

Minutes of Regular Meeting September 28, 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 28, 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 to include Courtney Runkle, Geoff Seibel, Alex Zavala, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES AND TEXAS FLAGS

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

MISSION STATEMENT

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

SOCIAL CONTRACT

Trustee Raul Vela read the Hays CISD Board of Trustees Social Contract.

PUBLIC FORUM

There was one speaker present requesting to address the Board. Addie Keller addressed the board, allotted five minutes, regarding agenda items K.3 – Proposed Amendment to the DOI Plan.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:35 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 6:16 PM.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Dr. Eric Wright did not have an update from last week's presentation. 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 a message from Trustee Raul Vela while a photo was displayed on the screen.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORT

2026 Summer School Program Update: No new information was provided, and there were no questions from the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

Board President Byron Severance introduced Consent Agenda as a whole, asking trustees if there were any items requested for specific vote. Seeing none, Board President Byron Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the consent agenda, as presented. Trustee Katy Armstrong seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Trustees Courtney Runkle, Alex Zavala, Geoff Seibel, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

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

There were no questions from the Board and no discussion held regarding this agenda item.

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

There were no questions from the Board and no discussion held regarding this agenda item.

Consideration and possible approval of Budget Amendments

There were no questions from the Board and no discussion held regarding this agenda item.

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

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the Superintendent's recommendation to contractually employ administrative personnel, as discussed. Trustee Raul Vela seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Trustees Courtney Runkle, Alex Zavala, Geoff Seibel, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item. Superintendent Dr. Eric Wright addressed the Board to announce the Katherine Moore has been hired as the Director of Development for the Hays CISD Education Foundation.

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 and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt the resolution for a good cause exception from the requirement to comply with House Bill 3 and House Bill 121, Texas Education Code 37.0814, as presented. Trustee Raul Vela seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Trustees Courtney Runkle, Alex Zavala, Geoff Seibel, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

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 and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the request to seek waiver(s) from the Texas Education Agency to provide remote general education homebound instruction, and presented and discussed. Trustee Alex Zavala seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Trustees Courtney Runkle, Alex Zavala, Geoff Seibel, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

Purchase Requests

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 and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the purchase of the recommended emergency management software from Raptor Technologies for an amount not to exceed \$100,136.40, as discussed

and presented. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Trustees Courtney Runkle, Alex Zavala, Geoff Seibel, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

Consideration and possible approval of Annual Costs and Purchase Orders for Service
Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the list of annually-recurring costs for services, as presented. Trustee Raul Vela seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Trustees Courtney Runkle, Alex Zavala, Geoff Seibel, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

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 and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the expenditures for special education contracted services for the 2026-2027 school year, as presented and discussed. Trustee Katy Armstrong seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Trustees Courtney Runkle, Alex Zavala, Geoff Seibel, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

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 and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the 2021 Bond-funded purchase of band instruments for McCormick Middle School from High School Music Service for an amount not to exceed \$112,264.00, as presented. Trustee Raul Vela seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Trustees Courtney Runkle, Alex Zavala, Geoff Seibel, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

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

Board President Byron Severance introduced this agenda item and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the 2025 Bond-funded purchase of district fleet vehicles from Gunn Chevrolet and Holt for a combined amount not to exceed \$2,623,087.00, as presented. Trustee Raul Vela seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Trustees Courtney Runkle, Alex Zavala, Geoff Seibel, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

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 and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees grant utility easement(s) at 2025 Bond High School #4 to Texas Gas Company and/or Sunfield Development, LLC, as shown on the attachments, and authorize the Superintendent and/or Board President to negotiate and execute documents necessary and convenient to construct and deliver gas utilities, as presented. Trustee Raul Vela seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Trustees Courtney Runkle, Alex Zavala, Geoff Seibel, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

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 and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the Pedernales Electric Cooperative utility construction at 2025 Bond High School #4 for an amount not to exceed \$600,000, and authorize the Superintendent and/or Board President to negotiate and execute documents necessary and convenient to complete the process, as presented. Trustee Katy Armstrong seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Trustees Courtney Runkle, Alex Zavala, Geoff Seibel, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

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 in response to a question from Board Secretary Esperanza Orosco. Trustee Severance commented. Mr. Severance then moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt a resolution to set the property tax rate for tax year 2026 and fiscal year 2026-2027 at \$1.14, as presented. Board Secretary Esperanza Orosco seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Trustees Courtney Runkle, Alex Zavala, Geoff Seibel, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

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 and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt the resolution, letter, and payment in lieu of taxes agreement for a Foreign Trade Zone, as presented. Trustee Alex Zavala seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Trustees Courtney Runkle, Alex Zavala, Geoff Seibel, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

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

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item and moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the Senate Bill 12 Certification of Compliance, as presented. Board Vice President Geoff Seibel seconded the motion. Trustee Alex Zavala seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Trustees Courtney Runkle, Alex Zavala, Geoff Seibel, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

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

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Dr. Eric Wright, Superintendent, responded to questions and comments from Board Vice President Geoff Seibel and Board Secretary Esperanza Orosco. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt the 2026-2027 Superintendent Evaluation Instrument, as discussed. Board Secretary Esperanza Orosco seconded the motion. Trustee Alex Zavala seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Trustees Courtney Runkle, Alex Zavala, Geoff Seibel, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

Consideration and possible adoption of Hays CISD Legislative Priorities for the Upcoming Legislative Session

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. He and Superintendent Dr. Eric Wright discussed taking no action on this item.

Consideration and possible action in accordance with Policy BDB(Local) for the appointment to Board Policy Committee Board

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item and recommend Trustee Raul Vela to the Policy Pals Committee. Mr. Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees act in accordance with Policy BDB (Local) for the appointment to Board Policy Committee Board, as discussed. Trustee Courtney Runkle seconded the motion. Trustee Alex Zavala seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0 with Trustees Courtney Runkle, Alex Zavala, Geoff Seibel, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco voted YES. There were no votes of NO on this agenda item.

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

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Superintendent Dr. Eric Wright addressed the Board. Trustee Courtney Runkle read a statement regarding her vote of NO on this agenda item. Board Secretary Esperanza Orosco addressed the Board to support the agenda item. President Severance moved that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees adopt the proposed amendments to the Hays CISD District of Innovation Plan, as presented. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by a vote of 6-1 with Trustees Alex Zavala, Geoff Seibel, Byron Severance, Raul Vela, Katy Armstrong, and Esperanza Orosco voted YES. Trustee Courtney Runkle voted NO on this agenda item.

INFORMATION ITEM

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. There were no updates from the department. Nathan Wensowitch, Executive Director of Facilities, Construction, and Bond Programs, 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 were no updates from the department nor questions from the Board regarding this agenda item.

Financial Statements

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

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board President Byron Severance introduced the agenda item. Trustee Raul Vela requested information regarding the replacement schedule for band 18-wheeler trucks. Board President Byron Severance requested information regarding parents/community members bringing their own chairs to sporting events.

ADJOURN

Board President Byron Severance noted that the next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 21, 2026 at 5:30pm. No further business was conducted, and President Severance announced that the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 PM.