Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 25, 2025 6:00 PM Central

Canutillo ISD Administration Office
7965 Artcraft
El Paso, TX 79932

1. **GENERAL FUNCTIONS-OTHER**

1.A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at **6:00PM**

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

1.C. Texas Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge were led by the student advisors, Theodore Locklin and Jacob Lozano.

1.D. Roll Call

Trustees Present: Barnes, Maldonado, Martinez, Ortga, Rodriguez, Zuniga

Trustees Absent: Borrego (She called ahead to mention she would be unable to attend.

1.E. CISD Vision and Mission Statements

Trustee Ortega led the CISD Mission, followed by Trustee Barnes with the Vision Statement.

2. **BOARD HONORS**

2.A. Performance from the Canutillo High School Student Musicians Who Qualified for the Texas State UIL Solo and Ensemble Competition: Evelyn Blair in Flute. Leyla Vasquez in Clarinet and Brandon Lara in Euphonium.

Mrs. Christina Rodriguez from the Public Information Office Introduced Evelyn Blair and mentioned that Leyla Vasquez and Brandon Lara were unable to perform at the meeting.

2.B. Recognition of Canutillo High School Student Musicians Evelyn Blair, Leyla Vasquez. Brandon Lara, Oriana Mason, Keila Salayandia, and Diego Diaz for Earning a Division 1 Rating at the Recent Regional UIL Solo and Ensemble Competition.

Evelyn Blair got recognized in front of the board members.

2.C. Recognition of Canutillo High School student Cash Johnson and The Hospitals of Providence Project Search program for the impact being made among special needs students. Johnson is the first Project Search student in the country to receive a Pharmacy Training License.

Mr. Nathan Worley from the Hospitals of Providence and Mrs. Elvia Moreno gave a few words regarding cash and Project Search.

3. **OPEN FORUM-OTHER**

Any person wishing to address the Board during the period reserved for public comment at a Board meeting must sign up to be heard, in accordance with District policy BED(LOCAL):
Each participant will be limited to **THREE MINUTES** to make comments to the Board.
The Board is **NOT** permitted to discuss or act upon any issues that are not posted on the agenda for tonight's meeting.
For further information on those policies, contact the Superintendent's Administrative Assistant.

Chelsea Anchieta - JDE Counselor – Mrs. Anchieta spoke about the proposed cuts. She mentioned that students need counselors at the schools. She mentioned that counselors also teach the students and support them with different issues. Counselors are safe persons whether it is on a 1:1 setting or in groups with students.

Heather Atherton - JDE Teacher – Mrs. Atherton supports Ms. Anchieta and proceeded to enlist the various ways Ms. Anchieta supports students.

Cynthia Wiltshire – UTEP Early Childhood Education Professor – Regarding Elimination of Pre-K Program. Mrs. Wiltshire addressed the board regarding the importance of early childhood education and how it impacts students' lives.

Sarah Rios – Regarding Pre-K Elimination – CES Pre-K3 program. Mrs. Rios emphasized how early childhood education creates strong foundations for students by giving them knowledge and support that will be needed at later stages of their development.

Alejandra Diaz Vidal – Pre-K Program - Parent of 2 students at RES. Mrs. Diaz Vidal stressed the importance of the Pre-K3 program as well as how it helps identify students' needs at an early stage.

Lorena Gutierrez - Regarding the Montessori Program – Mrs. Gutierrez mentioned that the Montessori program, ending this school cycle, will be the first generation in the EL Paso region. She explained the components of the Montessori program and how they will prepare students for the rest of their lives.

Guadalupe Montanez - DDE Principal – Regarding Deanna Davenport and the Montessori Program. Mrs. Montanez acknowledges the board is facing difficult decisions. However, she wants to advocate for DDE as she mentioned that in the past 7 years, there has been uncertainty on whether or not DDE will be closing, which affects student and employee morale. She wants to mention that with the upcoming new Deanna Davenport construction and students being currently waitlisted to join the Montessori program, she asks the board to postpone the possible closing of DDE.

4. **PUBLIC HEARING-OTHER**

4.A. Public Hearing Will be Held on Feb. 25, 2025, regarding the **2023-2024 District Annual Board Report**. The Public Will Be Invited for Public Comment.
Mrs. Jessica Harrison Presented the 2023-24 District Annual Report alongside Dr. Kerney and Dr. Arellano. Mrs. Harrison answered questions from the board as the presentation progressed. Board asked questions regarding student performance as well as how it compares to previous years.
Floor was open for public comment/questions.
No questions from the audience/community.

