Minutes of Regular Meeting with Public Hearing

The Board of Trustees
Leander Independent School District

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF WILLIAMSON

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Leander Independent School District was held on Monday, August 17, 2026, beginning at 6:17 PM in Linda Lippe Instructional Materials Center, 1775 W New Hope Drive, B1001.01 and B1001.02, Cedar Park, Texas 78613. The following members were present: Anna Smith, Sade Fashokun, Nekosi Nelson, Trish Bode, Paul Gauthier (left the meeting at 6:24 pm), Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia, and Laura Marques.

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM**
2. **OPENING CEREMONY**
   A. Pledge of Allegiance
   B. Moment of Silence
3. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

   One citizen addressed the Board of Trustees.
4. **PUBLIC HEARING**
   A. Public Hearing on the 2026-27 Tax Rate
5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2026-27 TAX RATE**

   No citizens signed up to address the Board of Trustees for the Public Hearing.
6. **CONSENT AGENDA**
   A. Consider Approval of Fiscal Year (FY) 27 Budget Amendments - #1
   B. Consider Approval of Grant Adjunct Staff Member Status – Travis County and Williamson County and 4-H as an Extracurricular Activity
   C. Consider Approval of Minutes of Regular and Called Board Meetings
   D. Consider Approval of a Resolution Approving List of Authorized Brokers/Dealers and a Resolution Approving List of Authorized Providers of Investment Training
   E. Consider Approval of Texas Education Agency (TEA) Certification Waiver for Teachers
   F. Consider Approval of Texas State University Teacher Fellows Program Contract

   I move the Board approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. This motion, made by Dr. Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia and seconded by Dr. Laura Marques, passed six in favor and one absent. Trish Bode: In favor, Sade Fashokun: In favor, Paul Gauthier: Absent, Dr. Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia: In favor, Dr. Laura Marques: In favor, Nekosi Nelson: In favor, Anna Smith: In favor.

7. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

   A. Start of School Year Update

   B. Empowered Student Learning

   C. Empowered Staff Learning

   D. Safe and Innovative Learning Environments

8. **DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS**

   A. GOVERNANCE

      1. Consider Approval of Order of Election for Board of Trustees Election

         I move that the Board approve the Order of Election for the Board of Trustees Election to be held in conjunction with the November 3, 2026, General Election, for the purpose of electing one trustee to each of the positions designated as Place 1, Place 2, Place 6, and Place 7. This motion, made by Dr. Laura Marques, and seconded by Sade Fashokun, passed six in favor and one absent. Trish Bode: In favor, Sade Fashokun: In favor, Paul Gauthier: Absent, Dr. Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia: In favor, Dr. Laura Marques: In favor, Nekosi Nelson: In favor, Anna Smith: In favor.

      2. Consider All Matters Incident and Related to Calling a Special Election Ratifying a Voter-Approval Tax Rate to be Held by the Leander Independent School District, Including the Adoption of an Order Pertaining Thereto

         I move that the Board of Trustees adopt an order calling a voter-approval tax rate election to be held on November 3, 2026. This motion, made by Sade Fashokun and seconded by Dr. Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia, passed six in favor and one absent. Trish Bode: In favor, Sade Fashokun: In favor, Paul Gauthier: Absent, Dr. Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia: In favor, Dr. Laura Marques: In favor, Nekosi Nelson: In favor, Anna Smith: In favor.

      3. Consider Approval of Travis County Election Agreement and Joint Election Agreement

         I move the Board approve the November 3, 2026, Election Agreement Between Travis County and Leander ISD and the Travis County Joint Election Agreement for the November 3, 2026 Election, as presented. This motion, made by Sade Fashokun and seconded by Dr. Laura Marques, passed six in favor and one absent. Trish Bode: In favor, Sade Fashokun: In favor, Paul Gauthier: Absent, Dr. Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia: In favor, Dr. Laura Marques: In favor, Nekosi Nelson: In favor, Anna Smith: In favor.

