

## Board Workshop

Monday, August 24, 2026 6:30 PM

FISD Boardroom, 402 Laurel Dr., Friendswood, TX 77546

### 1. Call to Order at 6:30pm

**Discussion:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

### 2. Establish Quorum

**Discussion:** Trustee Hobratschk, Trustee Rhodes, Trustee Seifert, Trustee Montz, Trustee Egert, Trustee Hillenburg, and Trustee Hopkins were all present on the dais.

### 3. Audience Participation

**Discussion:** No one requested to speak during audience participation.

### 4. Recess to Executive Session

- 4.1. Recess to closed or executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code, 551.074 Personnel Matters: To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee;  
**Discussion:** The Board did not recess to executive session.

### 5. Reconvene to Open Session

### 6. Public Hearing 6:45pm

- 6.1. Public Hearing on 2026-2027 Budget and 2026 Tax Rate  
**Discussion:** The public hearing began at 6:45pm. Amber Petree, FISD CFO, presented the required public hearing on the 26-27 budget and the 2026 tax rate. Ms. Petree welcomed questions from the audience. Ms. Petree reviewed the budget highlights and presented a comparison between the 25-26 budget and the projected budget for 26-27. She discussed our revenue and expenditures in detail. Ms. Petree also reviewed the fund balance history and projections. Ms. Petree also discussed the debt service fund and the food service fund. The public hearing concluded at 7:05pm.

### 7. Action Items

- 7.1. Consider Approval of the 2026-2027 Budget by Fund and Function  
**Action(s):**  
I recommend approval of the 2026-2027 General Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Food Service Fund budgets by fund and function as proposed and the stipend list, as presented. This motion, made by Rebecca Hillenburg and seconded by David Montz,

Carried.

**Voting Detail:**

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Beau Egert:         | Yea |
| Rebecca Hillenburg: | Yea |
| Ralph Hobratschk:   | Yea |
| Tony Hopkins:       | Yea |
| David Montz:        | Yea |
| Niki Rhodes:        | Yea |
| Laura Seifert:      | Yea |

**Voting Summary:** Yea: 7, Nay: 0

7.2. Consider Approval of Resolution to Adopt 2026  
Tax Rate

**Action(s):**

I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of 1.02490, which is effectively a 4.86 percent increase in the tax rate. This motion, made by Tony Hopkins and seconded by Laura Seifert, Carried.

**Voting Detail:**

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Beau Egert:         | Yea |
| Rebecca Hillenburg: | Yea |
| Ralph Hobratschk:   | Yea |
| Tony Hopkins:       | Yea |
| David Montz:        | Yea |
| Niki Rhodes:        | Yea |
| Laura Seifert:      | Yea |

**Voting Summary:** Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**Discussion:** Trustee Seifert read the resolution into the record.

7.3. Accept GCAD and BCAD Certified Property Values  
and Tax Rolls for 2026 and Approve Certified  
Collection Rate

**Action(s):**

I recommend approval of the 2026 certified taxable values and tax rolls as presented by the Galveston Central and Brazoria County Central Appraisal districts. I also recommend approval of the estimated collection rate for 2026 to be 99.40%, and the 2025 excess debt collections of Zero Dollars and Zero Cents (\$0.00) as presented by the FISD Tax-Assessor Collector. This motion, made by Laura Seifert and seconded by Rebecca Hillenburg, Carried.

**Voting Detail:**

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Beau Egert:         | Yea |
| Rebecca Hillenburg: | Yea |
| Ralph Hobratschk:   | Yea |
| Tony Hopkins:       | Yea |
| David Montz:        | Yea |
| Niki Rhodes:        | Yea |
| Laura Seifert:      | Yea |

**Voting Summary:** Yea: 7, Nay: 0

7.4. Consider Approval of the 2025-2026 Final Budget Amendment

**Action(s):**

I recommend approval of the 2025-2026 Final Budget Amendment as presented. This motion, made by Beau Egert and seconded by Ralph Hobratschk, Carried.

**Voting Detail:**

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Beau Egert:         | Yea |
| Rebecca Hillenburg: | Yea |
| Ralph Hobratschk:   | Yea |
| Tony Hopkins:       | Yea |
| David Montz:        | Yea |
| Niki Rhodes:        | Yea |
| Laura Seifert:      | Yea |

**Voting Summary:** Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**Discussion:** Ms. Petree discussed the 25-26 budget amendment and was available for questions.

7.5. Consider Approval of Order Declaring Unopposed Candidates Elected and Canceling the November 3, 2026 Board of Trustees Election

**Action(s):**

I recommend the Board approve the Order Declaring Unopposed Candidates Elected and Canceling the November 3, 2026 Board of Trustees Election. This motion, made by Rebecca Hillenburg and seconded by Niki Rhodes, Carried.

**Voting Detail:**

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Beau Egert:         | Yea |
| Rebecca Hillenburg: | Yea |
| Ralph Hobratschk:   | Yea |
| Tony Hopkins:       | Yea |
| David Montz:        | Yea |
| Niki Rhodes:        | Yea |
| Laura Seifert:      | Yea |

**Voting Summary:** Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**Discussion:** The Board moved forward with the cancellation of the November 3, 2026, Board of Trustees election after declaring the candidates for all three positions unopposed.