5. **BOARD OF TRUSTEE BUSINESS**

5.A. Quarterly Update From PROCEDEO

Ernesto Ortiz – Project Director for the PROCEDEO group. Mr. Ortiz presented to the board on the bond website, program dashboard, timeline, schedule, and new risks they face due to the new federal administration. Mr. Ortiz reminded the board as well as the community that there are quarterly updates and that the bond website updates as completion continues. Board members raised concerns as to how tariffs are going to affect the budget. The board also questioned whether contingency funds would be used to make up for increased tariffs. Board members expressed dissatisfaction over some of the recommendations for bond interest expenses.

5.B. Discussion and Possible Action: To consider and address the Superintendent and Administration's recommendation to approve and continue with the Program Changes under Policy DFFB (Local) previously authorized by Board resolution. This includes consideration of additional staffing adjustments at the elementary level if Deanna Davenport Elementary (DDE) is closed and consolidated with another campus. Additionally, authorization is sought to implement a reduction in force in the following employment areas, as proposed by the Superintendent:

Mr. Steve Blanco advised the board that it is their discretion to either approve all items at once with a single motion or go item by item to consider approval and make individual motions.

Board Members decided to take each item individually to allow for discussion on possible consequences.

1. Central Office/Departments (includes all non-campus locations) Reorganization and restructuring

   Mrs. Barnes mentioned that she had individual discussions with Mrs. Carrasco about Central Office/Department Reorganization and mentioned that the Nursing Coordinator position was included as a central office position.

   Mrs. Maldonado sought clarification about the departmental breakdown of cuts and savings and inquired about why some of the cuts are presented as estimates instead of a definitive amount.

   Trustee Barnes made a motion to approve the central office reorganization with the exception of the nurse coordinator position to be discussed at the time of discussing the nurses. No Second for the motion, Motion Dies.

   Trustee Maldonado made a motion to approve the list as is, for the central office/departments reorganization list as presented by Mrs. Carrasco. Second by Mr. Rodriguez.

Mrs. Barnes-No, Mrs. Maldonado-Yes, Mr. Martinez-No, Mrs. Ortega-Yes, Mr. Rodriguez-Yes, Mrs. Zuniga-Yes. Motion Passes.

2. Career and Technical Education (CTE) Department – Reorganization and restructuring.

   Mrs. Maldonado requested clarification whether it was the CTE program or just a change to the program. Dr. Galaviz and Mrs. Carrasco clarified that it will only be a change to the CTE program and that in order to preserve employee dignity no other details could be made public.

   Mrs. Barnes made a motion to approve the CTE program modification, Second by Mrs. Ortega

   Mrs. Barnes-Yes, Mrs. Maldonado-Yes, Mr. Martinez-Yes, Mrs. Ortega-Yes, Mr. Rodriguez-Yes, Mrs. Zuniga-Yes. Motion Passes.

3. Library Programs Redesign– Program change.

Mrs. Maldonado asked questions about the library and how the redesign would affect the library if, for example, there was a library employee absence.
Board members had questions about how librarian cuts would impact campus function and how the administration will select who remains or gets to keep their job.

No Motion, the board wants to revisit the item after other items of the list are voted on.

Mrs. Barnes made a motion to approve the administration's recommendation. Second, By Mr. Martinez

Mrs. Barnes-Yes, Mrs. Maldonado-No, Mr. Martinez-Yes, Mrs. Ortega-No, Mr. Rodriguez-Yes, Mrs. Zuniga-No. Motion Fails.

4. Counseling Program Redesign - Program Change

   Mr. Martinez made a motion to remove Counseling Program Redesign from the list.

   Dr. Reyes clarified that 3 of the social workers are funded with the Stronger Connections grant. She also mentioned that social workers work in a more “Inclusive and intrusive” way as compared to counselors.

   Board of trustees expressed concerns over only having 3 counselors sharing the district workload.

   Mr. Martinez reiterated his motion is to remove the item from the list of program changes. Second by Mrs. Zuniga.

   Mrs. Barnes-Yes, Mrs. Maldonado-Yes, Mr. Martinez-Yes, Mrs. Ortega-Yes, Mr. Rodriguez-Yes, Mrs. Zuniga-Yes. Motion Passes.

5. Secondary Program Offerings Redesign - Program Change

   Motion to approve as is by Mrs. Maldonado, Seconded by Mrs. Barnes

   Mrs. Barnes-Yes, Mrs. Maldonado-Yes, Mr. Martinez-Yes, Mrs. Ortega-Yes, Mr. Rodriguez-Yes, Mrs. Zuniga-Yes. Motion Passes.

6. Campus Reorganization and Restructuring / Staffing - Program Change (elementary & secondary campuses)

   Mrs. Maldonado requested clarification on whether the program change would be district wide or at a specific campus. The student advisor inquired if the list of affected personnel could be made public. Mrs. Carrasco and Mr. Blanco mentioned that at the time, there is no definite list as personnel is being placed different opportunities as vacancies become available.

   Motion made by Mrs. Barnes to approve program changes as presented. Second By Mrs. Ortega.

