

Board Brief of Regular Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees Graham ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Graham ISD was held Tuesday, August 11, 2026, beginning at 5:32 p.m. in the GRAHAM LEARNING CENTER, 701 TENNESSEE STREET, GRAHAM, TX 76450

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John Brown, Dr. Brandon Bates, Chris Blanton, Lauren Mahaney, Kristina Pettus, Brandon Joy and Jason Smith

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Dr. Mary Johnston, , Robert Loomis, Gary Browning, Joe Gordy

VISITORS: Bowie Franks, Matt Rader, Ashley Register, Ashley McDougal, Harmony Chestnut, Dr. Kristina Martin, Melynda Cox, Lisa Lovell, Jayme Reger

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No one requested to speak during Public Comments.

RECOGNITIONS

Staff Recognition- Ashley Register-SST Writing Grade 5 Item Review
Recognition of Special Education Department: TEA Cyclical Monitoring Success
Ashley McDougal, Harmony Chestnut, Dr. Kristina Martin, Melynda Cox, Lisa Lovell and Jayme Reger

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE GRAHAM ISD LONG-RANGE FACILITY PLAN**

A motion by Dr. Brandon Bates, seconded by Jason Smith, carried 7 to 0 to approve the Graham ISD Long-Range Facility Plan. This was approved by vote of the Board of Trustees as follows:

Trustee	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Chris Blanton	X			
Kristina Pettus	X			
Lauren Mahaney	X			
Brandon Joy	X			
Jason Smith	X			
John Brown	X			
Brandon Bates	X			

● **CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF TASA/TASB DELEGATES**

A motion by John Brown, seconded by Dr. Brandon Bates, carried 7 to 0 to appoint Chris Blanton as the Primary Delegate and Brandon Joy as the Alternate Delegate. This was approved by vote of the Board of Trustees as follows:

Trustee	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Chris Blanton	X			
Kristina Pettus	X			
Lauren Mahaney	X			
Brandon Joy	X			
Jason Smith	X			
John Brown	X			
Brandon Bates	X			

CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 5:44 pm under Texas Government Codes 555.072, 551.076, and 551.074. The Board returned from Executive Session 6:46 pm.

Closed Session: Under the authority of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, the Board will enter into closed or Executive Session to discuss the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property Gov't Code 555.072, Deployment or Specific Occasions for Implementation of Security Personnel or Devices Gov't Code 551.076, and Employment, Retirement, Resignation & Discussion of Personnel, Gov't Code 551.074. Consultation with Attorney Gov't Code 551.071

- A. Real Property
To deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the Board's position in negotiations with a third person (Texas Government Code 551.072)
- B. Personnel
To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee, including Board members, or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee (Texas Government Code 551.074)
- C. Consultation with Attorney
To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee, including Board Members, or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee, (Texas Government Code 551.074)
- D. Security Devices or Security Audits
To deliberate the development, or specific occasions for implementation of security personnel devices or a security audit (Texas Government Code 551.076)

The Board Moved into Open Session:

The Board returned from executive session with no action taken.

HUMAN RESOURCES

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF T-TESS APPRAISERS FOR 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

A motion by John Brown, seconded by Dr. Brandon Bates, carried 7 to 0 for the approval of T-TESS appraisers for 2026-2027 school year. This was approved by vote of the Board of Trustees as follows:

Trustee	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Chris Blanton	X			
Kristina Pettus	X			
Lauren Mahaney	X			
Brandon Joy	X			
Jason Smith	X			
John Brown	X			
Brandon Bates	X			

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE GISD 2026-2027 EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

A motion by Kristina Pettus, seconded by Brandon Joy, carried 7 to 0 to approve the GISD 2026-2027 Employee Handbook. This was approved by vote of the Board of Trustees as follows:

Trustee	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Chris Blanton	X			
Kristina Pettus	X			
Lauren Mahaney	X			
Brandon Joy	X			
Jason Smith	X			
John Brown	X			
Brandon Bates	X			

Personnel Report

Personnel report was reviewed in closed session.

STUDENT SERVICES

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE 2026-2027 STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

A motion by Brandon Joy, seconded by Jason Smith, carried 7 to 0 to approve the 2026-2027 Student Code of Conduct. This was approved by vote of the Board of Trustees as follows:

Trustee	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Chris Blanton	X			
Kristina Pettus	X			
Lauren Mahaney	X			
Brandon Joy	X			
Jason Smith	X			
John Brown	X			
Brandon Bates	X			

Review of the GISD 2026-2027 Student Handbook

Mr. Gordy shared information and changes to the GISD 2026-2027 Student Handbook.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF GUARDIAN LIST

A motion by John Brown, seconded by Lauren Mahaney, carried 7 to 0 to approve the guardian list for 2026-2027. This was approved by vote of the Board of Trustees as follows:

Trustee	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Chris Blanton	X			
Kristina Pettus	X			
Lauren Mahaney	X			
Brandon Joy	X			
Jason Smith	X			
John Brown	X			
Brandon Bates	X			

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF EXTRACURRICULAR STATUS RESOLUTION FOR THE 4-H ORGANIZATION

A motion by Brandon Joy, seconded by Dr. Brandon Bates, carried 7 to 0 to approve the Extracurricular Status Resolution for the 4-H Organization. This was approved by vote of the Board of Trustees as follows:

