



# Minutes of Special Meeting

## The Board of Trustees

### Galveston Independent School District

A Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Galveston Independent School District was held May 8, 2023, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Lovenberg Administration Building, 3904 Avenue T, Galveston, TX 77550.

*BOT in attendance: Johnny Smecca, Elizabeth Beeton, Mindy Lakin, Celena Vinson, Board attorney, Tony Brown, Ann Masel, Shae Jobe, David O'Neal.*

*Staff in attendance: Polzin, Post, Curry, Le, Scott, Martello, Grant, Neighbors, Rogers, Bly*

*Audio visual recording of this meeting can be found online at:*

*<https://gisd.viebit.com/index.php?folder=ALL>*

- 1) Call to order Open Session in the Board Room of the Lovenberg Administration Building, 3904 Avenue T, Galveston, Texas. -6:02
- 2) Citizen's Request to Address the Board on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items. Please complete sign-up sheets available in the lobby prior to the start of the meeting. -6:03
  - Christie Shumak - Upset about the comments made by the superintendent.*
  - Archie Hart - Spoke about the superintendent doing a good job.*
  - Eva Purcell - Superintendent needs to be held accountable.*
  - Bailey Gonzales - Spoke about the superintendent being the most involved superintendent in her time at GISD.*
  - Torina Harris - Spoke about the superintendent and taking responsibility.*
  - Nicole Obert - Upset about the comments made by the superintendent.*
  - Lauren Scott - Upset about the comments made by the superintendent.*
  - Lee Glover - Spoke about the superintendent being bad for morale.*
- 3) The Board may recess into Closed Executive Session in the Library as permitted by the Texas Open Meeting Act Government Code Sections 551.071- 551.090 Subchapter D and E. -6:24

Should any final action, final decision, or final vote be required in the opinion of the School Board with regard to any matter considered in such closed meeting then the final action, final decision, or final vote shall be either:

A) in the open meeting covered by the Notice upon the reconvening of the public meeting;  
or

B) at a subsequent public meeting of the School Board upon notice thereof; as the School Board shall determine.

A) To meet in closed session pursuant to Government Code §551.071 to consult with legal counsel on all any or all subject or matters authorized.

B) To meet in closed session pursuant to Government Code §551.074 to discuss Superintendent performance, employment status, contract and related matters.

- 4) Reestablish the open meeting of the Galveston ISD Board of Trustees. -12:08am
- 5) CONSENT AGENDA - Action Items
- A) Discuss and consider approval of the recommendations for Chapter 21 Professional Contracts for the 2023-2024 school year as presented. -6:24 *deferred until the May 17th Regular board meeting.*
- B) Discuss and consider approval of personnel resignations and recommendations with contracts.
- 6) REGULAR AGENDA- Action Items -12:08am
- A) Consideration and possible action on matters discussed in closed or executive session. -12:08am *Brown reported, "subject to board approval, there is an agreement by which Dr. Jerry Gibson will resign as our superintendent. His resignation under the agreement would be effective June 30th. In the interim though, commencing immediately, he will be in the position of retiring superintendent where he will provide us special assistance on a day-to-day basis on matters on which we request assistance under the agreement. He will be compensated as superintendent through June 30th and in addition to that he will receive a severance payment of \$70,000, and that would be the total compensation being paid." Motion by Masel. Second by O'Neal. Approved unanimously. Brown continued, "The other step we have is going forward and we will begin an immediate search for an interim superintendent who will be someone from the outside to get us through until we can do a search for a successor to Dr Gibson. But in the meantime, even that will take a little time, perhaps a couple of weeks or so, and legally we do need to have someone in charge of the district. And so, we were hesitant to name anyone on staff as an interim or Acting Superintendent we had came up with the term 'Acting CEO' which will perform as needed the duties of the superintendent in addition to the person's current duties." Motion by Smecca to select Matthew Neighbors as the Acting CEO. Second by Jobe. Approved unanimously.*
- 7) COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
- Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.0415, Trustees may report on any of the following items:
1. Expressions of thanks, gratitude, and condolences
  2. Information regarding holiday schedules
  3. Honorary or salutary recognition of a public official, public employee, or other citizen
  4. Reminders regarding GISD events
  5. Reminders regarding community events
  6. Health and safety announcements
- O'Neal asked for a moment of silence for past superintendent, Henry Boening who passed away.*
- 8) Adjournment -12:12am

Minutes taken by: Amedia Bly

Approved on May 17, 2023

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Mr. Tony Brown, President

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Shae Jobe, Secretary