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, October 19, 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), Keri James (Secretary), Alixana Buvinghausen, Chris Davis, Candace Esparza, Britny Stricker.
Guests Present: Madeline Steubing, Kandy Stein, Shelby Haass, Ronda Shelton, Margarita Vizcarra, Melanie Cardenas, Mireya Ruiz.
School Officials Present: Dr. Todd Grandjean (Superintendent), Dawn Schneider (Director of HR/Info Mgmt), Michael Gomez (DHS 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 Ali Buvinghausen, Carl Brown, Chris Davis, Candace Esparza, Britny Stricker, Keri James, and Nancy Pepper were present.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation** led by Nancy Pepper.
3. **Recognition and Presentations**
   A. Principal's Month
   Superintendent Grandjean recognized the campus principals for their hard work and dedication.
4. **Citizen Communication**
   A. Public Comment for Non-Agenda Items
   Madeline Steubing spoke regarding Bluebonnet curriculum.
   B. Public Address for Items on the Agenda. None.
5. **Annual ESL Report**
Jenni Hagdorn presented the annual ESL report.
6. **High School Campus Report**
Michael Gomez presented campus information followed by two student council officers, Margarita Vizcarra and Melanie Cardenas, who reported on campus activities.
7. **Administrative Reports and Discussion**
   A. Central Office Reports
      a. Superintendent's Monthly Reports on Board Priorities, 2023 Bond Project Update, Safety & Security Report, Monthly Activity Calendar, District Event Calendar
      2. Director of HR/Info Mgmt. Monthly Report
      3. Director of Special Education Monthly Reports
   B. Business Monthly Office Reports and Payment of Bills
   C. Principals' Reports on Campus Activities
      1. Devine High School Principal's Report
      2. Devine Middle School Principal's Report
      3. Devine Intermediate School Principal's Report
      4. JJ Ciavarra Elementary School Principal's Report
      5. Devine Learning Center/DAEP Principal Monthly Reports
   D. Directors' Monthly Reports
8. **Consent Agenda**

Carl Brown moved and seconded by Alixana Buvinghausen to approve consent agenda as presented. This motion passed, Yea: 7, Nay: 0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker; Those opposed: 0.

A. Minutes of called meeting on September 21, 2026, regular Board Meeting, on September 21, 2026, and called meeting on October 6, 2026.

B. Donations

1. Devine Education Foundation Donation for PSAT fees
2. DABC Donation to Arabian Soccer Program for warm-ups
3. DABC Donation to Athletic Trainer Department for portable on-field hydration system
4. DABC Donation to Boys Basketball for uniform pants.

C. DABC and DMS PTO Financial Audits

9. **Action Item(s):**

A. Candace Esparza moved and seconded by Carl Brown to Approve Changes to CH (Local) and CV (Local) as presented. This motion passed, Yea: 7, Nay: 0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker; Those opposed: 0.

B. Carl Brown moved and seconded by Candace Esparza to Approve a Resolution Self-Certifiying Micro-Purchases with Federal Funds Valued below $100,000 as presented. This motion passed, Yea: 7, Nay: 0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker; Those opposed: 0.

C. Alixana Buvinghausen moved and seconded by Carl Brown to Approve the Final Application Payment and Retainage to Weaver & Jacobs for the 2023 Bond Project for $678,497.41 as presented. This motion passed, Yea: 7, Nay: 0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker; Those opposed: 0.

D. Keri James moved and seconded by Chris Davis to Adopt Amendments to the District of Innovation Plan with the addition of capping the class size for Intermediate classrooms to 25 as presented. This motion passed, Yea: 7, Nay: 0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker; Those opposed: 0.

E. Alixana Buvinghausen moved and seconded by Candace Esparza to set December and January Board Meetings to December 14, 2026 and January 21, 2027 as presented. This motion passed, Yea: 7, Nay: 0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker; Those opposed: 0.

10. **Closed Session**

Nancy Pepper stated for the record that the Board of Trustees, beginning at 7:35 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.

11. **Reconvene from Closed Session**

The board reconvened in open session at 8:11 p.m.

12. **Action Items Discussed in Closed Session**

A. Candace Esparza moved and seconded by Britny Stricker to hire Blain Martin as the interim high school assistant principal as recommended by the superintendent. This motion passed, Yea: 7, Nay: 0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker; Those opposed: 0.

B. Ali Buvinghausen moved and seconded by Britny Stricker to approve the Emergency Operations Plan as presented. This motion passed, Yea: 7, Nay: 0. Those in favor: Brown, Buvinghausen, Davis, Esparza, James, Pepper, Stricker; Those opposed: 0.

13. **Adjournment**

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

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Board President Board Secretary