Minutes of Regular Business Meeting
Wednesday, September 30, 2026

The Board of Trustees
Fort Sam Houston ISD

A Regular Business Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fort Sam Houston ISD was held on Wednesday, September 30, 2026, beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the Fort Sam Houston ISD Professional Development Center 4005 Winans Road, Building 1908, San Antonio, Texas 78234.

1. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, PLEDGE TO THE TEXAS FLAG, AND INSPIRATIONAL MOMENT

President Andrea Nicholas called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Fort Sam Houston Elementary School Fifth-grader Carrissa Clawson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag, Robert G. Cole Middle School Seventh-grader Scarlett Hoffman led the pledge to the Texas flag, and Robert G. Cole High School Senior Alethea Vaseliades offered the Inspirational Moment.

Afterwards, President Nicholas made the following announcement:

This is a meeting of the Board of Trustees being held in front of the public, which is not the same as a public hearing or meeting for the public. The Board and the District appreciate the interest of our constituents and welcome you at our meetings; however, in our Board of Trustee meetings, only the board members and members of the administration who are providing information to the Board should be speaking during the course of the meeting, except for the portion of the meeting designated for public input. Should any audience members have a question during the course of the meeting, please do not interrupt the meeting or interject your question or comment in the middle of the meeting; instead, please raise your question or concerns with an appropriate person at the conclusion of the meeting so that the Board can conduct our Board-business without interruption.

2. QUORUM

President Nicholas declared that a quorum of the Board was present. In addition to President Nicholas, Vice President In addition to President Nicholas, Vice President COL Rebecca Zinnante, Secretary COL(R) Aaron J. Braxton II, and Board Member MSG Jason Strickland were present. Board Member Willie White, Jr., was absent.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Board Policy BED(LOCAL) sets out the requirements for the Public Comments portion of a meeting. During regular board meetings, public comments may address any topic, whether posted on the agenda or not. During special called meetings or work sessions, public comments are limited to the items posted on the agenda only.

To participate in the Public Comment portion of a meeting, members of the public must sign their name on the sign-in sheet no later than five (5) minutes before the meeting is scheduled to begin and shall indicate the topic about which they wish to speak. The sign-in sheet will be placed on a podium in the Professional Development Center located at 4005 Winans Road, Building 1908, San Antonio, Texas 78234.

President Nicholas read the following Public Comments Information and Guidelines:

1. *A meeting of the Board of Trustees is a meeting of the Board in Public, not a public meeting which is to say that audience participation at a Board meeting is limited to the public comment section of the meeting. At all other times during the meeting, the audience shall not enter into discussion or debate on matters being considered by the Board.*

2. *During Public Comment, the board may furnish specific factual information or recite policy, but by law, the Board shall not deliberate or decide regarding any subject that is not included on the agenda for that meeting and any deliberation or decision by the Board will occur during discussion of the agenda item and not during Public Comment.*

3. *During regular board meetings, public comments may address any topic whether posted on the agenda or not. During special-called meetings or work sessions, public comments are limited to the items posted on the agenda only.*

4. *In order to participate in the public comment portion of a meeting, members of the public must sign up with the presiding officer or designee not later than five (5) minutes before the meeting is scheduled to begin and shall indicate the topic about which they wish to speak.*

5. *Individuals may be given up to three (3) minutes to speak during public comment; however, when necessary for effective meeting management or to accommodate large numbers of individuals wishing to address the Board, the presiding officer may make adjustments to the public comment procedures, including adjusting when public comment will occur during the meeting, reordering agenda items, deferring public comment on non-agenda items, continuing agenda items to a later meeting, providing expanded opportunity for public comment or adjusting the time allotted to each speaker; however, no individual shall be given less than one (1) minute per person to make public comment.*

6. *A member of the public who addresses the Board through a translator shall provide the translator. A member of the public who addresses the board through a translator must be given at least twice the amount of time as a member of the public who does not require a translator.*
7. *The Presiding Officer or designee shall determine whether a person addressing the Board has attempted to solve a matter administratively through resolution channels established by policy. If not, the person's presentation shall be halted, and the person shall be referred to the appropriate policy to seek resolution:*

a. *DGBA* *Employee Complaints*
b. *FNG* *Student or Parent Complaints*
c. *GF* *Public Complaints*

8. *There shall be no disruption of the meeting by members of the audience. If after at least one warning from the presiding officer, an individual continues to disrupt the meeting by his or her words or actions, the presiding officer may request assistance from law enforcement officials to have the individual removed from the meeting and once the individual is escorted off the premises, the person is not permitted to return during the meeting. Individuals with signs, props, or displays shall sit in the last row of chairs or along the back wall so as not to interfere with the meeting or with the public's observation of the meeting.*

During public comment individuals shall not use the name of District employees or of District students, unless the student about whom they are speaking is their own child.

The following individuals spoke during the Public Comments portion of the meeting:

1. Joe Shellhart – Open Meetings
2. Christopher Downing – Board Conduct

President Nicholas thanked both speakers for their comments and proceeded to the next agenda item.

