Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees
Leander Independent School District

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF WILLIAMSON

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Leander Independent School District was held on Thursday, May 8, 2025, beginning at 6:17 PM in Cedar Park Middle School Library, 2100 Sun Chase Blvd., Cedar Park, TX 78613. The following members were present: Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia, Anna Smith, Sade Fashokun, Trish Bode, Paul Gauthier, and Nekosi Nelson. Francesca Romans arrived at 6:36 pm.

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM**
2. **OPENING CEREMONY**
   A. Pledge of Allegiance
   B. Moment of Silence
3. **RECOGNITION**
   A. Spotlight on Learning: Winkley Elementary School
   B. Video Recognitions
      1. CapMetro Art on the Bus: North Elementary School
      2. Career and Technical Education (CTE) District of Distinction
      3. Career and Technical Education (CTE) Achievement: Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA)
      4. Career and Technical Education (CTE) Achievement: Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)
      5. Career and Technical Education (CTE) Achievement: Future Farmers of America (FFA)
      6. Career and Technical Education (CTE) Achievement: Journalism & Broadcast
      7. Career and Technical Education (CTE) Achievement: SkillsUSA
      8. National Nurse Week, May 5–9
      9. Teacher and Substitute Appreciation Week, May 5–9
      10. Interscholastic League (UIL) Girls Golf State Medalist
4. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**
   44 speakers addressed the Board of Trustees.
5. **CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Consider Approval to Call a Public Meeting for the Purpose of Adopting the 2025-2026 Budget and Discussion of the Proposed 2025 Tax Rate

B. Consider Approval of FY25 Budget Amendment - #12

C. Consider Approval of Innovative Course Proposal for 2026-27 Course Catalog

D. Consider Approval of a Low-Attendance Waiver for the 2024-2025 School Year

I move to approve the Consent Agenda items with the exception of Innovative Course Proposal for 2026-27 Course Catalog. This motion made by Trish Bode and seconded by Anna Smith passed seven in favor and none opposed.

I move that the Board of Trustees approve the Making Connections Innovative Course sequence for the 2026-27 academic year Course Catalog as presented. This motion made by Anna Smith and seconded by Trish Bode passed seven in favor and none opposed.

6. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

A. Empowered Student Learning

B. Empowered Staff Learning

C. Safe and Innovative Learning Environments

7. **DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS**

A. STUDENT EXPERIENCE

1. Superintendent’s Student Advisory Council (SSAC) Student Empowerment Board Report
2. 2024-2025 School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) Annual Report

B. GOVERNANCE

1. Legislative Committee Update

C. OPERATIONS

1. Early College High School Campus Design Update
2. Discussion of Long-Range Planning Framework- Innovative Academies
3. Consider Approval of 2025-26 Total Compensation Recommendation

I move the Board of Trustees approve administration's recommended compensation plan to include all pay scales adjustment with 0% across-the-board increase for all employees for the 2025-26 school year; authorization for the Superintendent to approve a one-time lump sum retention payment not to exceed $1,000 per full-time employee or $500 per part-time employee based on the guidelines set forth in the compensation plan and authorization for the Superintendent to amend the 2025-26 compensation and benefits plan after the start of the fiscal year, as required by law, administrative rule, if additional legal requirements or interpretations necessitate such a change. This motion made by Trish Bode and seconded by Anna Smith passed seven in favor and none opposed.

4. Cash Flow Report for 3rd Quarter-FY25
5. Business and Finance Monthly Reports

a. Monthly Bond Status Report

b. Monthly Financial Report

c. Monthly Investment Report

d. Monthly Tax Collection Report

8. **CLOSED SESSION**

The Board of Trustees went into closed session at 8:49 PM after the Board President announced the right to do so under:

D. Texas Government Code 551.082 and 551.074: hear and deliberate parent complaint concerning school children and school district employees

The Board of Trustees returned to open session at 9:54 PM.

The Board of Trustees went into closed session at 1:05 AM after the Board President announced the right to do so under:

A. Texas Government Code 551.071: consultation with attorney regarding, pending or contemplated litigation, and/or attorney client privileged matter
B. Texas Government Code 551.074: personnel - deliberation regarding resignations, terminations, employment, reassignments, duties, and evaluation of personnel and public officers
C. Texas Government Code 551.0821: deliberation regarding matters whereby personally identifiable information regarding one or more students will be disclosed
E. Texas Government Code 551.074: deliberation and consideration of employment of Florence W Stiles Middle School Principal
F. Texas Government Code 551.074: deliberation and consideration of employment of Leander Middle School Principal
G. Texas Government Code 551.074: deliberation and consideration of employment of New Hope High School Principal

The Board of Trustees returned to open session at 1:28 AM.

9. **ACTION PURSUANT TO CLOSED SESSION**

A. Consider action on parent complaint

On behalf of the Board, I want to apologize for what occurred, however, we do not have the authority to grant the specific relief requested, and therefore, I move that the Board affirm the decision of the Administration and deny the grievance appeal and the relief requested. This motion made by Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia and seconded by Sade Fashokun passed seven in favor and none opposed.

B. Consider termination of probationary contract of certified educator, Lorena Judith Limas, at the end of the year in the best interests of the District pursuant to Board Policy DFAB(LEGAL).

I move that the Board of Trustees terminate the probationary contract of Lorena Judith Limas at the end of the year in the best interests of the District pursuant to Board Policy DFAB(LEGAL). This motion made by Nekosi Nelson and seconded by Trish Bode passed seven in favor and none opposed.

C. Consider employment of Florence W Stiles Middle School Principal

I move that the Board of Trustees accept the recommendation of Timothy Cornett for Principal at Florence W Stiles Middle School 1-year probationary employment contract for personnel addition(s) as presented in accordance with the salary scale, policies and contract of Leander Independent School District for the 2025-26 school year. This motion made by Anna Smith and seconded by Trish Bode passed seven in favor and none opposed.

D. Consider employment of Leander Middle School Principal

I move that the Board of Trustees accept the recommendation of Robert Gillis for Principal at Leander Middle School 1-year probationary employment contract for personnel addition(s) as presented in accordance with the salary scale, policies and contract of Leander Independent School District for the 2025-26 school year. This motion made by Francesca Romans and seconded by Anna Smith passed seven in favor and none opposed.

E. Consider employment of New Hope High School Principal

I move that the Board of Trustees accept the recommendation of Christina Lane for Principal at New Hope High School 1-year probationary employment contract for personnel addition(s) as presented in accordance with the salary scale, policies and contract of Leander Independent School District for the 2025-26 school year. This motion made by Trish Bode and seconded by Anna Smith passed seven in favor and none opposed.

10. **BOARD MEETING DEBRIEF**
11. **ADJOURNMENT**

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, HAVING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, ADJOURNED THE MEETING.

Time: 1:30 AM on Friday, May 9, 2025.

These minutes were read and approved by the Board of Trustees on the 5th day of June 2025.

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President Secretary

Copies of Board information referred to are attached to the official minutes or filed in the office indicated.