

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING  
CLEAR CREEK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

The Board of Trustees for the Clear Creek Independent School District met in a regular meeting in the Board Room at the Education Support Center, 2425 E. Main Street, League City, Texas 77573, on November 18, 2024.

**1. *Call to Order***

President Sanchez called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**2. *Establishment of a Quorum***

President Sanchez established a quorum.

Trustees present: Arturo Sanchez, President  
Jonathan Cottrell, Vice President  
Jay Cunningham, Secretary  
Scott Bowen, Trustee - ABSENT  
Jessica Cejka, Trustee  
Jeff Larson, Trustee  
Jamieson Mackay, Trustee

Staff present: Karen Engle, Superintendent  
Members of the Superintendent's Cabinet

**3. *Public Hearing***

Ms. Alice Benzaia, Chief Financial Officer, presented the information to the Board. Ms. Benzaia stated that notice of this public hearing was posted according to the guidelines required by CCISD. Members of the Board had questions and made comments. Ms. Benzaia answered the questions. No members of the Community made any comments.

**4. *Closed Session***

President Sanchez called the meeting into closed session at 6:13 p.m.  
President Sanchez reconvened the meeting into open session at 6:48 p.m.

**5. *Pledge of Allegiance, Texas Pledge, Moment of Silence, and District Mission Statement***

Students from the League City Intermediate Student Council led the Board and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Texas Pledge. Dr. Engle led the Board and the audience in a moment of silence. The students assisted Dr. Engle with the District Mission Statement, Vision, Core Values and Value Statement.

## **6. Recognitions**

### ***A. Hero in the Hallway***

Two local houses of worship were recognized for making one big impact in our school community. Clear Creek Community Church Hope Initiative and Bay Area Church's Blessing the Bay Area provided their army of volunteers - several hundred in fact – power washed, weeded, landscaped, mulched, and transformed the green spaces of 33 CCISD schools. The volunteers even stocked a couple of the teacher breakrooms with drinks and snacks, with one breakroom receiving the coveted “Sonic Ice Machine”. Dr. Engle thanked the two dedicated community partners, who were in attendance at the meeting, for modeling each and every core value that we hold dear in CCISD. Dr. Engle also recognized our own maintenance team for their work and support of this large-scale collaboration in the weeks and days leading up to the service days.

### ***B. Clear Brook High School Marching Band UIL State Marching Championships***

Clear Brook High School Marching Band has had an incredible season that took them to State, again! Over the course of the season, the Band won caption awards in Music, Visual Performance, General Effect, Best Color Guard and Best Percussion. The finished third place in the finals which gave them their ticket to the UIL 6A Marching Band competition for the fourth year in a row which means the seniors that attended the meeting have been to state all four years of high school. At State, the Brok Band finished 25<sup>th</sup> and second out of bands from our Area. What an incredible accomplishment for the students and their directors. The drum majors, color guard captains, and the directors were all in attendance for this recognition.

### ***C. Clear Creek High School Boys' Water Polo UIL State Championship***

This is the first time since 2007 that a team sport in CCISD has earned first place at State and the first time for a Clear Creek High School team since 1991. We congratulated the Clear Creek High School Boys Water Polo team who made history by clinching the UIL State Championship title last month. The team also was undefeated this season with an overall record of 32-0-1. Members of the team were in attendance at the meeting along with Coach Ty Halford, Assistant Coach Hannah O'Neill, and principal Ashley Orr. Coach Halford was also named the All District Boys Coach of the Year.

### ***D. Clear Creek ISD Finance Honors***

Clear Creek ISD has once again earned two prestigious finance awards which reflects that we are strong stewards of taxpayer dollars. The Association of School Business Officials awarded our Finance Department the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting. This award represents a significant achievement and acknowledges our commitment to transparency and high-quality financial reporting. We have also earned the Government Finance Officers Association's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. This is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting. This is the 18<sup>th</sup> year CCISD has received these recognitions. Ms. Alice Benzaia, Chief Financial Officer and the Finance Team attended this meeting.

**7. *District Update***

Dr. Karen Engle, Superintendent of Schools, presented the Board of Trustees with a District Update regarding NICHE Ratings and Campus Activities (Veteran's Day, Surprise Patrol, Alpha Showcase and Holiday Meals).

**8. *Administrative Report***

Ms. Katharine McGee, Galveston County Assistant Chief of Operations, and Mr. Scott Brast, current GCAD Board Member, presented the information on what the Galveston County Appraisal District does and how it affects Clear Creek Independent School District. Members of the Board had questions and made comments. Ms. McGee and Mr. Brast answered the questions.

**9. *Community Input***

The following members of the Community addressed the Board during the community input portion of the meeting:

- Scott Brast – Current Galveston County Appraisal District Board Member Seeking Re-Election (3-minutes)
- Tom Davis – De Tocqueville's Habits of the Heart in Public Discourse (1-minute)

**10. *Action on Closed Session Items***

**A. *Consider Approval of Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Real Property***

Trustee Mackay moved to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt a resolution declaring as surplus and authorizing the sale of approximately 11.2 acres generally known as FM 518 & Louisiana Ave., League City, in Galveston County, Texas, as further described in the Resolution. The motion carried unanimously.

**B. *Consider Approval of Recommendation for Director of Maintenance and Operations***

Secretary Cunningham moved to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve Mr. Christopher Pitts for Director of Maintenance and Operations. The motion carried unanimously.

**C. *Consider Approval of Recommendation for Director of Special Education Programs***

Trustee Cejka moved to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve Ms. Leah Bossi for Director of Special Education Programs. The motion carried unanimously.

