Hays, Travis, and Caldwell Counties on behalf of the Board of Trustees, as presented. Board Vice President Johnny Flores seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Consideration and possible approval of an agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credit, Netting Chapter 48 Funding, Option 3 Agreement, and to Delegate Contractual Authority to the Superintendent

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. CFO Deborah Ottmers addressed the Board to provide a summary of the request. There were no questions from the Board. President Severance read the following statement: For the 2025-2026 school year, we delegate contractual authority to obligate the school district under Texas Education Code (TEC) 11.1511(c)(4) to the superintendent, solely for the purpose of obligating the district under TEC, 48.257 and TEC, Chapter 49, Subchapters A and D, and the rules adopted by the commissioner of higher education as authorized under TEC, 49.006. This included approval of the

Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credit or the Agreement to Purchase Attendance Credit (Netting Chapter 48 Funding). Mr. Severance then moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve an agreement to purchase the attendance credit (netting Chapter 48 funding) (Option 3 Agreement) and to delegate contractual authority to the Superintendent, as discussed and presented. Trustee Vanessa Petrea seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

There were no requests for information from the Board.

ADJOURN

Board President Byron Severance noted that the next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 25, 2025 at 5:30pm. No further business was conducted, and President Severance announced that the meeting was adjourned at 8:28PM.