

MINUTES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SMITHVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Smithville Independent School District was held on Monday, September 15, 2025 beginning at 6:00 PM at the Smithville ISD Administrative Building, PO Box 479, 901 N.E. 6th Street, Smithville, Texas 78957.

Members present: Grant Gutierrez, Michael Hancock, Chelsa Vinklerek, Chris Hinnant, Josh Magden, Candice Parsons, Bryan Jones

Others present: Misty Vasquez, Stacy Tiner, Bethany Logan, Denis McGinness, Whitney Brown, Lindsey Saunders, Holly Brockman, Tucker Copeland, Angie Westerfield, Amanda Hudspeth, Candy Biehle, Zack Harris, Brandon Gregory, Tracy Johnson, Christine Colosky, Ashlyn Cook, Brayden Cook, Kerri Grace Addleman, Christine Hodges, Jesus Sanchez, Rebekah Sanchez, Abraham Sanchez, Abigail Sanchez, Layton Vicencio, Deanna Herrera, Jordan Herrera, Molley Perry, Denise Behrens

Call to Order – The Board President called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Roll Call – Mr. Gutierrez then called the roll of members.

Student Led Pledge of Allegiance – Students from Smithville Elementary who have received the most Tiger Tokens for the month will lead the group in the pledge. Those students are: first graders Arianna Herrera, Kerri Addleman and Brooks Motley; third grader Adalyn Duty; fourth graders Jason Khai, and Rachel Sanchez Aviles; and fifth graders Brayden Cook, Lathan Gregory, Audrianna Risinger, Layton Vicencio and Kathryn Hodges.

Smithville Elementary Tiger of the Month – Smithville Elementary School recognizes outstanding students with the "Tiger of the Month" award. Elementary staff nominate students who exhibit characteristics such as kindness, strong character, and helpfulness. Each month, one exceptional student will be honored by the campus, recognized at the school board meeting, and will receive a special yard sign to proudly display at home. Our Tiger of the Month for September is Lydia Colosky. Lydia is a first-grader in Ms. Polich's class. Congratulations, Lydia!

Public Comment – No citizens signed up to communicate with the Board.

Consent Agenda – Josh Magden moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Candice Parsons seconded and the motion passed 7-0. The Consent Agenda included: Board members routinely approve items on the consent agenda as a group. These are routine agenda items in accordance with Board Operating Procedures.

1. Minutes
2. Financial Statements
3. Investment Report
4. State Aid Comparison - Budgeted vs. Earned
5. Earned vs. TEA Payments
6. Tax Collection Report
7. Investment Policy Review
8. Review Approved Providers of Investment Training
9. Financial Report
10. Teacher Certification Status Report
11. School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC) Membership

Superintendent's Report – The Superintendent updated the Board on important matters pertaining to the District including the following:

- Enrollment update as of 9/12/2025
 Brown Primary - 190 students with an average attendance of 95.26%
 Smithville Elementary - 710 students with an average attendance of 95.07%
 Smithville Junior High - 433 students with an average attendance of 91.69%
 Smithville High School - 536 students with an average attendance of 91.23%
 Total - 1,869 with average attendance of 93.20%
- Freedom Week (9/15 - 9/19)
 Our campuses are recognizing Celebrate Freedom Week this week, which coincides with Constitution Week, established by the U.S. Congress to encourage all Americans to learn about the Constitution. Both Celebrate Freedom Week and Constitution Week focus on September 17, the date in 1787 when delegates to the Constitutional Convention signed the Constitution.
- Homecoming Week
 Wednesday - parade and community pep rally
 Friday - coronation at 7:00 pm and football game vs. Caldwell
 Saturday - Dance

Texas Open Meetings Act Update – The 89th Texas Legislature recently passed several amendments to the Texas Education Code and Texas Government Code that will affect the way school board meetings are posted and conducted beginning on September 1, 2025. These changes include the posting of board meeting agendas and minutes, recording of meetings, recording of votes, public comment procedures, and time of meetings.

TASA/TASB txEDCON Convention and Delegate Assembly – The TASB Delegate Assembly is a crucial component of the Association's governance structure. Each active member (school board) of the Association is entitled to have a delegate and an alternate attend the Assembly and cast our district's vote on action items coming before the Assembly. The TASA/TASB txEDCON this year was September 11-14, 2025 and was held at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas. The 2025 Delegate Assembly met on Saturday, September 13th. Mr. Bryan Jones attended the assembly on behalf of the Smithville ISD Board of Trustees. Mrs. Parsons, Mrs. Vinklerek and Dr. Perry attended the convention as well.