Trustee	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Chris Blanton	X			
Kristina Pettus	X			
Lauren Mahaney	X			
Brandon Joy	X			
Jason Smith	X			
John Brown	X			
Brandon Bates	X			

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF POLICY UPDATE 127

A motion by John Brown , seconded by Jason Smith, carried 7 to 0 to approve Policy Update 127. This was approved by vote of the Board of Trustees as follows:

Trustee	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Chris Blanton	X			
Kristina Pettus	X			
Lauren Mahaney	X			
Brandon Joy	X			
Jason Smith	X			
John Brown	X			
Brandon Bates	X			

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF DOI IMPACTED POLICIES

A motion by Dr. Brandon Bates, seconded by Brandon Joy, carried 7 to 0 to approve DOI Impacted Policies. This was approved by vote of the Board of Trustees as follows:

Trustee	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Chris Blanton	X			
Kristina Pettus	X			
Lauren Mahaney	X			
Brandon Joy	X			
Jason Smith	X			
John Brown	X			
Brandon Bates	X			

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF POLICY EIF (LOCAL)

A motion by Dr. Brandon Bates , seconded by Brandon Joy, carried 7 to 0 to approve Policy EIF (Local).

This was approved by vote of the Board of Trustees as follows:

Trustee	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Chris Blanton	X			
Kristina Pettus	X			
Lauren Mahaney	X			
Brandon Joy	X			
Jason Smith	X			
John Brown	X			
Brandon Bates	X			

A motion by Kristina Pettus, seconded by Lauren Mahaney to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:54pm and go into the Public Hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING 2026-2027 TAX RATE

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No one requested to speak during Public Comments.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE 2026-2027 PROPOSED GISD TAX RATE

A motion by Brandon Joy , seconded by Dr. Brandon Bates , carried 7 to 0 to approve the 2026-2027 Proposed GISD Tax Rate. This was approved by vote of the Board of Trustees as follows:

Trustee	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Chris Blanton	X			
Kristina Pettus	X			
Lauren Mahaney	X			
Brandon Joy	X			
Jason Smith	X			
John Brown	X			
Brandon Bates	X			

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE GRAHAM ISD RESOLUTION APPROVING I&S RATE ABOVE MINIMUM

A motion by John Brown, seconded by Dr. Brandon Bates carried 7 to 0 to move that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed rate to pay debt service of \$0.3106 per \$100 of taxable value. This rate exceeds the District's debt service rate determined under Texas Education Code §44.004(c)(5)(A)(ii)(b) of \$0.1934 by \$0.1172. The excess revenue collected from the proposed rate will be used to accelerate repayment of principal and interest on the District's outstanding bonded indebtedness and to support the District's long-term debt management strategy.

This was approved by vote of the Board of Trustees as follows:

Trustee	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Chris Blanton	X			
Kristina Pettus	X			
Lauren Mahaney	X			
Brandon Joy	X			
Jason Smith	X			
John Brown	X			
Brandon Bates	X			

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE 2026-2027 PROPOSED NCTC TAX RATE

A motion by Brandon Bates , seconded by Lauren Mahaney, carried 7 to 0 to approve the 2026-2027 Proposed NCTC Tax Rate. This was approved by vote of the Board of Trustees as follows:

Trustee	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Chris Blanton	X			
Kristina Pettus	X			
Lauren Mahaney	X			
Brandon Joy	X			
Jason Smith	X			
John Brown	X			
Brandon Bates	X			

This concludes our Public Hearing and back into Regular session at 6:59pm.

FINANCE

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO ADOPT AN ORDER CALLING SCHOOL BUILDING BOND ELECTION IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$60,000,000 TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, 2026.

A motion by Brandon Joy, seconded by Dr. Brandon Bates, carried 7 to 0 to move that the Board of Trustees adopt the Order Calling a School Building Bond Election, in the amount of \$60,000,000.

This was approved by vote of the Board of Trustees as follows:

Trustee	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Chris Blanton	X			
Kristina Pettus	X			
Lauren Mahaney	X			
Brandon Joy	X			
Jason Smith	X			
John Brown	X			
Brandon Bates	X			

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of Regular Session held on June 3, 2026

Financial Information

- Cash & Investment Report
- District Financial Summary Report

A motion by John Brown seconded by Dr. Brandon Bates , carried 7 to 0 to approve the Consent Agenda.

This was approved by vote of the Board of Trustees as follows:

Trustee	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Chris Blanton	X			
Kristina Pettus	X			
Lauren Mahaney	X			
Brandon Joy	X			

Jason Smith	X			
John Brown	X			
Brandon Bates	X			

ADJOURN

A motion by Kristina Pettus, seconded by Lauren Mahaney, carried 7 to 0 to adjourn the meeting. This was approved by vote of the Board of Trustees as follows:

Trustee	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Chris Blanton	X			
Kristina Pettus	X			
Lauren Mahaney	X			
Brandon Joy	X			
Jason Smith	X			
John Brown	X			
Brandon Bates	X			

APPROVED

Chris Blanton, President
Board of Trustees
Graham Independent School District

Dr. Brandon Bates, Secretary
Board of Trustees
Graham Independent School District