      4. Consider Approval of Williamson County Joint Election Agreement and Contract for Election Services

         I move the Board approve the November 3, 2026, Williamson County Joint Election Agreement and Contract for Election Services, as presented. This motion, made by Sade Fashokun, and seconded by Dr. Laura Marques, passed six in favor and one absent. Trish Bode: In favor, Sade Fashokun: In favor, Paul Gauthier: Absent, Dr. Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia: In favor, Dr. Laura Marques: In favor, Nekosi Nelson: In favor, Anna Smith: In favor.

   B. OPERATIONS

      1. Consider Approval of an Ordinance Adopting the 2026 Property Tax Rate

I move that property taxes be levied for the 2026 tax year by the adoption of a total tax rate of $1.1169. As outlined in the Ordinance, the tax rate includes $0.7869 for Maintenance and Operations and $0.3300 for Interest and Sinking. This motion, made by Dr. Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia and seconded by Sade Fashokun, passed six in favor and one absent. Trish Bode: In favor, Sade Fashokun: In favor, Paul Gauthier: Absent, Dr. Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia: In favor, Dr. Laura Marques: In favor, Nekosi Nelson: In favor, Anna Smith: In favor.

2. Consider Adoption of a Resolution of Review of Investment Policy & Investment Strategies

   I move that the Board of Trustees adopt a Resolution of Review of Investment Policy and Investment Strategies as presented, reflecting no changes to policy from the 2025-2026 school year. This motion, made by Sade Fashokun and seconded by Dr. Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia, passed six in favor and one absent. Trish Bode: In favor, Sade Fashokun: In favor, Paul Gauthier: Absent, Dr. Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia: In favor, Dr. Laura Marques: In favor, Nekosi Nelson: In favor, Anna Smith: In favor.

3. Annual Investment Report

9. **CLOSED SESSION**

The Board of Trustees went into Closed Session at 7:30 PM after the Board President announced the right to do so under:

A. Texas Government Code 551.071: consultation with attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation, and/or attorney client privileged matter

B. Texas Government Code 551.074: personnel - deliberation regarding resignations, terminations, employment, reassignments, duties, and evaluation of personnel and public officers

C. Texas Government Code 551.0821: deliberation regarding matters whereby personally identifiable information regarding one or more students will be disclosed

D. Texas Government Code 551.074: deliberation and consideration of employment of Bagdad Elementary School Principal

E. Texas Government Code 551.074: deliberation and consideration of employment of Camacho Elementary School Principal

F. Texas Government Code 551.074: deliberation and consideration of employment of Steiner Ranch Elementary School Principal

The Board of Trustees returned to Open Session at 8:26 PM.

10. **ACTION PURSUANT TO CLOSED SESSION**

A. Consider Employment of Bagdad Elementary School Principal

   No action was taken on this agenda item.

B. Consider Employment of Camacho Elementary School Principal

   I move that the Board of Trustees accept the recommendation of Sarah Elbers for Principal at Camacho Elementary School 1-year probationary employment contract for personnel addition(s) as presented in accordance with the salary scale, policies and contract of

Leander Independent School District for the 2026-27 school year. This motion, made by Dr. Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia and seconded by Dr. Laura Marques, passed six in favor and one absent. Trish Bode: In favor, Sade Fashokun: In favor, Paul Gauthier: Absent, Dr. Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia: In favor, Dr. Laura Marques: In favor, Nekosi Nelson: In favor, Anna Smith: In favor.

C. Consider Employment of Steiner Ranch Elementary School Principal

I move that the Board of Trustees accept the recommendation of Tamara Shifrin for Principal at Steiner Ranch Elementary School 1-year probationary employment contract for personnel addition(s) as presented in accordance with the salary scale, policies and contract of Leander Independent School District for the 2026-27 school year. This motion, made by Trish Bode, and seconded by Dr. Laura Marques, passed six in favor and one absent. Trish Bode: In favor, Sade Fashokun: In favor, Paul Gauthier: Absent, Dr. Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia: In favor, Dr. Laura Marques: In favor, Nekosi Nelson: In favor, Anna Smith: In favor.

11. **BOARD MEETING DEBRIEF**
12. **ADJOURNMENT**

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, HAVING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, ADJOURNED THE MEETING.

Time: 8:27 PM

These minutes were read and approved by the Board of Trustees on the 3rd day of September 2026.

_____ _____

President Secretary

Copies of Board information referred to are attached to the official minutes or filed in the office indicated.