4. ACHIEVEMENTS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Julie Novak was recognized and celebrated during the NAFIS 2026 Fall Conference, which is held in Washington, DC., for her years of service in public education and for her Impact Aid advocacy.

Secretary Braxton was recognized for being selected to represent Fort Sam Houston ISD as a member of the 2027 Cohort for Leadership TASB, an annual masterclass and leadership development program for school board trustees throughout Texas.

5. MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF AUGUST 26 AND THE SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETINGS OF SEPTEMBER 9 AND SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

The Superintendent recommended approving the minutes from the Regular Business Meeting of August 26, 2026, and the Special Business Meetings of September 9 and September 16, 2026, as submitted. A motion made by Secretary Braxton and seconded by Vice President Zinnante to approve the Regular Business Meeting of August 26, 2026, and the Special Business Meetings of September 9 and September 16, 2026, as submitted was unanimously approved.
Ayes: Nicholas, Zinnante, Braxton, and Strickland / Nays: None

6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Teaching and Learning / Assistant Superintendent Dr. Mina Schnitta – No report

B. Principals' Reports / Principal Julissa Fisher

A video of students enjoying the newly constructed elementary playground and equipment was shone.

Upcoming Events:

October 1:	Fall Photos
October 2:	Custodian Appreciation Day
	House Color Lunch – Blue House (Trustworthiness)
October 5:	World Teacher Day
	Bully Prevention Day – Wear Blue
October 6:	Instructional Coaches Day
October 8:	Fire Truck Visit
October 12:	No School – Columbus Day
October 14:	Dental Class Visit
October 21:	Fall Photo Make-up Day
October 22:	Trunk or Treat (PTO Sponsored)
October 23:	No School – Parent / Teacher Conferences
	Literary Pumpkin Drop Off

Robert G. Cole Middle and High School / Principal Dr. Joseph Cerna

Upcoming Events:

September 30:	Because of the forecast for inclement weather, the Varsity Homecoming Football game that was originally scheduled for Friday, October 2 was moved to Wednesday, September 30.
October 3:	Homecoming Dance, 7:00 – 11:00 p.m.
October 23:	No School – Parent / Teacher Conferences
October 27:	College and Career Fair

- An update about the UIL game passes was given.

C. Special Education Co-op / Dr. Saleha Sultan

- The Elementary program includes 143 students, with 17 new student evaluations and referrals being processed. By the end of October, the elementary program will include 160 students.
- Cole Middle and High School includes 129 students, with 23 initial evaluations and referrals. By the end of October, the secondary program will include 152 students.
- A brief overview of the services provided at the Co-op and how services from outside agencies can be brought to bear as a supplemental resource to meet students' needs. The funding model for and the growing cost of the services needed for each student to be successful was also discussed.

D. Finance and Operations / Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations

Julie Novak – No report

E. Technology / Director Gina Rodriguez

- The Integrated Student Support portion of the District's Strategic Plan includes the goal that by 2031, 100 percent of FSHISD students will be provided with a

welcoming, safe, and positive learning environment. The Technology Department has been partnering with the campuses to ensure that District families can be reached and are able to engage by using the ParentSquare mobile app, a comprehensive communication platform that connects families, teachers, and school administrators. This app provides access to reports and analytics to help the District create an action plan to meet the communication goals outlined in the Strategic Plan.

F. Athletics / Director Larry Norman – No report

G. Safety and Security / Director Scott Stuller – No report

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR AUGUST 2026

The Superintendent recommended approving the Financial Reports for August 2026 as submitted. A motion made by Vice President Zinnante and seconded by Board Member Strickland to approve the Financial Reports for August 2026 as submitted was unanimously approved.
Ayes: Nicholas, Zinnante, Braxton, and Strickland / Nays: None

8. QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT FOR 06/01/2026 TO 08/31/2026

The Superintendent recommended approving the Quarterly Investment Report for 06/01/2026 to 08/31/2026 as submitted. A motion made by Board Member Strickland and seconded by Vice President Zinnante to approve the Quarterly Investment Report for 06/01/2026 to 08/31/2026 as submitted was unanimously approved.
Ayes: Nicholas, Zinnante, Braxton, and Strickland / Nays: None

9. PURCHASING REPORT

Report Only - No Action Needed
The Purchasing Report was provided for Board Members' review prior to the meeting. President Nicholas opened the floor for questions. No questions were raised, and President Nicholas proceeded to the next agenda item.

10. 2025 - 2026 FSHISD CAMPUS STATE ASSESSMENT DATA

Report Only - No Action Needed
Teaching and Learning and District Testing Coordinator Lori Fuller, presented an overview of the 2025-2026 FSHISD Campus State Assessment Data.

11. PUBLIC HEARING WITH OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE SENATE BILL 12: ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE

The Superintendent recommended the approving Senate Bill 12 Compliance Certification. Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Dr. Mina Schnitta provided an overview of the Senate Bill 12 Annual Certification of Compliance, and an opportunity for Public Comments was offered. No members of the public asked questions during the Public Comments portion of the hearing. Afterwards, a motion made by Vice President Zinnante and seconded by Secretary Braxton to approve the Senate Bill 12 Compliance Certification was unanimously approved.

