

Minutes of Regular Meeting September 21, 2026

Hays CISD Board of Trustees

These minutes are a record of the actions taken by the Hays CISD Board of Trustees in the meeting held on the above date. The complete video of the meeting is accessible at www.hayscisd.net for those who wish to hear the specific details of the discussions on the agenda topics presented.

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Hays CISD was held on Monday, September 21, 2026 beginning at 5:30 PM in the Merideth Keller Board Room at the Hays CISD Academic Support Center, located at 21003 Interstate 35, Kyle, TX 78640.

CALL TO ORDER: Establish a quorum

Board President Byron Severance called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. All trustees were present with the exception of Trustee Raul Vela. Trustees present included Courtney Runkle, Geoff Seibel, Alex Zavala, Byron Severance, Esperanza Orosco, and Katy Armstrong.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES AND TEXAS FLAGS

Trustee Esperanza Orosco led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the US and Texas flags.

MISSION STATEMENT

Board Secretary Geoff Seibel read the Hays CISD Board of Trustees Mission Statement.

SOCIAL CONTRACT

Trustee Alex Zavala read the Hays CISD Board of Trustees Social Contract.

PUBLIC FORUM

There were four speakers present requesting to address the Board. Holly Sewell addressed the Board, allotted five minutes, regarding the subject of Safety & Security, and budgeting agenda items. Addie Keller addressed the board, allotted five minutes, regarding agenda items K.3 and L.1. Ms. Keller provided the Board with a document titled "Hays Educators Association Legislative Priorities 2026-2027". Hadley Marshall addressed the Board, allotted three minutes, regarding advanced math pathway. Natasha Jensen addressed the Board, allotted three minutes, regarding bus transportation, Dahlstrom discontinued SPED SLC program.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:47 PM to consult with legal counsel regarding subject matters permitted by law, pursuant to Tx. Gov't Code Section 551.071, to deliberate regarding safety and security, including security personnel, systems, infrastructure, and/or devices, pursuant to Tx. Gov't Code Section 551.076, and to deliberate regarding the Superintendent's recommendations for employment, resignations, extended leave, and personnel matters, pursuant to Tx. Gov't Code Section 551.074.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Board President Byron Severance called the Board back to order to reconvene in open session at 7:42 PM.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Dr. Eric Wright addressed the Board to provide enrollment and attendance updates. He also presented slides to provide district updates. There were no questions from the Board. Board President Byron Severance addressed the Board for a segment of the Superintendent Report called "The Wright Way" and shared slides containing photos of Superintendent Dr. Eric Wright's volunteerism and service to Hays CISD while reading a statement from Board Secretary Esperanza Orosco.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORT

2026 Summer School Program Update: Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Marivel Sedillo, Deputy Superintendent / Chief Academic Officer, introduced Derek McDaniel, Executive Officer of Curriculum & Instruction. Mr. McDaniel presented slides to the Board. Ms. Sedillo, Mr. McDaniel, and Patricia Melgar-Cook, Director of Multilingual/LOTE engaged in conversation with the Board responsive to questions and feedback from Trustee Courtney Runkle, Board Vice President Geoff Seibel, President Byron Severance, and Board Secretary Esperanza Orosco.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consideration and possible approval of the Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meetings

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. There was no presentation for this agenda item, nor were there questions from trustees.

Consideration and possible acceptance of Certified Property Values for the 2026 Tax Year

Board President Byron Severance introduced this agenda item. Deborah Ottmers, Chief Financial Officer, addressed the Board and presented information specific to the agenda item. Mrs. Ottmers responded to questions and comments from Board Vice President Geoff Seibel and Board President Byron Severance.

Consideration and possible approval of Budget Amendments

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. There was no presentation for this agenda item, nor were there questions from trustees.

ACTION ITEMS

Consideration and possible action, if any, resulting from Closed Session

Consideration and possible approval of the Superintendent's recommendations to contractually employ Administrative Personnel

This agenda item will be presented and discussed at the Monday, September 28, 2026 Board meeting.

Consideration and possible adoption of a Resolution for a Good Cause Exception from the Requirement to Comply with House Bill 3 Sec. 37.0814 of the 88th Legislative Session and House Bill 121 Section 37.0814 of the 89th Legislative Session

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Jeri Skrocki, Chief Safety & Security Officer, addressed the Board to summarize the request. There were no questions from trustees. Board President Byron Severance commented.

Consideration and possible adoption of a Resolution, No-Objection Letter, and Payment in Lieu of Taxes for a Foreign Trade Zone

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Victoria Vargas of the Kyle Economic Development Council addressed the Board and presented slides to provide a summarized detail of the request. Ms. Vargas, and Ben Ramirez of Foreign Trade Zones of Central Texas were available to respond to questions and comments from Board Vice President Geoff Seibel and President Byron Severance.

