

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees

Devine ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Devine ISD was held on Monday, August 17, 2026 beginning at 6:30 PM in the Administration Building, 605 W Hondo Ave., Devine, TX 78016

Board Members Present: Nancy Pepper (President), Carl Brown (Vice-President) arrived at 6:47 p.m., Keri James, Alixana Buvinghausen, Chris Davis, Candace Esparza, Britny Stricker,

Guests Present: Shelby Haass, Amie Cortez, Kelvey Cortez, Anthony Cortez, Ronda Shelton, Linsey Outlaw, Anthony Cortez, Mary Joyer, McKailee Sorrell, Brandi Sorrell, Jessica Alexander, Kandy Stein, Anton Reicher

School Officials Present: Dr. Todd Grandjean (Superintendent), Dawn Schneider (Director of HR/Info Mgmt), Michael Gomez (DHS Principal), Kandi Darnell (DMS Principal), Lysandra Reyes (Intermediate Principal), Mark Raygosa (Elementary Principal), Jenni Hagdorn (Special Ed Director), Shannon Ramirez (CFO), Geri Woods (Recording Secretary)

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

Nancy Pepper called this meeting of the Devine Independent School District Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 p.m. and stated for the record that a quorum of board members was present, that this meeting had been duly called, and that notice of this meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551. She further stated that trustees Chris Davis, Ali Buvinghausen, Candace Esparza, Keri James, and Nancy Pepper were present (Carl Brown arrived after quorum established).

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation led by Nancy Pepper.

3. Citizen Communication

- A. Public Comment for Non-Agenda Items. None.
- B. Public Address for Items on the Agenda. None.

4. Student Recognition

Linsey Outlaw recognized her students that competed at FCCLA Nationals in Washington DC over the summer. She presented them with certificates.

5. Administrative Reports and Discussion

- A. Central Office Reports
 - a. Superintendent's Monthly Reports on Board Priorities, Monthly Activity Calendar, District Event Calendar, and 2023 Bond Projects Update
 - 2. Director of HR/Info Mgmt Monthly Reports and handbooks for review.
- B. Business Office Monthly Reports and Payment of Bills

6. Consent Agenda

Candace Esparza moved and seconded by Alixana Buvinghausen to approve consent agenda as presented. This motion passed, 6-0. Those in favor: Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker; Those opposed: 0. Absent: 1; Carl Brown: Absent

- A. Minutes of July 20, 2026 Regular Board Meeting
- B. Approve T-Tess Calendar and Appraisers
- C. Adopt resolution for extracurricular status of 4-H organization and approve Adjunct Faculty Agreement with Medina County Extension office
- D. Donations
 - 1. Devine Athletic Boosters Donation
 - 2. Devine Education Foundation Donation
 - 3. Devine Band Boosters Donation

7. Action Item(s):

A. Alixana Buvinghausen moved and seconded by Candace Esparza to re-adopt the 2026 - 2027 proposed General Fund Budget, Debt Service Budget, and Cafeteria Fund Budget to include the tax rate worksheet as presented. This motion passed, 6-0. Those in favor: Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker; Those opposed: 0; Absent: 1; Carl Brown: Absent

Carl Brown arrived at this time.

B. Alixana Buvinghausen moved and seconded by Britny Stricker to approve the Ordinance Setting the 2026 Devine ISD ad valorem tax rate at \$0.8891, with the Maintenance & Operations Tax Rate at \$0.6969 and the Interest & Sinking Tax Rate at \$0.1922. This motion passed, 7-0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker; Those opposed: 0.

C. Candace Esparza moved and seconded by Keri James to Authorize Virtual Therapy Services as presented. This motion passed, 7-0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker; Those opposed: 0.

D. Candace Esparza moved and seconded by Carl Brown to Approve a Girls' Athletic Coordinator and DMS Athletic Coordinator Positions and Stipends as presented. This motion passed, 7-0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker; Those opposed: 0.

E. Candace Esparza moved and seconded by Carl Brown to Approve the bid from Cunningham Recreation for \$87,105.57 for the new elementary playground as presented. This motion passed, 7-0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker; Those opposed: 0.

F. Carl Brown moved and seconded by Alixana Buvinghausen to Approve a Resolution to Transfer and Convey Warhorse Drive to the City of Devine and authorize the superintendent to take all necessary steps to facilitate and complete the conveyance, including coordinating and obtaining any required surveys, legal descriptions, deeds, title documents, appraisals, and other documentation, as necessary to complete the transaction. This motion passed, 7-0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker; Those opposed: 0.

8. Closed Session

Nancy Pepper stated for the record that the Board of Trustees, beginning at 7:06 p.m., will convene in a closed session in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of discussing items listed under Texas Government Code Section 551.074, 551.076, and 551.082. NO FINAL ACTION, DECISIONS, OR VOTES WILL BE TAKEN WHILE THE BOARD IS IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

A. Personnel (TGC 551.074)

1. Personnel Update

2. Consider and discuss Superintendent Goals and Evaluation

B. Considering the deployment, specific occasions for, or implementation of, security personnel or devices (TGC 551.076)

1. School Safety Audit Report

Michael Gomez

C. Considering discipline of a public school child, or complaint or charge against personnel (TGC 551.082)

9. Reconvene from Closed Session

The board reconvened in open session at 7:52 p.m.

10. Adjournment

Keri James moved and seconded by Carl Brown to adjourn. This motion passed, 7-0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker; Those opposed: 0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Board President

Board Secretary