7.6. Consider Approval of Bond Construction Advisory Committee

**Action(s):**

I recommend creating a bond construction advisory committee. This motion, made by David Montz and seconded by Beau Egert, Carried.

**Voting Detail:**

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Beau Egert:         | Yea |
| Rebecca Hillenburg: | Yea |
| Ralph Hobratschk:   | Yea |
| Tony Hopkins:       | Yea |

David Montz: Yea  
Niki Rhodes: Yea  
Laura Seifert: Yea

**Voting Summary:** Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**Discussion:** The Board discussed creating a Bond Construction Advisory Committee of approximately five community members with expertise in construction, maintenance, permitting, drainage, and related areas. The committee would serve in an advisory capacity at key project milestones by reviewing project scopes before bidding and evaluating bids and costs to help ensure projects are appropriately scoped and provide the best value to the District. The committee would work with District staff and the District's construction representative and report its observations and recommendations to the Board.

7.7. Consider Approval of Purchase of School Buses

**Discussion:** This item was tabled.

7.8. Consider Renewal of Facilities Use Agreement with LifePoint Church for 2026-2027

**Action(s):**

I recommend approval of the renewal Facility Use Agreement with LifePoint Church for One Year as presented. This motion, made by Niki Rhodes and seconded by Ralph Hobratschk, Carried.

**Voting Detail:**

Beau Egert: Yea  
Rebecca Hillenburg: Yea  
Ralph Hobratschk: Yea  
Tony Hopkins: Yea  
David Montz: Yea  
Niki Rhodes: Yea  
Laura Seifert: Yea

**Voting Summary:** Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**Discussion:** The Board discussed and approved a **one-year renewal of the Facilities Use Agreement with Life Point Church for 2026-2027**, noting that the agreement provides a valuable source of revenue for the District.

7.9. Consider Approval of COM MOU 26-28

**Action(s):**

I recommend approval of the contract with College of the Mainland. This motion, made by David Montz and seconded by Beau Egert, Carried.

**Voting Detail:**

Beau Egert: Yea  
Rebecca Hillenburg: Yea  
Ralph Hobratschk: Yea  
Tony Hopkins: Yea  
David Montz: Yea  
Niki Rhodes: Yea

Laura Seifert: Yea

**Voting Summary:** Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**Discussion:**

The Board reviewed the proposed 2026-2027 budget and tax rate, including a balanced General Fund budget of approximately \$70.4 million, reflecting a 4.3% increase in revenues and expenditures. The budget includes significant investments in employee salaries and benefits, restoration of \$500,000 for capital projects and facility maintenance, and continued attention to student support and safety services.

The Board also discussed enrollment and ADA trends, fund balance, Westwood remediation expenses, recapture, and the District's ability to keep the debt-service tax rate flat despite issuing \$40 million in debt.

7.10. Consider Approval of Missed School Day Waiver for Westwood Elementary

**Action(s):**

I recommend approval of the Missed School Day Waiver as presented. This motion, made by Beau Egert and seconded by Rebecca Hillenburg, Carried.

**Voting Detail:**

Beau Egert: Yea

Rebecca Hillenburg: Yea

Ralph Hobratschk: Yea

Tony Hopkins: Yea

David Montz: Yea

Niki Rhodes: Yea

Laura Seifert: Yea

**Voting Summary:** Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**Discussion:** The Board approved a waiver for the 2 missed days at Westwood Elementary.

8. **Information Items**

8.1. Westwood Elementary Update

**Discussion:** The Board received an update on continued work at Westwood Elementary, including replacement of damaged supplies, expanded roof repairs to address water intrusion, and installation of 68 microbial treatment units within the HVAC system. The District will also work with engineers to evaluate the design and current condition of the HVAC system and assess additional facility needs associated with the aging building. With the emergency remediation phase complete, the District will finalize related contractor costs and begin evaluating longer-term facility priorities.

8.2. School Safety and Security Audit for the 2023 - 2026 Cycle

**Discussion:** The Board received an overview of the

District's **three-year safety audit**, which began in 2023 and was recently finalized. Many of the recommendations identified through the audit had already been addressed through the District's comprehensive vulnerability assessment and related safety improvements. Overall, the audit reflected that the District is in a strong position, with numerous operational and campus safety enhancements already implemented.

## 9. **Adjourn**

### 9.1. Adjourn

#### **Action(s) :**

I recommend to adjourn this workshop. This motion, made by Beau Egert and seconded by Rebecca Hillenburg, Carried.

#### **Voting Detail:**

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Beau Egert:         | Yea |
| Rebecca Hillenburg: | Yea |
| Ralph Hobratschk:   | Yea |
| Tony Hopkins:       | Yea |
| David Montz:        | Yea |
| Niki Rhodes:        | Yea |
| Laura Seifert:      | Yea |

**Voting Summary:** Yea: 7, Nay: 0

**Discussion:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:26pm.

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Board Secretary