Ayes: Nicholas, Zinnante, Braxton, and Strickland / Nays: None

President Nicholas moved the Regular Business Meeting into Closed Session at 6:23 p.m. as authorized by Texas Government Code Section 551.071, et. seq.

12. CLOSED MEETING AS AUTHORIZED BY TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTIONS 551.071, et. seq.

A. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074:

1. Personnel Matters

a. Hiring

Gabriela Castro-Gonzalez, Fort Sam Houston Elementary School Special Education Paraeducator Self-Contained, effective September 8, 2026

Kirsten Johnson, Fort Sam Houston Elementary School Special Education Paraeducator Self-Contained, effective August 26, 2026

Craig Meissler, Fort Sam Houston ISD Transportation Department School Bus Driver, effective, September 16, 2026

Andrea Monday, Fort Sam Houston Elementary School Special Education Paraeducator Self-Contained, effective September 8, 2026

Robbie Mose, Robert G. Cole Middle and High School Receptionist, effective August 26, 2026

Tonimarie Salazar, Fort Sam Houston Elementary School Special Education Paraeducator Self-Contained, effective September 2, 2026

Maxine Solis, Robert G. Cole Middle and High School Special Education Paraeducator, effective August 26, 2026

Noel Valles, Military School Districts' Cooperative Special Education Paraeducator Self-Contained at Robert G. Cole Middle and High School, effective September 2, 2026

Heather Welsh, Fort Sam Houston Elementary School Special Education Paraeducator, effective September 28, 2026

b. Resignations

Won Ahn, Fort Sam Houston ISD Transportation Department School Bus Driver, effective September 11, 2026

Angeles Valenzuela, Robert G. Cole Middle and High School Licensed School Psychologist, effective September 22, 2026

c. Retirements

Brenda Rodriguez, Fort Sam Houston ISD Child Nutrition Director, effective December 18, 2026

d. Terminations

None

e. Reassignments

Mark Amaro, Military School Districts' Cooperative Special Education Paraeducator Self-Contained at Military School Districts' Academy to Military School Districts' Cooperative Special Education Paraeducator Self-Contained at Robert G. Cole Middle School and High School, effective August 12, 2026

Mark Amaro, Military School Districts' Cooperative Special Education Paraeducator Self-Contained at Robert G. Cole Middle and High School to Military School Districts' Cooperative Special Education Paraeducator Self-Contained at Fort Sam Houston Elementary School Behavior Support Classroom (BSC), effective September 3, 2026

Anthony Gutierrez, Military School Districts' Cooperative Special Education Paraeducator Self-Contained at Fort Sam Houston Elementary School BSC to Military School Districts' Cooperative Special Education Paraeducator Self-Contained at Military School Districts' Academy effective August 12, 2026

Marsha Johnson, Fort Sam Houston Elementary School Prekindergarten Paraeducator to Fort Sam Houston Elementary School Kindergarten Paraeducator, effective August 4, 2026

Kristina Mileo, Military School Districts' Cooperative Special Education Paraeducator Self-Contained at Military School Districts' Academy to Military School Districts' Cooperative Special Education Paraeducator Self-Contained at Robert G. Cole Middle and High School, effective August 12, 2026

Madeline Nelson-Abel, Military School Districts' Cooperative Special Education Paraeducator at Fort Sam Houston Elementary BSC to Military School Districts' Cooperative Special Education Paraeducator Self-Contained at Military School Districts' Academy, effective August 12, 2026

Amber Palacios, Fort Sam Houston Elementary School Special Education Paraeducator to Fort Sam Houston Elementary School Special Education Paraeducator Self-Contained, effective August 4, 2026

Aiyona Pete, Military School Districts' Cooperative Special Education Paraeducator Self-Contained at Military School Districts' Academy to Military School Districts' Cooperative Special Education Self-Contained Paraeducator at Fort Sam Houston Elementary School BSC, effective August 12, 2026

2. Discussion regarding Superintendent or Board Member roles, duties, and assignments.

13. BOARD TO RECONVENE IN OPEN MEETING TO CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION AS NECESSARY ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

President Nicholas moved the meeting into Open Session at 7:03 p.m.

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS/ACTION ITEMS REGARDING PERSONNEL MATTERS:

A.1.a. Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Hiring(s)
A.1.b. Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Resignation(s)
A.1.c. Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Retirements(s)
A.1.d. Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Termination(s)
A.1.e. Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Reassignment(s)

None

15. ANNOUNCEMENTS/ACTION ITEMS REGARDING SUPERINTENDENT AND / OR BOARD MEMBER ROLES, DUTIES, AND / OR ASSIGNMENTS

None

16. ADJOURNMENT

President Nicholas asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion made by Board Member Strickland and seconded by Secretary Braxton to adjourn the meeting was unanimously approved, and the Regular Business Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.
Ayes: Nicholas, Zinnante, Braxton, Strickland, and White / Nays: None

The foregoing minutes were read and approved on the 28th day of October 2026.

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Andrea D. Nicholas, President

ATTEST:

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COL(R) Aaron J. Braxton II, Secretary