

Minutes of the May 1, 2025,
Workshop Meeting of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees of the Abilene Independent School District met in a Workshop Meeting at 5:00 p.m., May 1, 2025, in the Alta Vista Room at One AISD Center 241 Pine Street, Abilene, Texas 79601. Mrs. Angie Wiley, President of the Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., observed that a quorum was present, and stated that notice of the meeting had been duly posted in the time and manner prescribed by law.

Trustees present for all or part of the meeting: Mrs. Angie Wiley, President; Mr. Rodney Goodman, Vice President, Mrs. Cindy Earles, Secretary; Mr. Bill Enriquez, Assistant Secretary; Dr. Danny Wheat, Mr. Blair Schroeder, and Dr. Taylor Tidmore.

Members absent: None

Administrators present for all or part of the meeting: Dr. John Kuhn, Superintendent; Dr. Joseph Waldron, Deputy Superintendent; Mrs. Patti Blue, Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Mrs. Alison Sims, Associate Superintendent for the Development of Human Resources; Dr. Gustavo Villanueva, Associate Superintendent for Student Services; Dr. Jordan Ziemer, Executive Director of Communications; and Mrs. Jennifer Hinds, Chief Financial Officer.

I. Call to Order

A. Oral Communication from the Public

Mrs. Angie Wiley asked if anyone wishing to address the Board had completed a public comment card. There was none.

B. Board/Superintendent Announcements/Information

II. Board Workshop Items

A. School Finance 101

Mrs. Jennifer Hinds shared a presentation on School Finance 101 which was the next session in a series of budget workshops. The focus was on understanding how school finance works in Texas, specifically in regards to revenue and how schools are funded. She spoke about the process and correlation between property values, tax rates and state funding.

B. Spanish RLA Curriculum

Mrs. Patti Blue shared information regarding the Spanish RLA Curriculum pilot. The use of Bluebonnet RLA curriculum as part of the LASO Cycle 3 grant was previously approved by the board. Access to the Spanish version of these materials is needed for our bilingual classrooms. The only way we can access these materials for the 2025-2026 school year is by becoming part of TEA's pilot program. Approval for participation in this program is requested of the board.

C. Policy DEC (LOCAL)

Mrs. Chris Bailey, Executive Director of Human Resources, presented potential updates to Policy DEC (LOCAL). The policy currently allows employees to take five personal days per semester. The amendment would allow three consecutive personal days at a time which would help avoid confusion for employees who work on a 226, 250, or 260 calendar. It will also help employees understand that their personal days are limited and use of them should not interrupt the instruction of students. After much discussion, more information and other options were requested and will be presented at the June Workshop Meeting.

D. Policy FMH (LOCAL)

Mrs. Lyndsey Williamson, Executive Director of Secondary Education, shared that our current policy regarding Commencement Exercises states, "To be eligible to participate in commencement activities and ceremonies, a student shall meet all state and local graduation requirements, including all applicable state testing." Per TEA's Testing Calendar, early results are expected to be reported to school districts by May 23, 2025, which is the date of the district's first commencement ceremony. The recommendation is to change FMH(Local) as follows: "If TEA is unable to deliver results from the final spring testing opportunity by noon on the Wednesday prior to the district's first scheduled high school commencement ceremony, the student shall be permitted to participate in the spring commencement activities and ceremonies."

E. VATRE Facts

Dr. John Kuhn shared information about Voter-Approved Tax Ratification Election (VATRE). If approved by voters, revenue would increase by approximately \$6 to \$7 million.

III. Agenda for Regular Meeting May 5, 2025

A. Consent Agenda Items

I. Finance: Budget Amendments

- II. Finance: March Financials
- III. Approval of Minutes
- IV. Spanish RLA Curriculum Pilot
- V. Policy FMH (LOCAL)
- B. Reports
 - I. HR Department Update
- C. Business Items Requiring Board Action
- IV. Adjournment

There being no further business, this meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

APPROVED:

President

ATTEST:

Secretary