**11. *Action***

**A. *Consent Agenda***

Trustee Bowen moved to remove item #13. Secretary Cunningham moved to accept the consent agenda as presented minus item #13. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Consider Approval of Board Meeting Minutes
2. Consider Approval of Monthly Human Resources Board Report
3. Consider Approval of Monthly Financial Statement
4. Consider Acceptance of Donations
5. Consider Approval of the 2024 Tax Collection Report
6. Consider Approval of Tax Refunds Exceeding \$500
7. 2025 Legislative Priorities
8. Consider Approval of Addition of Three District Lead Counselor Stipends
9. Consider Approval of an Agreement with Providence Treatment Center to provide Special Education Contracted Services including ESY for the 2024-2025 School Year.
10. Consider Approval of an ILA Contract for the Clear Falls and Clear Springs High Schools Stage Lighting Controls Project
11. Consider Approval of Construction Contract 2025.403 for the Westbrook Intermediate Priority Repairs Project
12. Consider Approval of FEA(LOCAL) Attendance - Compulsory Attendance – FIRST READING
13. ~~Consider Approval of GKG(LOCAL) Community Relations – School Volunteer Program – FIRST READING~~

Trustee Bowen asked questions regarding item #13. Ms. Leila Sarmecanic, General Counsel, answered the questions and made clarifications. Trustee moved to accept the first reading of GKG(LOCAL) Community Relations – School Volunteer Program, recognizing that acceptance of the first reading does not constitute approval of the policy, and that staff plans to bring to the Board for consideration a second reading of a version of the proposed policy for approval. The motion carried unanimously.

***B. Consider Vote and Resolution for the Harris Central Appraisal District Board of Directors***

Trustee Bowen moved that the Board cast its 80 votes – 27 votes for Martina Lemond Dixon, 27 votes for Mike Sullivan, and 26 votes for Bill Frazier – on the Certification of Ballot for the Harris Central Appraisal District Board of Directors and pass and approve the Resolution.

Secretary Cunningham moved to amend Trustee Bowen’s motion and cast its 80 votes – 73 to Martina Lemond Dixon and 1 vote each to Cassandra Auzenne Bandy, Jonathan Cowen, Bill Frazier, Melissa Noriega, Jim Robinson, Paul Shanklin, and Mike Sullivan on the Certification of Ballot for the Harris Central Appraisal District Board of Directors and pass and approve the Resolution.

Before voting on the amendment, Trustee Bowen and Secretary Cunningham both made comments and clarifications on their motions. The amended motion failed – 3 in Favor and 4 Against. The original motion passed – 5 in Favor and 2 Against.

***C. Consider Vote Allocation and Resolution for the Galveston Central Appraisal District Board of Directors***

Dr. Engle presented updated information from Ms. Leila Sarmecanic, General Counsel, regarding GCAD votes thus far. Trustee Bowen moved that the Board cast its 580 votes – 192 votes for Scott Brast, 192 votes for Robin Collins, 192 votes for Chad Tressler, and 1 vote each for Matt Doyle, Thomas E. Farmer, Donald Gartman, and Patricia Walker and pass and approve the Resolution.

Secretary Cunningham moved to amend Trustee Bowen’s motion and moved that the Board cast its 580 votes – 480 votes for Scott Brast, 25 votes for Robin Collins, 25 votes for Chad Tressler, 25 votes for Donald Gartman, 25 votes for Matt Doyle and pass and approve the Resolution. The amended motion passed 4 in Favor and 3 Against.

Trustee Bowen moved to amend the passed amendment that Board cast its 580 votes – 480 for Scott Brast, 50 votes for Robin Collins, 50 votes for Chad Tressler and pass and approve the Resolution. The amendment passed 5 in Favor and 2 Against. The Board voted on the main motion which passed unanimously.

***D. Consider Approval of the Use of Capital Projects Funds for a Culinary Arts and Catering Kitchen Renovation at the Learner Support Center***

Mr. Paul Miller, Assistant Superintendent of Support Services and Mr. Alex Aragon, Director of Facility Services, presented the information to the Board. Members of the Board had questions and made comments. Mr. Miller answered the questions.

Trustee Cejka moved to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation and approve the use of Capital Projects Funds of \$2,500,000.00 for a Culinary Arts and Catering Kitchen renovation at the Learner Support Center. The motion carried unanimously.

***E. Consider Approval of the Use of Capital Projects Funds for Transportation Related Projects***

Mr. Alex Aragon, Director of Facility Services, presented the information to the Board. Secretary Cunningham moved to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation and approve the use of Capital Projects Funds of \$399,640.00 for transportation related projects. The motion carried unanimously.

***F. Consider Approval of Award of Contract 2025.807 Yellow Fleet School Buses***

Mr. Greg Cruthirds, Director of Purchasing, presented the information to the Board. Members of the Board asked questions and made comments. Mr. Cruthirds answered the questions. Secretary Cunningham moved to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation and approve the award of Contract 2025.807 Yellow Fleet School Buses with Thomas Bus Texas, Rush Truck Center, and Longhorn Bus Sales for the purchase of school buses for a total contract value of \$6,340,566. The motion carried unanimously.

***G. Consider Approval of Award of Contract 2025.808 White Fleet Box Trucks***

Mr. Greg Cruthirds, Director of Purchasing, presented the information to the Board. Trustee Mackay moved to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the award of Contract 2025.808 White Fleet Box Trucks with Randall Reed's Planet Ford for the purchase of three box trucks with rail gate lifts for a total contract value of \$359,640.00. The motion carried unanimously.

***12. Adjournment***

President Sanchez adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

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Arturo Sanchez, Board President

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Jay Cunningham, Board Secretary

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

*Minutes prepared by Greta McMahon*