Consideration and possible adoption of proposed revisions to the Hays CISD District of Innovation Plan

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Christina Courson, Chief Human Resources Officer, addressed the Board to provide a summary of the request. Ms. Courson responded to comments, feedback, and questions from Trustee Courtney Runkle, Trustee Geoff Seibel, Board Secretary Esperanza Orosco, and Board President Byron Severance.

Consideration and possible approval to seek Waiver(s) from the Texas Education Agency to provide Remote General Education Homebound Instruction

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Marivel Sedillo, Deputy Superintendent / Chief Academic Officer, addressed the Board to provide a summary of the request. There were no questions from the Board.

Purchase Requests

Consideration and possible approval of the 2025 Bond-interest funded purchase of District Fleet Vehicles

Board President Byron Severance introduced this agenda item. Max Cleaver, Chief Operations Officer, addressed the Board to provide information. Mr. Cleaver and Deborah Ottmers, Chief Financial Officer, responded to comments, feedback, and questions from Trustee Courtney Runkle, Board Vice President Geoff Seibel, and Board President Byron Severance.

Consideration and possible approval of the purchase of Emergency Management Software for Critical Incident Notification – Raptor Technologies

Board President Byron Severance introduced this agenda item. Jeri Skrocki, Chief Safety & Security Officer, addressed the Board to provide information. There were no questions from trustees.

Consideration and possible approval of Annual Costs and Purchase Orders for Service

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Deborah Ottmers, Chief Financial Officer, addressed the Board to summarize and respond to comments and questions from Trustee Courtney Runkle and Board President Byron Severance.

Consideration and possible approval of expenditures for Special Education Contracted Services for the 2026-2027 School Year

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Marivel Sedillo, Deputy Superintendent / Chief Academic Officer, addressed the Board to summarize the request and respond to questions from Trustee Courtney Runkle. Board Vice President Geoff Seibel, Board Secretary Esperanza Orosco, and Board President Byron Severance.

Consideration and possible approval of the purchase of Band Instruments for McCormick Middle School – High School Music Service

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Patty Moreno, Director of Fine Arts, addressed the Board to summarize the request and respond to comments and questions from Board Vice President Geoff Seibel and Trustee Courtney Runkle.

Consideration and possible grant of Utility Easement(s) to Texas Gas Service and/or Sunfield Development, LLC at 2025 Bond High School #4

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Max Cleaver, Chief Operations Officer, addressed the Board to summarize the request and respond to comments and questions from Board Vice President Geoff Seibel.

Consideration and possible approval of the Pedernales Electric Cooperative Utility Construction for 2025 Bond High School #4

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Max Cleaver, Chief Operations Officer, addressed the Board to summarize the request and respond to comments and questions from Board President Byron Severance.

Consideration and possible adoption of a Resolution to set the Property Tax Rate for Tax Year 2026 and Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Deborah Ottmers, Chief Financial Officer, addressed the Board and presented slides. Mrs. Ottmers responded to feedback, comment,

and questions from Board Secretary Esperanza Orosco, Board Vice President Geoff Seibel, and Board President Byron Severance.

Consideration and possible approval of the Senate Bill 12 Certification of Compliance

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Superintendent Dr. Eric Wright addressed the Board to summarize the agenda item. There were no questions from the Board.

Consideration and possible adoption of the Superintendent Evaluation Instrument for the 2026-2027 School Year

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Superintendent Dr. Eric Wright addressed the Board to summarize and respond to questions and comments from President Severance and Board Secretary Esperanza Orosco.

INFORMATION ITEM

Discussion and creation of Hays CISD Legislative Priorities for the Upcoming Legislative Session

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Superintendent Dr. Eric Wright addressed the Board and responded to questions and comments from Board Secretary Esperanza Orosco, Trustee Courtney Runkle, and Board President Byron Severance.

Update on District Safety & Security Initiatives

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. There were no updates from the department nor questions from the Board regarding this agenda item.

Update on District Bond, Construction, and Renovation Projects

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Nathan Wensowitch, Executive Director of Facilities, Construction, and Bond Programs, addressed the Board to provide a detailed update of construction projects. Mr. Wensowitch received feedback and responded to questions from Trustee Courtney Runkle.

Annual Review of Board Policy CDA – Other Revenues: Investments

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. There were no questions from the Board.

Quarterly Investment Report for the 4th Quarter of the 2025-2026 School Year

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. There was no presentation for this agenda item, nor were there questions from trustees.

Financial Statements

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. There was no presentation for this agenda item, nor were there questions from trustees.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. There were no requests for information.

ADJOURN

Board President Byron Severance noted that the next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 28, 2026 at 5:30pm. No further business was conducted, and President Severance announced that the meeting was adjourned at 10:32 PM.