Minutes of Regular Meeting with Public Hearing

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, August 21, 2025, beginning at 6:22 PM in the Cedar Park Middle School Cafeteria, 2100 Sun Chase Blvd., Cedar Park, TX 78613. The following members were present: Anna Smith, Sade Fashokun, Nekosi Nelson, and Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia. Trish Bode arrived at 6:45 PM. Francesca Romans arrived at 7:45 PM. Paul Gauthier was absent.

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM**
2. **OPENING CEREMONY**
   A. Pledge of Allegiance
   B. Moment of Silence
3. **RECOGNITION**
4. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

   90 speakers addressed the Board of Trustees.
5. **PUBLIC HEARING**
   A. Public Hearing on the 2025-2026 Tax Rate
6. **CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2025-2026 TAX RATE**

   No speakers addressed the Board of Trustees for the Public Hearing.
7. **CONSENT AGENDA**

   Francesca Romans requested 7.C.4 Consider Approval of Local Policy FNCE be moved to a separate vote.

   I move the Board approve the Consent Agenda items as presented, with the exception of the removal. This motion, made by Trish Bode and seconded by Francesca Romans, passed six in favor, none opposed, and one absent. Anna Smith: In favor; Sade Fashokun: In favor; Nekosi Nelson: In favor; Trish Bode: In favor; Paul Gauthier: Absent; Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia: In favor; Francesca Romans: In favor.

   I move the Board adopt revisions to Local Policy FNCE, as presented. This motion, made by Trish Bode and seconded by Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia, passed five in favor, one opposed, and one absent. Anna Smith: In favor; Sade Fashokun: In favor; Nekosi Nelson: In favor; Trish Bode: In favor; Paul Gauthier: Absent; Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia: In favor; Francesca Romans: Opposed.

A. Consider Approval of FY26 Budget Amendment - #1

B. Consider Approval of Grant Adjunct Staff Member Status – Williamson and Travis County and 4-H as an Extracurricular Activity

C. Consider Approval of Local Policy FNCE

D. Consider Approval of Minutes of Regular and Called Board Meetings

E. Consider Approval of a Resolution Adopting Investment Policy and Investment Strategy

F. Consider Approval of a Resolution Approving List of Authorized Brokers/Dealers and a Resolution Approving List of Authorized Providers of Investment Training

G. Consider Approval of the Superintendent's Professional Education Organization Membership Fees

H. Consider Approval of Texas Education Agency (TEA) Certification Waiver for Teachers

I. Consider Approval of Texas State University Teacher Fellows Program Contract

8. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

A. Start of School Year Update

B. Empowered Student Learning

C. Empowered Staff Learning

D. Safe and Innovative Learning Environments

9. **DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS**

A. GOVERNANCE

1. Consider Approval of a Resolution Regarding Senate Bill 12 and Parent Rights

I move that the Board adopt the Resolution Regarding Senate Bill 12 and Parent Rights, as presented. This motion, made by Trish Bode and seconded by Sade Fashokun, passed five in favor, one abstained, and one absent. Anna Smith: In favor; Sade Fashokun: In favor; Nekosi Nelson: In favor; Trish Bode: In favor; Paul Gauthier: Absent; Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia: In favor; Francesca Romans: Abstained.

2. Discussion of 2025-26 Board Member Representation on Board Committees

3. Discussion of Board Self-Assessment Based on the State Board of Education Framework for School Board Development

B. OPERATIONS

1. Discussion of Demographic Methodology and District Planning Timeline - Population and Survey Analysts (PASA)

2. Consider Approval of Citizens' Facility Advisory Committee Charters

No action was taken on Consider Approval of Citizens' Facility Advisory Committee Charters.

3. Consider Approval of an Ordinance Adopting the 2025 Property Tax Rate

I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of $1.0869, which is effectively a 5.3% increase in the tax rate. As outlined in the Ordinance, the tax rate includes $0.7569, for Maintenance and Operations and $0.3300, for Interest and Sinking for a total tax rate of $1.0869. This rate reflects no change from the prior year's rate. This motion, made by Trish Bode and seconded by Francesca Romans, passed six in favor and one absent. Anna Smith: In favor; Sade Fashokun: In favor; Nekosi Nelson: In favor; Trish Bode: In favor; Paul Gauthier: Absent; Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia: In favor; Francesca Romans: In favor.

4. Consider Approval of District Insurance Coverage

I move that the Board of Trustees approve the TASB insurance renewal (except Property Insurance) and McGriff OPTION 5: 35% self-insured retention for property insurance for the 2025/26 school year, as presented. This motion, made by Nekosi Nelson and seconded by Sade Fashokun, passed six in favor and one absent. Anna Smith: In favor; Sade Fashokun: In favor; Nekosi Nelson: In favor; Trish Bode: In favor; Paul Gauthier: Absent; Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia: In favor; Francesca Romans: In favor.

5. Annual Investment Report
6. Business and Finance Monthly Reports
    a. Cash Flow Report for 4th Quarter-FY25
    b. Monthly Bond Status Report
    c. Monthly Financial Report
    d. Monthly Investment Report
    e. Monthly Tax Collection Report

10. **CLOSED SESSION**

The Board went into Closed Session at 11:17 PM 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

D. Texas Government Code 551.074 and 551.082: hear and deliberate employee complaint concerning personnel matter

E. Texas Government Code 551.074: Superintendent Summative Evaluation

The Board returned to Open Session at 11:31 PM.

11. **ACTION PURSUANT TO CLOSED SESSION**

    A. Consider Action on Employee Complaint

    I move that the Board authorize Board Counsel to continue negotiations with the employee's counsel to resolve this matter informally. This motion made by Francesca Romans and seconded by Sade Fashokun, passed sis in favor and one absent. Anna Smith: In favor; Sade Fashokun: In favor; Nekosi Nelson: In favor; Trish Bode: In favor; Paul Gauthier: Absent; Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia: In favor; Francesca Romans: In favor.

12. **BOARD MEETING DEBRIEF**

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Time: 11:31 PM

These minutes were read and approved by the Board of Trustees on the 4th day of September 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.