Smithville ISD Strategic Plan: Priority 1 Update – Dr. Logan, Assistant Superintendent, will provide an update on the Smithville ISD Strategic Plan. This month's update will focus on Priority 1: Student Success.

Tentative October Agenda Items – Tentative items for the October agenda are:

1. Smithville Elementary School Tiger of the Month
2. Recognition of Outstanding Students for the First Nine-Weeks
3. Tiger Award Recipient
4. Public hearing on FIRST Ratings
5. Routine Consent Items
6. Superintendent's Report
7. Accept a donation from TCS Mechanical
8. TASB Update 126
9. Strategic Plan Update: Priority 2
10. Annual Bilingual Report
11. Personnel

Nominations for Bastrop Central Appraisal District Board of Trustees – The membership of the Bastrop Central Appraisal District Board of Directors is a position appointed by the participating taxing jurisdictions, the County, the Cities, the School Districts, and the Community College. The two current Board members whose term will expire on December 31, 2025, have expressed interest in being nominated for another term. They are: David Redd and Justin Bezner. Josh Magden moved to allocate all Smithville ISD votes to Justin Bezner. The motion died for lack of a second. Mr. Magden then moved to nominate Justin Bezner and David Redd to the Bastrop Central Appraisal District Board of Directors. Chris Hinnant seconded and the motion carried 7-0.

2025-2026 District and Campus Improvement Plans – Board Policy BQ [Legal] requires the Board to annually approve district and campus performance objectives and ensure that the district and campus improvement plans are mutually supportive to accomplish identified objectives and at a minimum, support the state goals and objectives. Smithville ISD presents these plans and objectives to the Board of Trustees in order to meet legal requirements for approving campus performance objectives and to improve student achievement. Site-Based committees, campus principals, and central office staff began working on revising our improvement plans and establishing performance objectives for the 2025-2026 school year last spring. The committees have made final revisions this fall and are ready to present their performance objectives and improvement plans to the Board for approval. Included with the board packet are the performance objectives and improvement plans established for the district and each campus. No action was taken at this time.

Remote Homebound Instruction Waiver – In order for the district to be able to provide credit towards attendance and receive ADA funding, students must be in attendance in person. However, in extreme cases, a district may seek approval to provide Remote Homebound instructional services, count the student as in attendance, and receive ADA funding for that student. Currently, there is an individual student who, for medical purposes, requires Remote Homebound as an option as they undergo treatment. Chelsa Vinklerek moved to approve the

submission of a waiver to TEA to provide a student with Remote Homebound. Candice Parsons seconded the motion and the vote passed 7-0.

Approval of Expenditures in Excess of \$50,000 – Approval was requested for the following expenditures for the following purposes: Ratify the expenditure associated with the replacement of a boiler at Brown Primary and HVAC at Smithville High School in the total amount of \$50,310 to Rabroker via Buyboard purchasing co-operative utilizing General Funds. Purchase of a school bus in the amount of \$150,767 using General Funds. Josh, Bryan

Reunification Site Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Smithville – An important component of the District’s Multihazard Emergency Operations Plan (MEOP) is reunification of students and parents following an emergency event. Should the need arise to relocate students to an alternative location, the City of Smithville has agreed to partner with the District in utilizing the Recreation Center and/or Riverbend Park. The Smithville City Council approved this MOU on September 8, 2025. Bryan Jones made a motion that the District enter into a written agreement with the City of Smithville to identify reunification sites and clarify responsibilities of each party in the event of an emergency situation requiring reunification at an alternate location. Candice Parsons seconded the motion and the vote passed 7-0.

Resolution for a Good Cause Exception Regarding Armed Security Officers – In accordance with HB 121 resulting from the 89th Legislative Session, public school districts must annually evaluate for renewal a good cause exception to having armed guards at every campus when hiring a school safety officer who meets the alternative requirements under statute. This good cause exception provides for the continuation of our current practice of providing armed security at each campus, including a combination of School Resource Officers (SROs) and armed guards. Josh Magden made a motion to approve the Good Cause Exception Resolution as presented. With a second by Chris Hinnant, the vote passed 7-0.

Adjournment – Candice Parsons moved to adjourn the board meeting at 7:42 p.m. Chelsa Vinklarek seconded and the vote passed 7-0.