   Mrs. Barnes-Yes, Mrs. Maldonado-No, Mr. Martinez-Yes, Mrs. Ortega-Yes, Mr. Rodriguez-Yes, Mrs. Zuniga-Yes. Motion Passes.

7. Elementary Music Program Redesign - Program Change

   The board raised questions about how the program changes would take effector be implemented. Mrs. Barnes asked if Elementary music teachers fill the vacancy at CHS. Mr. Andress Rodriguez and consultant Marty Olivas mentioned that the goal is to build the fine arts program district-wide. He mentioned that long-term plans are to incorporate a variety of programs such as orchestra, band, mariachi, etc. Mrs. Maldonado stressed that music is a motivator for a lot of students to attend school. She also raised questions about why the district needs to have a consultant for music.

   Mrs. Maldonado stated for the record, “Can you please note that I am in disagreement with a band director at the high school and a consultant at the high school, I think that is top-heavy, and this is what the community is against.”

   Mrs. Barnes made a motion to follow the recommendation for Elementary Music Program redesign – for 3 music teachers to share the 6 elementary and 1 staff member to be relocated/designated to the high school. Mrs. Ortega seconded the motion.

   Mrs. Barnes-Yes, Mrs. Maldonado-No, Mr. Martinez-Yes, Mrs. Ortega-Yes, Mr. Rodriguez-Yes, Mrs. Zuniga-Yes. Motion Passes.

8. Nursing and Health Services District-Wide – Program change.

   The Board brought forward questions about how the LVN program would work as well as a possible situation in which the nurses might be pulled to other duties from the campus.

Mrs. Barnes motioned to approve option 1, 3 RNs and 7LVNs. Mrs. Maldonado Seconded the motion.

Mrs. Barnes-Yes, Mrs. Maldonado-Yes, Mr. Martinez-Yes, Mrs. Ortega-No, Mr. Rodriguez-Yes, Mrs. Zuniga-Yes. Motion Passes.

9. DDE Campus closure and consolidation

   Motion to remove the item from the list made by Mrs. Zuniga. Second by Mr. Roriguez.

   Mrs. Maldonado inquired about the cost of keeping the school open versus consolidating it with another campus. Mr. Martinez asked questions about breakdown of cost savings vs expenses of busing students to another campus in case of consolidation.

   Mrs. Barnes-Yes, Mrs. Maldonado-No, Mr. Martinez-Yes, Mrs. Ortega-Yes, Mr. Rodriguez-Yes, Mrs. Zuniga-Yes. Motion Passes.

10. Pre-K Program elimination

    Mrs. Maldonado made a motion to keep the pre-k3 program removed from the list. Second by Mrs. Zuniga.

    Mrs. Barnes-Yes, Mrs. Maldonado-Yes, Mr. Martinez-Yes, Mrs. Ortega-Yes, Mr. Rodriguez-Yes, Mrs. Zuniga-Yes. Motion Passes.

11. Montessori Program elimination

    Mr. Martinez motioned to go with the administration's recommendation. Mrs. Barnes seconds the motion.

    Board asked administration questions related to program enrollment, cost associated, funding for the program, as well as how many students qualify and are given funding by the district.

    Mr. Martinez removed his motion from the table.

    Mrs. Maldonado made a motion to remove the item from the elimination list. Second by Mrs. Barnes.

    Mrs. Barnes-Yes, Mrs. Maldonado-Yes, Mr. Martinez-Yes, Mrs. Ortega-Yes, Mr. Rodriguez-Yes, Mrs. Zuniga-Yes. Motion Passes.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA-VOTING**

6.A. *BUSINESS SERVICES*

6.A.1. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

6.A.1.a. Approval of the March 4, 2025 SBM/Workshop Meeting Minutes

6.A.2. Approval of the Monthly Donations

6.A.2.a. Board Acceptance of the February 2025 Donations Report

6.A.3. Approval of the Budget Amendments

6.A.3.a. Februry 2025 Budget Ammenments

6.B. *CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION*

6.B.1. Approval of CREED Grant MOU between Canutillo ISD and CREED for the Academic year 2025-2026

6.B.2. Approval of Professional Services Contract between Canutillo ISD and TNTP, Inc. for Academic Year 2025-2026

Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented by the administration made by Mrs. Maldonado and seconded by Mrs. Barnes.

Mrs. Barnes-Yes, Mrs. Maldonado-Yes, Mr. Martinez-Yes, Mrs. Ortega-Yes, Mr. Rodriguez-Yes, Mrs. Zuniga-Yes. Motion Passes.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at **11:48 PM** under unanimous consent.

Presented to the Board of Trustees for approval on **05/27/2025**. The minutes reflect all agenda items in the order as originally posted and do not necessarily reflect the order in which they were discussed.